

— Moolah® Shriners —

CAMELS' TALES

Home of Shriners of Eastern & Central Missouri • Dedicated to Helping Shriners Hospitals for Children



January/February
VOLUME 83
ISSUE NO. 01

“IT’S YOU AND
ME IN 23!”



Bill Bailey
Imperial Potentate 2021-2022



Jerry Gantt
Past Imperial Potentate 2015-2016
Chairman of the Board of Trustees
Shriners Hospital for Children



Elected Divan & Board of Directors

Robby Dirkers.....Potentate
Shaun Ruether.....Chief Rabban
Jack Melton.....Assistant Rabban
Greg Dortch.....High Priest & Prophet
John Spraul.....Oriental Guide
Richard Weber.....Treasurer
Don Taylor, P.P.....Recorder

Appointed Divan

Kevin Worley.....1st Ceremonial Master
Bud Waters.....2nd Ceremonial Master
Lenny Martin.....Director General
Nathan Coughlin & Wayne Price.....Marshal
John Frederick.....Captain of the Guard
Ron Townley.....Outer Guard

Representatives to Imperial Council

Mitch Weinsting Robby Dirkers
Shaun Ruether Jack Melton

Representatives to C.S.S.A

Mitch Weinsting, PP Don Taylor, PP

Moolah Temple Association

Randall I. Ottinger, P.P.....President
Don Taylor, PP.....Secretary

Living Past Potentates

Kenneth E. Myles.....1992
Randall I. Ottinger.....1993
Douglas E. Maxwell.....1996
Ronald D. Woods.....2001
Albert Faulstich.....2003
Gale F. Bennington.....2004
John G. Smith.....2005
Merle R. Truckenmiller.....2006
Lester "Al" Greene.....2007
Frank "Pancho" Windler.....2009
James C. Brandenburg.....2011
Andrew Metzger.....2012
Patrick Hensley.....2013
Dennis Kelley.....2014
David Dieckhaus.....2015
Lenny Martin, PP.....2016
Dean Isbell.....2017
Kyle McEvoy.....2018
Don Taylor.....2019
Russell Georgen.....2020
Joe Shivley.....2021
Mitch Weinsting.....2022

Director General

Lenny Martin, PP.....2016

Assistant Director General

Gale Bennington.....2004

Potentate's Aides

Rich Viner, Chief Aide
Don Gabel, Chief Aide Assistant

John Anderson Bryan Jonas
Robert Bates Kevin Kramer
John Behrens Steve Leassner
Robert Boland Robert Lee
Wallace Bowman Dennis Martin
David Box Matthew Mayer
Dan Coffey Michael Morton
Lee Cutright Corey Dawson
Tom Dempski Michael O'Cheltree
Jonathan Dortch Justin Phillips
Jonathon Dortch Danny Phillip
Bryan Eaton Andrew Rieger
Kyle Eckhardt Dave Schmucker
Gary Fanger Mikhail Stith
John Frederick Patrick Talbott
David Glenn Ron Taylor
Paul Goggins James Trammell
Gale Going Rich Viner
Mike Gustin Don Wander
Charles Haas Matt Weinsting
John Hagerty Robert Wesling
Shawn Hanley Steven Zaitz
DJ Hermen Stan Zurosky
Mike Heuer
Dave Hope
Bill Huey
Adam Iwanow
Kevin Jackson

Potentate's Emeritus Aides

Donald Baur Dale Nagel
Robert Daniels Fred Plough
Mark Davis Richard Pollock
Mike Davis Gregg Price
Robby Dirkers Wayne Price
John Dodge Richard Rammelsburg
Donald Gabel Michael Reese
Russell Georgen Mark Rethemeyer
Melvin Gordon Ron Reynolds
Brett Grimm Jimmie Sanders
Robert Grimm Joe Shivley
Alan Thal
Harold Hargiss Miike Shulise
Greg Heins Alan Thal
Kevin Heins Jim Trammell
Gary Holland Rick Uebinger
Jack Kairy Richard Watts
Dick Long Mitch Weinsting
Rick Mayer Donald Worley
Robert Means

Moolah Appointed Positions

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David Dieckhaus, PP.....Ambassador Chairman
Wayne Price.....Building Chairman
Ron Reynolds.....Chaplain
Kenneth Myles, PP.....Donor Relations Chairman
Ted Dearing.....General Counsel
Charlie Wiegert.....Grand Lodge Representative
Kenneth Myles, PP.....Insurance Committee
David Schmucker.....Memorial Brick Walk Chairman
David Jacobi, Sr.....Membership Chairman
Dennis Burkholder.....Public Relations Chairman
Jim Tracy.....Technical Advisor

Moolah Shrine Circus

Shaun Ruether.....Circus Chairman
Ron Reynolds.....Circus Director

Wayne Price.....Parade Marshal Emeritus
Richard Mayer.....Parade Marshal Emeritus
Mark Rethemeyer.....Circus Director Emeritus

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John Frederick Bob Berry
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Past Imperial Potentate
Past Imperial Chairman of Board of Trustees
2009-2015
Shriners Children's St. Louis
St. Louis 314-432-3600

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Merle R Truckenmiller, P.P.

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Jazmine Poblette, Graphic Design/ Administrative
jazmine@moolah.org

Maintenance
Ext. 150

POTENTATE'S LETTER



2023 Moolah Shrine Potentate Robby Dirkers

Nobles,

I am truly honored to be the 134th Potentate of Moolah Shrine. I feel humbled and privileged to have worked with so many wonderful Nobles and Ladies along the way. Pam and I are dedicated to make this a productive year and we look forward to sharing a year of fun filled events and memories.

We are excited to announce the appointment of Ron Townley and his Lady Jodi to the position of Outer Guard. Ron is a diligent worker and forward thinker. You have seen him around because he does not miss much. He is great for membership and is a dedicated Shriner. He will be an asset to Moolah for years to come.

Membership is the key to the success and longevity of Moolah. Our Membership Chairman Noble Dave Jacobi has put together a team of Nobles to lead us into the future with latest ideas and motivation. You might even see some advertisements for memberships along the way. We are proud to be Shriners and we must portray this to everyone we meet. We can all help make membership number one in our Temple.

