

# PIRATES



Potentate Ewell S. Byrd presents Charter for the Pirates Unit to Noble John W. Cummings, acting President. Members of this newly formed Unit are: A Michael Martin, Morgan Derst, William E. McKay, Danny Nunn, Aaron E. Harmon, John E. Sherrod, Sr., George Hunt, William C. Colson, Howard Bellinger and Carl J. Schlogl. The Pirates will meet the third Monday of each month and share a meeting room with the Ritualistic Divan. If you are interested in this Unit please pay them a visit. They assure you a warm welcome.

The Alee Temple Pirate Unit Plank Holders receiving the unit charter on October 12<sup>th</sup>, 1981. Picture from THE FEZ magazine article. Circa 1981.

In 1981, twelve Nobles from the Alee Shrine formed a "Steering Committee" to determine the feasibility of forming a new Shrine Unit. The wishes of these 12 brave souls were granted and on the 21<sup>st</sup> of September 1981, the Alee Temple Pirate Unit was granted its charter by the late Past Potentate Ewell S. Byrd, Sr. The Pirate Unit Chartered Board of Officers were: President - John W. Cummings; Vice President - Carl J. Schlogl; Secretary - Howard Bellinger; Treasurer - William C. Colson and Chaplain - A. Michael Martin. The Pirate Unit Chartered Members were: Drew Emerson, Morgan Derst, William E. McKay, Danny Nunn, Aaron E. Harmon, John E. Sherrod, Sr. and George Hunt.

## 1983 Pirate Unit

Top from left to right: Howard Bellinger, John W. Cumming, Aaron E. Harmon, William C. Colson, Jim Beard, Drew Emerson, John E. Sherrod, Sr., George Hunt, William E. McKay and Mike Broyles.

Not Shown: Alan Michal Martin, Carl J. Schogl, Morgan Derst and, Danny Nunn.

Bottom from left to right: Ladies Jennifer Broyles, Margetteri Harmon, Barbara Bellinger, Helen Emerson, Mrs. Reynolds, Cleo Colson, Anne Cummings, Evelyn McKay, Helen Beard, unknown, Toni Hunt. Circa 1983.



2021 marks the 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Alee Pirate unit, and since 1981 the Pirate Unit membership grown to 83 Pirates strong. Annually, the Alee Shrine recognizes an individual unit that has gone “above and beyond” in its support of the Alee Shrine and its objectives. Ever keeping true to the Pirate Mission - “To promote leadership, fellowship and social camaraderie in the spirit of fun and moral and ethical values