In January we are going to start a ridiculously hard and difficult conversation about our Temple and future of Moolah Temple. With our declining membership and the age of our building it is becoming imperative we become initiative-taking rather than reactive to the future of our building. Your Building Chairman Wayne Price will be updating and educating us on the age and maintenance issues in the Temple and the building structure. Treasure Rich Weber will be talking about our fiscal responsibilities and forecast into the future.

We will be taking a Potentates trip this year to historic New

Orleans. We have picked Hotel Monteleone and an array of side trips to capture the history and culture of the area. It is assured to be a fun time. You can call the office for more information.

Everyone knows I am a bourbon guy, and my Potentates pin reflects that. Lady Pam also has a pin to share with the ladies. It reflects that her heart is in the hands of our Shriner Kids. We hope you will enjoy them.

Our ball on February 11th will be themed as Bourbon Street. Yes, like our trip, yet Bourbon themed as well. It will be business casual with a Mardi Gras feel so play it up. We look forward to seeing you all there. Let us fill the ballroom with fun and fellowship.

In 2023 we need to come together and work as a team. If we have a job or a purpose, we will show up to fulfill the obligation. It is what we do and who we are as Masons and Shriners. Together we will build a future we can all be proud of and create sustainability for our kids and grandkids for generations to come. Together we can remember the old times and make new memories in the process. Together we stand tall and can be proud to call ourselves SHRINERS.

We look forward to working with each one of you this year

“IT’S YOU AND ME IN 23”

Illustrious Sir Robby Dirkers

Blessing Comes from Doing

By: Ron Reynolds

The uncontrollable winds of life—relational winds, financial winds, and spiritual winds—can overwhelm you and throw you off course. But God's Word is filled with principles to help you withstand even the toughest winds.

Put into practice everything you learn.

God does not just want you just to hear his Word. He wants you to do it—to obey it, to practice it.

The Bible says, *"Everyone who hears these words of mine and puts them into practice is like a wise man who built his house on the rock. The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house; yet it did not fall, because it had its foundation on the rock"* (Matthew 7:24-25).

Notice the three things that happen in a storm. The rain comes down, attacking the roof of your life. The streams rise, flooding the foundation of your life. And the winds blow, beating against the walls of your life. You are getting it from the top, the bottom, and the side. And you have no control over any of it.

What do you do with the uncontrollable things of life—that diagnosis you cannot control, a child you cannot control, or financial hardship you cannot control? You put into practice everything you have learned in Scripture. And when you do, you will not fall down because the foundation of your house is built on the rock.

What is the rock? The rock is the Word of God. And the more you build your life on it, the more solid you are going to be. The wind can come and cause enormous problems, but it will not devastate your life when you are doing what God says.

John 13:17 says, *"Now that you know these things, you will be blessed if you do them."*

That verse does not say you will be blessed if you know these things. It says you will be blessed if you do them.

You are coming out of a stormy season right now—or maybe you're about to go through one. I cannot stress it enough: Build your life on the unshakeable Word of God. It is the only foundation you can trust.



**These we do not forget
"Es Selamu Aleikum"**

We do not lose the ones we love they only go before,
Where there is everlasting life. Where sorrow is no
more. And there the soul will always live and peace
is everywhere. We do not lose the ones we love, God
takes them in his care.

October/November

Frank O Bittner III
Charles M Brown
Timothy L Burkett
Glenn L Ditto
David A Hafley
Egbert D Hepler
Larry S Mitchell
Bradley E Plough
Robert D Atwell
Bruce R Austin
Willie G Brewer
Larry J Dreppard
Dennis G Gentry
Ryan C Georgen
Mitchell E Johnson
James H McCartney
Arthur R Murray
Robert W Peak
Wayne A Sarno
Aaron L Skaggs
Danny R Tanzey

2023 CIRCUS UPDATE



Ron Reynolds: Circus Director

(314) 732-2121

Shaun Ruether: Circus Chairman

(314) 960-7398

We have a great new show coming this year. Dates are March 23 to 26, 2023.

Your Circus Committee is working hard already to make this a huge success.

Let us get out and start getting ads for the ad book, electronic banners, and corporate sponsors.

Businesses are putting their 2023 budgets together and we might as well be on them.

Tickets and Child Coupons will be available at the December Stated Meeting.

We will also have Yard Signs and Bumper Stickers.

Let's have a great circus.

Thanks for all you do.

Calling of the Hogs

1st Lady Pam's Fund Raiser



Net proceeds will be made to
Surgical Patient Meal Cards and the Toy Chest

* Create a piggy bank from a gallon plastic container such as a milk container, orange juice container, tea container, ect. It must be plastic with a cap and be one gallon size. Be creative with your decorating ideas. Put your unit or club name on bottom of bank. One bank per unit or club.

* Collect money for your piggy bank from Jan 1, 2023 - Aug 31, 2023. You may collect money anyway you want.

* A check made out to Moolah must be turned in by Sept 9, 2023.

Please ear mark your check as 1st Ladies Fund Raiser.

* Bring your bank to the Squeal Reveal to enter the contest.

Squeal Reveal

* Join us on Saturday September 16, 2023 for a pulled pork luncheon. Doors open at 11:00 am

* All banks must be entered by 12:00 pm. Each person attending will be able to vote on best decorated bank. Voting must be completed by 2:00 pm.

* Trophies will be awarded after lunch and voting is completed. Trophies will be awarded for:

* Most Money Collected and Best Decorated Bank

I decided to give money to these area's because they are in need of funds and they directly impact the kids and their families

UNIT & COMMITTEE REPORTS

Ambassadors

Chairmen: PP David Dieckhaus
custom636@gmail.com

Co-Chairmen: Wally Bowman
wallygloria@sbcglobal.net

Treasurer: Don Wander
Dandmat3119@sbcglobal.net

The first Ambassador luncheon of the year is on Friday, January 13, in the Oasis. The next luncheon is on Friday, February 10th. Call an Ambassador who is unable to drive, and carpool with them.

Congratulations to Illustrious Sir Robby Dirkers as the 134th Potentate of Moolah Temple. He became a Master Mason in 2005 at Craftsman Lodge #717. He joined Moolah in 2005, in 2013 became President of the Guides Unit and Director in 2014. He is an Ambassador, a Kentucky Colonel, and a member of the Order of Quetzalcoatl (ARCA 21). In 2016 he was appointed Outer Guard by Sir Lenny Martin. He, with his Lady Pam, have an exciting list of fun activities for Moolah.

A big thank you to Illustrious Sir Mitch Weinsing and Lady Beth for providing Moolah with many adventures and memories.

Upcoming Events: Clowns Trivia Night 1/28; Potentates Ball 2/12; Motown Review 2/18.

Congratulations to Noble Larry Bumgarner Shriner of the Month for November. He became a Master Mason at Ferguson Lodge #542 in 1978 and joined Moolah in 1979. He is past President of Clowns and Gateway 500.

Congratulations to the newest Ambassador, Noble Bob Sudholt. He is a member of the Webster Masonic Lodge #98 and a Shriner since 2004. He has served as President of the Air Patrol and is a member of the Reception Committee and Motor Patrol. Noble Bob is a very dedicated Shriner who participates in a variety of Shriner activities.

It is with sadness to report that Noble Ryan (Ralph) Georgen recently rode the Black Camel. He was a past Master of St. Charles Lodge #241. Noble Ryan was past-President of the Guides, and past Camaxtli of the Order of Quetzalcoatl Arca21. He was a dedicated Shriner. Condolences to his family.

Happy Birthday to all Ambassadors who have a birthday in January & February

Arab Patrol

Captain: Scott Haenel
314-677-5434

President: Jerome D'Agostino
314-565-3790

1st Vice President: Kevin Kramer
314-486-7875

2nd Vice President: Dan Hancock
314-724-9657

Treasurer: Jan Phillips
314-348-7919

Secretary: Dennis Shell
636-288-6078

As 2022 comes to a close, Arab Patrol is celebrating a tremendous year, a profitable year, a year of not only meeting our obligations but exceeding them both morally and financially, a year that had it's fair share of ups and downs. All of our success can be traced back to one individual, our President, Jerry D'Agostino, if not for his loyalty, his dedication, his determination and his leadership, none of this would have happened. Jerry, we, Arab Patrol, owe you a great debt of gratitude. Thank-You for all you've done for us over the past year! A job, "Well Done!!!!!!!"

Moving into 2023, Arab Patrol held our annual election night during the November Business Meeting, the Administrative Officers for 2023 will be as follows: Kevin Kramer, President, Dan Hancock, Vice-President, Dennis Shell, 2nd Vice President/Secretary and Tim McCraw, Treasurer. The Executive Committee Members will be

Rich Rammelsburg, Fred Boras and Ed Wilder. The Military Officers will remain unchanged: Scott Haenel, Captain, Tom Dempski, Lieutenant, Rob Boland, Lieutenant, Doug Bachman, Captain Emeritus and Dick Long, Lieutenant Emeritus.

A familiar and consistent name from the past list of Administrative Officers is no longer present as long time Treasurer, Jan Phillips, decided to step down. He has served our Unit proudly for the past 10 years. Thank You, Phil! Enjoy life! You deserve it!

Besides being election night, the November Business Meeting is also known as the Arab Patrol Membership Award night, where awards are handed out to deserving Patrol Members for either 50 or 25 years of Membership, those Members who received Awards were as follows: Ron Bierey (54 years), Ken Elam (52 years), Doug Miller (51 years), Frank Cali (28 years), Rich Rammelsburg (27 years), Ray Westhouse (27 years), Greg Heins (25 years), Kevin Heins (25 years) and Mark Staffne (25 years).

A tip of the Fez is in order for one of our very own, Mike Heuer, as he was named Moolah's Shriner of the Month for October, 2022. "Well Done, Mike!" a much deserved honor. And, finally, the Arab Patrol's family has grown by one as we gained a new "Marcher", "Welcome, Michael Merkle!"

UNIT & COMMITTEE REPORTS

Capital Shrine

President: Corey Dawson
573-301-8670

Treasurer: Jim Trammell
573-896-4389

Secretary: David Mauldin
573-338-0211

During our October meeting, Mr. Brandon McIntire, Executive Director, Primrose Retirement Community, presented a check for \$521.00 to our IP Mitch Weinsting. Ms. Katlyn Jennings, Activities Director, who accompanied Mr. McIntire, set up a Resident Appreciation Day on September 17, 2022, with a circus atmosphere including a dunking tank featuring Mr. McIntire and his staff in the booth to raise the money. Ms. Jennings, with the assistance of our own Noble Ben Dennison, invited the Capital Shrine Club to participate. Noble Dana DeWeese, in full Scottish attire, bagpiped in our Mini Indi Cars and they were a huge attraction for the residents. Noble Jim Kern, as the Clown, made balloon animals for the residents. Our Club Band, The Missouri River Bottom Band also performed for the residents and the live music was enjoyed by all. featuring Mr. McIntire and his staff in the booth to raise the money. Ms. Jennings, with the assistance of our own Noble Ben Dennison, invited the Capital Shrine Club to participate. Noble Dana DeWeese, in full Scottish attire, bagpiped in our Mini Indi Cars and they were a huge attraction for the residents. Noble Jim Kern, as the Clown, made balloon animals for the residents. Our Club Band, The Missouri River Bottom Band also performed for the residents and the live music was enjoyed by all.

The Missouri River Bottom Band performed during the social hour of our October meeting. President Dawson conducted and abbreviated meeting to allow our IP Mitch Weinsting to attend another engagement. When President Dawson called for A&J dollars, Noble Ed Glawson turned in \$473.00 and Lisa Hentges, Noble Ben Dennison's daughter, turned in \$130.00. Several

others also turned in smaller amounts of A&J dollars, for which we are very thankful. All our A&J dollars will be turned in to the incoming Illustrious Potentate to support our hospital at our next Installation of Officers.

The Club elected the Officers for 2023. Noble David Butig, President; Noble Derrikk Hollon 1st Vice President; Noble Edwin Bybee, 2nd Vice President; Noble David Mauldin, Secretary; Noble Jim Trammell, Treasurer; Noble Corey Dawson will move to Chairman of the Board, and Noble David Lewis will continue as a Board Member.

The Capital Shrine Club lost two members, who went to be with our Lord. Noble David Hafley passed on October 3, 2022, and Noble Tim Burkett passed on October 12, 2022. President Dawson has asked the Club to keep their families in our thoughts and prayers.



Clowns

Director: John Frederick
(Barley)

President: Steve Kanhre
(Cecil)

1st Vice President: Chris Skornicka
(Techno)

2nd Vice President: Terry Mueller
(Milk Dud)

Treasurer: John Tremblay
(Shabba-Dabba)

Well the ER months have gone by and there were plenty of events for the Unit to practice their skills while entertaining all the children. These events included the Apraxia Kids Annual Walk, Element

Church Family event, Fall Ceremonial, KC Circus, Festival of Trees, Breakfast with the Deaf, Christmas in Crestwood, Potentate's Holiday Ball, Santa's Brunch, Hospital Patient Party and the Clowns Kids party, Hopefully you were able to attend some of these because it really livens up any party when the Clowns are there. We want to thank "Fritz" (Jim Fritz) for working a hayride and bringing in \$1000 to our temple. And he did this by himself and enjoyed every minute of it.

Next year, which is probably when you are getting this, we start the year off with our 5th Trivia Nite on the 28th of January, and we ask that you not only help at this event but also with getting donation items including items for our barrel of booze. We then have to start practicing again for our Circus in March. We have 2 skits already picked out and hopefully will run as smooth as the ones we did last year.

Welcome to our new members, "Zig-Zag" (Dale King) and "I Don't Know" (Jim Kern) who have already attended a few of the above mentioned events. These things come out every 2 months and sometimes I'm late and they don't get in so all I can say is that I'm old and things like this happen to old people. Anyway that's the excuse I'm using.

Merlin (Tom Dolan) will be back from his sabbatical soon and he was last seen in Tahiti stark naked running up and down the beach chasing women. He said its part of his body cleansing protocol.

Someday us old folk will use cursive writing as a secret code that our grandchildren will never understand.

UNIT & COMMITTEE REPORTS

Daniel Boone Shrine

President: Mike Heuer
314-814-3367

We meet on the "Last Thursday of the month" so start the new year off right and plan to join us to help ring in the new year on January 26th, 2023, and February 23rd. We meet at JJ's Restaurant in O'Fallon. Arrive around 5:30 for dinner, and at 7:30 the guys will have a meeting and our Ladies will play Bunco. As always – BRING YOUR LADY. This is a fun night for everyone!

We are a friendly group of Shriners and Ladies, and we hope you will try us. You do not have to be a member, and we will not pressure you to join. Just bring your Lady and come on out and join us for a fun night.

If you would like more information about our activities, give President Mike a call at 314-814-3367. We would love to have you and your Lady join us!

Drum and Bugle Corps

Director: Charlie Crouther

President: Christian Westermayer

Vice President: Paul DeMerath

Secretary/Treasurer: Travis Laws

Email address: MoolahDrumCorps@gmail.com

You know that our distinguished Director-Drum Major-Treasurer-Bartender-Woodworker Dave Glenn abandoned us – I mean retired – to sunny Florida this year. Dave, we miss you. It is going to take more than a few of us to fill your shoes, but we are up to the task.

The Moolah Drum and Bugle Corps is rebuilding! The recent fall ceremonial brought us six

new prospective members, and we are looking forward to making music with them. Several members have been rehearsing with the Ainad Corps across the river and are enjoying the fellowship. We have elected new officers for the coming year, and we are excited to be a part of many Shrine events in the coming year.

We still enjoy providing music for the opening of stated meetings and we had a blast playing carols at the recent Festival of Trees. We are working on some new arrangements and anxious to get back on the parade routes this spring.

Would you like to join us? We are now rehearsing and meeting on the Second Tuesday of each month at 7:00 PM in the Unit Room. Dust off your old trumpet, find your sticks, or learn something new! Email us at MoolahDrumCorps@gmail.com and we will get you connected. Also, if you have (or know someone who has) any instruments or uniforms for the Unit, please let us know. We would love to deploy them for their intended purposes – making music and having fun in support of the children at our hospitals.

Cheers to a great 2023!

Temple Club

President: Nancy Pollock

Vice President: Cheri Viner

Treasurer: Kathy Kelley

Secretary: Kathy Myers

Hello ladies!

I hope you all had a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. The Potentate's Ball held on December 3rd was a wonderful night to begin our celebration of the Holidays!

We are ready to start off the new year of 2023 for the Temple Club with exciting latest ideas brought to us by our President Cheri Viner along with her board.

Our January meeting will be on the 11th and the February meeting is on the third. Please make plans to attend our luncheon meeting for fun and fellowship.





Illustrious Sir Robby Dirkers & Lady Pam
cordially invite you to the

NIGHT ON BOURBON STREET

Divan Presentation Ball

February 11th, 2023

Doors open at 5:30pm • Presentation at 6:30pm

Dinner & Dancing to follow

Wear your favorite Mardi Gras Colors!

\$60.00 per person | RSVP to the office by Feb. 3rd

Please be sure to let the office know of any dietary restrictions.

Buffet Dinner including chicken breast stuffed with spinach, feta cheese, & parmesan with lemon reduction and a touch a cream or flamed broiled beef tenderloin on the carving station with a chasseur and bearnaise sauce.

Hotel Accomodations

Holiday Inn St Louis - Creve Coeur

314-594-7000 • Group Code MSP

Friday 2/10/23 and Sat 2/11/23

\$105.00 plus tax a night



GREAT MUSIC, DANCING, & FUN

PRAVERS BEFORE YOMO PARADE



Belong to the Legion of Honor

By: Gale Goings

Director & Contact: 314-703-0548

CALLING ALL
MILITARY VETERANS!



History: During the 48th Annual Session of the Imperial Council of the A.A.O.N.M.S.

In San Francisco, CA, in 1972, Imperial Potentate Ernest A. Cuts, of Alee Temple announced the launching of the formation of Legion of Honor units to include veterans of all conflicts since the Civil War.

There are now one hundred fifty-seven (157) LOH units with membership of over 15,400 members.

L.O.H. stresses patriotism, Love of Country and Love of Flag.

Our main fundraiser is for the cost of replacement flags for the Shrine Center and the Hospital.

In a severe winter, the flags might be replaced twice. And that's more money.

In addition, we will provide manpower for security work for various activities.

Membership is limited to Shriners, honorably discharged from the Armed Forces of his country or is in the Armed Forces of hi Country at the time of his application.

To commemorate the memory of Nobles who upheld the glory of the Flag and who fought with valor for their Country. Many outstanding Shriners are members, including members of the imperial Divan, Potentates and past Potentates.

We meet on the fourth (4th) Tuesday of the month at 7:00 PM in our unit room on the middle floor of the Temple by the trophy case.

Introducing: Illustrious Sir Robby Dirkers 134th Moolah Shrine Potentate

Illustrious Sir Robby began his Masonic career in 2005. With Pam by his side, He followed his passion to help others by becoming a Master Mason in Craftsmen Lodge 717. That year he also became a member of Moolah Shrine and The Scottish Rite. He quickly became a member of the Guides Unit and was President in 2013 and Director in 2014 and 2015. He is also an Ambassador, an Aide Emeritus, a Kentucky Colonel, a member of the Order of Quetzalcoatl (ARCA 21). They are both Hillbillies. Robby served as Assistant Chief Aide in 2014 and 2015. In 2016 He and lady Pam were honored to be asked to be the Outer Guard for Illustrious Sir Lenny Martin and his lady Sandy. Robby belongs to many Shrine Clubs and He and Pam love visiting with them whenever possible.

They both work at Barron Mirror Glass and Door. Pam is head of accounting and Robby is Vice President of Operations. Robby and Lady Pam have a total of three older children and five grandchildren. They are enthusiastic about everything they do and take pride in being a Shriner and Shrine Lady. They are here to help every step of the way.



2022

OCTOBER & NOVEMBER

Stated Meetings



2022

MOOLAH Fall Ceremonial



James “Lance” Fuqua

Our Shriner of the month for December is James “Lance” Fuqua.

Lance’s grandfather was a Shriner. Lance joined and became a Mason in 2013 and joined the Moolah that same year. He is a member of the Air Patrol, currently serving as 1st VP. Lance enjoys working the Moolah Motown, the Festival of the Little Hills beer tent, and towing the fuselage float at parades.

His favorite events are helping at the Circus and Children’s Christmas Party where he can see the kids that the Shriner Hospital helps.

The Public Relations Committee is honored to have Lance Fuqua as our Shriner of the Month for December.



Jerry Conlon

Shriner of the Month for January is Noble Jerry Conlon.

Jerry was raised as a Master Mason in April 1982, which now is St Louis Lodge #1. He joined the Scottish Rite and then Moolah in 1986. He is a past member of the Gateway 500 and a current member and past President of the Moolah Arab Patrol.

He is actively raising awareness in our hospitals as well as our yearly Moolah Blood Drive, which has been a continued success over the years.

The Public Relations Committee asked that you congratulate Noble Jerry Conlon as our Shriner of the Month for January 2023.



John Frederick

Captain of the Guard

John and Kim were married 21 years ago in Burlington, NC where they met. They moved the following year to the St. Louis area and now reside in Wentzville, MO. They have two amazing sons, Luke & Hawk, and can be seen every morning walking their two adorable dogs (Jerry & Bugs) and a massive St. Bernard puppy (Fletcher) around the neighborhood.

John is a member of Wentzville Lodge #46. He joined Moolah in 2008 and became a member of the Clown Unit. As 'barley' the clown, John has traveled to a number of Shrine Circus throughout the Midwest and has won several awards at CSSA

conventions. In 2018, John was asked to be the Director of the Clown Unit, an honor he held for 4 years. John is a Moolah Ambassador and Aide as well as a member of the Moolah Air Patrol, Tiger Shrine Clowns, ARCA 21, and ROJ Court 81. He currently serves as an associate member of the Board of Governors of Shriners Hospitals for Children – St. Louis.



Ron Townley

Outer Guard

Ron Townley was raised a Master Mason in St. James Lodge #230 and served as Master in 2020. He was elected Secretary in 2021 and currently serves in that position. Ron is also a member of the Scottish Rite and York Rite. He is a very active member of the YOMO unit and loves to drive with his brothers in his "little yellow jeep" parading to raise awareness for Shriners Children's Hospitals. He is a member of Gateway 500, Guides, Chanters, Arab Patrol, ECMO SC, Ozark SC, and Mid-Mo SC. He is very proud to be a Moolah Shriner and loves all that the Shriners do to help children.

Ron is a graduate of Missouri State University-WP where he achieved a degree in Enology (Science of

Winemaking). He is currently a Hazardous Waste Manager in Rolla, Missouri for a company that makes chemicals for the semiconductor industry. He and his wife of 28 years, Jodi, live in St. James, Missouri, have eight kids and two grandkids with one on the way.

Jodi helps their daughter and son-in-law manage their music studio, Watson School of Music & the Arts, still homeschools the youngest two of their children, and is active in the local homeschool community through theatre, sports, C.H.E.S.S., and hosting large public events.





Holiday

2019

y Ball

22





Moolah Shriners

BIG GAME PARTY

Come one, come all for a fun afternoon of fellowship,
poker, football, food, and more!

Moolah Ballroom • Sunday, February 12th, 2023
Poker players should arrive at 1:00pm!

Open to Shriners, guests, friends, and especially prospective new members!

Bring your own snacks • Camel's milk, soda, and water provided!

Please RSVP to the office at 314.878.6301

HOSPITAL NEWS

Shriners Children's Research Director Named to National Academy of Medicine

Farshid Guilak, Ph.D., research director at Shriners Children's St. Louis, recently received one of the highest honors in the field of health and medicine. He has been elected to the National Academy of Medicine.

Guilak will be inducted as part of the class of 2022. This comes the same year he was elected to the National Academy of Engineering. These academies are reserved for the most elite in medicine and engineering, for individuals who "show outstanding professional achievement and commitment to service."

"Dr. Guilak is an outstanding biomedical scientist whose groundbreaking research is improving the quality of life of children with orthopedic conditions. We are proud of his recent honors and to have him as the director of our Shriners Children's St. Louis research center," said Marc Lalande, Ph.D., Shriners Children's vice president of research.

His membership in both academies gives him tremendous opportunities to make a difference in the fields of health and medicine, Guilak said.

"The roles of these academies are to advise the government on any issues related to engineering or medicine. I am truly honored to have the opportunity to play a role in this capacity at the national level, and bring more attention to the importance of interdisciplinary work that spans engineering and medicine," said Guilak.

Currently, Guilak leads roughly a dozen research projects focusing on preventing and/or slowing the degenerative effects of osteoarthritis and juvenile idiopathic arthritis. However, he says the National Academy of Medicine and of Engineering have specifically taken notice of the lab's work in cell engineering. Through decades of work, Guilak's team has used genome engineering to create a cell that doesn't exist normally in nature. The cell can release a drug if/when it senses inflammation in the body. An animal study showed that the modified cells, when put into cartilage, can eliminate pain and prevent degeneration any time an inflammation flare-up is imminent.

He hopes to bring this treatment option to patients, in the form of a clinical trial, within the next 10 years. Right now, it's a proof of concept.

One project that is going to clinical trial soon includes growing cartilage from a patient's own stem cells in hopes of avoiding the need for joint replacements. Guilak says the process includes purifying stem cells (taken from child or adult patients) and putting them in a proprietary 3-D mesh to grow cartilage. The growth process takes about four weeks. In the end, his team has a piece of cartilage in the shape of a joint that can be implanted in a patient's body where the cartilage was lost.

The results of this level of innovation could change the trajectory of a child's life.

"We have seen patients who've had a joint replacement as a child and then they need a second one a few years later. That's what we want to prevent. Can we preserve those hips so they are in their 30s, 40s or 50s before they get a metal and plastic joint replacement? We hope we can do that by resurfacing the cartilage that's missing with new cartilage that's grown from their own cells," explained Guilak.

A father himself, it is obvious that Guilak has a deep love for the patients his research will eventually touch. Guilak admits he was once a young boy who simply fell in love with science. Thanks to his own dedication and the support of his parents (they gave him his first microscope, after all) and educators along the way – Guilak is living his dream.

The unique partnership between Washington University and Shriners Children's St. Louis allows Guilak to serve in dual roles – including as co-director of the Washington University Center for Regenerative Medicine. In total, he leads a group of about 30 scientists. The research team splits time between his lab on the Washington University campus and at the Musculoskeletal Laboratory at Shriners Children's St. Louis.

For researchers more attuned to working with microscopes and pipets, going to a lab inside a children's hospital offers unique perks.

"It's been an incredible experience to have our laboratory within the hospital, especially right next to the play area where the kids are. So, every time our students and staff members walk into the lab, we see the kids. It's so motivating to know we are doing this research to directly improve the lives of these children," reflected Guilak.

While the accolades are pouring in for Guilak, maybe the most treasured feedback he receives is from his team. He works hard to develop a team-centered group that is on fire for science. What he has found is a family of scientists who enjoy pushing innovation forward together.

"His ability to make time and prioritize his trainees is unparalleled. Whenever his door is open, he welcomes drop-in meetings from lab members and enjoys engaging in spontaneous brainstorming sessions that are very energizing to trainees," said Kelsey Collins, Ph.D., researcher.

"Farsh has fostered an environment in which students and postdocs thrive, not just as trainees but also as individuals with personal ambitions. I am truly grateful that I never once felt anxious that I had to choose between a family and a career," said Feini (Sylvia) Qu, V.M.D., Ph.D., researcher.

Article provided by Shriners Children's St. Louis

ELECTRONIC READER BOARD ADS
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MARCH 23rd-26th, 2023
STLSHRINECIRCUS.com

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(B) Balance of payment no later than March 10, 2023
(C) Fill out the contract below completely

Once full payment is received, the Purchaser will receive 20 General Admission Tickets to the 2023 Moolah® Shrine Circus good for any performance. (\$300 value!)

Payment to Moolah® Shrine Center

Artwork to camelstales@moolah.org with Circus Banner & Name of Company in subject.

Any questions related to paperwork or pricing call the office at 314-878-6301 or email circus@moolah.org. Any questions related to artwork or graphics call Jazmine at 314-878-6301 x 2 or email jazmine@moolah.org

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Company Phone _____ Contact person's phone _____

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Unit to get credit _____

25% Due at signing

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2023 Circus Sponsor Options*



MARCH 23RD-26TH ST. CHARLES FAMILY ARENA

Purchase tickets at [ticketmaster.com](https://www.ticketmaster.com)
or from any Moolah® Shriner!

8 performances over 4 days!

3/23/23: 7pm • 3/24/23: 10:30am, 7:30pm

3/25/23: 10am, 2:30pm, 7:30pm • 3/26/23: 1pm, 6pm

Ticket Prices: \$15.00-\$35.00

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FAMILYARENA.COM

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ticketmaster

THANK YOU!

The FEZtival of Trees Committee would like to thank everyone who worked to make this year so successful.

We could not have done it without everyone's help from the Sponsors, tree donors, workers, bakers, and visitors who supported the FEZtival.

Without your help we could not have been so successful.

See you in 2023!



Be Burn Aware



Results from an independent survey conducted by Shriners Hospitals for Children® show many people do not practice fire and burn prevention during the holidays.

Follow these simple safety tips for a safe holiday season!

Water live trees daily

70%
Know it.



45%
Do it.

TREE CARE AND HOLIDAY DECORATIONS

- Water fresh-cut trees daily. Discard when dry.
- Keep trees away from heaters and flames.
- Inspect lights for bare wires, frays or kinks.
- Never use indoor lights outside.

HOLIDAY COOKING

- Keep an eye on what you fry.
- Turn pot handles toward the back of the stove so children cannot reach them.
- Wear short sleeves or roll up sleeves when cooking.
- Keep something, such as a lid or cookie sheet, nearby to cover a pan if it catches on fire.

25%

don't turn pot handles toward the back of the stove

47%

don't keep a lid or cookie sheet nearby to extinguish cooking fires



25%

of Americans leave **lit** candles unattended

CANDLE CARE

- Consider using battery-operated, flameless candles.
- Never leave lit candles unattended.
- Place candles in stable holders away from children, pets and flammable objects.

beburnaware.org



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for Children®

MOVING?



Whether you're planning on moving soon or have moved already to a new address and still want to continue getting Camels' Tales please mail the following sheet below with your new address to our office at 12545 Fee Fee Road St. Louis, MO 63146.

Updated Address for Camels' Tales Subscription Form

First Name: _____ Last Name: _____

New Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Phone Number: _____ Email Address: _____

PETITION FOR INITIATION AND MEMBERSHIP

Moolah® Shrine

To the Potentate, Officers and Nobles of Moolah Shrine, situated in the Oasis of St. Louis, Desert of Missouri, I, the undersigned, hereby declare that I am a Master Mason in good standing in _____ Lodge, # _____, located at _____, _____, which is a Lodge recognized by or in amity with the Conference of Grand Masters of North America. Furthermore, I have resided at my current address for not less than 6 months, as required by the By-laws of Shriners International. I respectfully request that I may be made a Noble of the Mystic Shrine, and become a member of your temple.

If, I be found worthy, and my request granted, I promise to conform to the Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws of the Imperial Council and the Bylaws and Ceremonies of the Moolah Temple.

Print Full Name: _____ Wife's Name: _____

Birthplace: _____ Birthdate: ____/____/____

Were you ever a DeMolay? _____ If so, what was the Chapter name and location? _____

Profession or Occupation: _____

Employer: _____

Hobbies/Interests: _____

Home Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Home Phone: (____) _____ Business Phone: (____) _____

Cell Phone: (____) _____ Fax: (____) _____

E-Mail Address: _____

Signature: _____ Date: ____/____/____

Initiation Fee: \$100.00 (Payment must accompany this petition.)

Dues: January-March = \$135 April-June = \$110 July-October = \$85 November-December = \$25

25 years of age and younger = \$45 (No initiation fee.)

Recommended and Vouched for on the Honor of:

1. Print Noble's Name: _____ Member Number: _____

Signature: _____

2. Print Noble's Name: _____ Member Number: _____

Signature: _____

Date Elected: _____

Date of Initiation: _____

Have you purchased a brick to be placed in the

Moolah Brick Walk of Fame

Purchase a brick in honor of yourself or your loved one. Or as a Memorial to a family member or close acquaintance.

A 4"x8" brick with up to 3 lines of inscription (18 characters per line) is only \$100.00

Maybe you would like a miniature brick like the 4"x8" one placed in the Moolah Walk of Fame for only \$250.00

OR, if you want more lines of information on the brick, you can purchase an 8"x8" brick and get up to 6 lines on it for \$500.00

Indicate which brick you would like to purchase:

- 4"x8" Brick (up to 3 lines of inscription) \$ 100.00
- 4"x8" Brick with a small duplicate for your desk \$ 250.00
- 8"x8" Brick (up to 6 lines of inscription) \$ 500.00

Maximum number of characters per line is 18 including spaces and special characters. One character per box.

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY—Moolah or the brick company cannot be liable for misspellings especially when it cannot be read.

The above brick is given by: _____.

Please send or take this form and your payment to the Moolah Shrine office. You may pay by check (made payable to MOOLAH SHRINE) or Credit Card.

Credit Card Info:

Card Number: _____ Exp. Date: _____

Security Code (on back of card): _____ Your billing Zip Code: _____

Your Name: _____ Telephone Number: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Meeting Schedules

Stated Meetings

January 19th	May 18th	September 21st	Stated Meeting Reminders: Dress in business casual, Dues Cards are required, dinner is served at 5:30pm and meetings begin at 7:00pm, along with balloting on all new petitions for memberships.
February 16th	June 15th	October 19th	
March 16th	July 20th	November 16th	
April 20th	August 17th	December 21st (election)	

Units & Committees

Name	Date & Time	Location	Contact
Air Patrol	2nd Mon.		Byron Smymiotis 314-494-6464
Arab Patrol	1st Mon. Drill Practice 4th Mon.		Scott Haenel 314-677-5434
Band	Every Wed.		Jack Scherrer 314-644-5362
BBO Smokin' Nobles	1st Wed. 7:30pm	Unit Room	Dennis Burkholder 314-570-1904
Chanters	1st Mon. Business Meeting 7:00pm Rehearsal every Mon. 7:00pm	Unit Room	David Larkin 636-734-7718
Clowns	3rd Mon.		John Frederick 314-541-4985
DeMolay	3rd Wed. 6:30pm		Jeff Kitsmiller, Jr. 918-497-8008
Directors Staff	1st Mon.		Fred Zurfluh, IV 314-910-3950
Drum Corps	2nd Mon. Rehearsals 1st, 3rd, 4th Mon.		Charles Crouther 573-517-3246
Gateway 500	2nd Tues.		Dave Hope 314-406-0744
Guides	Last Monday		Rick Mayer 314-603-2106
Hospital Reception Comm.	2nd Wednesday 7:00pm	Unit Room	Jim Gesell 636-352-5146
Legion of Honor	4th Tues.		Gale Going 314-703-0548
Motor Patrol	2nd Mon.		Steve Lovell 314-898-2372
Mounted Lancers	2nd Wed.	Ranch	Allen Coggins 314-602-7454
Muscle Car Unit	1st Wed. 6:30pm	Unit Room	Keith Schilb 636-236-7436
Operational Support Unit	2nd Mon.	Behind the Ballroom	Mike Reese 314-229-3682
Seniors	1st Mon. 3rd Mon. Business	Guides Room	Bob Daniels 636-675-4590
Sportsmen Unit	3rd Mon. 6:30pm	Sheik's Club	Brett Grimm 314-606-4622
Swing Dance Unit	1st Mon. 6:30pm		Wally Bowman 314-498-6915
TCAA	4th Wed. 6:00pm	Oasis	Charles Haas, 314-575-5020
Unique Motors	2nd & 4th Mon.		Ken Wright 636-288-1130
YOMO	2nd Wed.		Lenny Martin PP 314-795-6561

Clubs

Name	Date & Time	Location	Contact
Cape SC	4th Wed. 6:00pm	Shriner's Hall 57001 Old Cape Road East Jackson, MO 63755	Billy Thorne 573-275-3010
Capital SC	2nd Tues. 6:30pm	Capital SC	Corey Dawson 573-301-8670
Daniel Boone SC	Last Thurs. 6:00pm	JJ's Restaurant	Mike Heuer 314-814-3367
Ecmo SC	1st Fri. 7:30pm	ECMO SC	Billie Inman 314-541-8134
Joachim SC	4th Wed. 7:00pm	Weber's Front Row	Randell Green 314-566-0252
Little Dixie SC	4th Wed.	L.D. Shrine Park	Rennie Davis 573-473-6817
Mid-Mo SC	3rd Mon.	607 S. Sturgeon	Bryan Jonas 573-239-1795
Nemo SC	3rd Thurs. 6:00pm	Call for Location	Aaron Ruhl 573-231-2718
Ozark SC	2nd Mon.	411 Springfield Rd. Owensville, MO	John Behrens Jr. 636-234-7690
Semo SC	1st Fri. 6:30pm	Semo SC	Matthew Hodges 573-619-1795
Three Rivers SC	3rd Fri. 6:30pm	Three Rivers SC	Corey Christian 573-718-6511

Appendant Bodies

Name	Date & Time	Location	Contact
Daughters of the Nile	1st Wed.	Noble Lodge #684	Marie Preble 314-578-1671
Ladies Oriental Shrine of North America	3rd Mon.	Noble Lodge #684	Marcia Jacobi 314-541-3393
Temple Club	2nd Wed.	Oasis	Cheri Viner 314-420-2385

YOMO MEAT SHOOT

SHOOT STARTS AT 12:30 PM

JANUARY 8TH

Meat shoot is for the benefit of the
YOMO Mini Patrol



\$5.00 per shot. 11 rounds, 10 prize rounds and one winner takes all money round. Indoor 22 Bird Shot, Shoot with house guns only. VFW bar pricing and refreshments will be available.

VFW Post 4223
215 Military Rd at Lemay Ferry
Lemay MO 63125



Shriners Children's St. Louis is in need of "ON CALL" Van Drivers and Riders to pick up patients and bring them to/ from the hospital. The normal

day starts in the Morning and ends in the early afternoon Monday thru Friday.

We have regular drivers, but when they are not available, we need drivers and riders to "fill in" on an as needed basis. Drivers must be Shriners, but Ladies of Shriners can be Riders.

If you would like to meet some of our patients and see what we do at Shriners, please contact the Van Chairman Bob Sudholt at **314-2059662**, or email **robertsudholt@yahoo.com**

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Ballroom: \$750

Oasis: \$450

\$500 security deposit (refunded if no damages are found)

Member Benefits for Moolah Shriners & Immediate Family:

Ballroom: \$1,000

Oasis: \$550

\$500 security deposit (refunded if no damages are found)

Non-Shriner & General Public Events:

Ballroom: \$2,000

Oasis: \$1,100

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Booking: Moolah Office 314.878.6301

Exclusive Caterers: El Agave 636-248-2306

Orlando's Catering 314.638.6660

Russo Catering 314.427.4955

Valenti's Catering 314.691.7958

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Due Dates for CT Articles

Camels' Tales articles must be submitted by the 5th of every month for the following month's edition.

Issue:	Due Date:
January/February	December 1
March/April	February 1
May/June	April 1
July/August	June 1
September/October	August 1
November/December	October 1

In order to have everyone represented please keep articles to 300 words or less.

Send your articles to camelstales@moolah.org.

Thank you for your support & dedication!



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1/2 page	\$300.00	\$250.00	\$200.00
Full Page	\$600.00	\$500.00	\$400.00

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MOOLAH STATISTICS

as of November 30th, 2022

Creations	1
Affiliations	1
Restorations	0
Associated	0
Demits	0
Suspensions	1
Deceased	13
Expulsions	0
Resignations	0
Associates Dropped	1
Net Change	-1
Total Members	1849

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MOOLAH® SHRINE CALENDAR

January		February	
6th	Swing Dance presents Charlie Mann	3rd	Swing Dance presents Pennsylvania Slim
7th	NEMO Bus Trip	8th	Temple Club
9th	Ceremonial Cast Luncheon	10th	Ambassadors Meeting & Swing Dance
11th	Temple Club	11th	Potentate Ball
13th	Ambassadors Meeting & Swing Dance	12th	Big Game Party
18th	Stated Meeting	13th	Ceremonial Cast Luncheon
20th	Swing Dance presents Fanfare	15th	Stated Meeting
21st } 22nd }	Three Rivers Installation	17th	Swing Dance presents Crossfire
27th	Swing Dance presents Larry Gwaltney Band	18th	Motown at the Moolah
28th	Clown Trivia Night	24th	Swing Dance presents Scott and Karl
		25th	ECMO Installation
March		April	
3rd	Swing Dance	2nd	Easter Egg Hunt
8th	Temple Club	7th	Temple Closed
10th	Ambassadors Meeting & Swing Dance	10th	Ceremonial Cast Luncheon
13th	Ceremonial Cast Luncheon	12th	Temple Club
15th	Stated Meeting	14th	Ambassadors Meeting & Swing Dance
17th	St. Pats Happy Hour & Swing Dance	19th	Stated Meeting
23rd } 26th }	Circus	21st	Swing Dance
31st	Swing Dance	28th	Swing Dance
		29th	YOMO Scrapbooking for Shriners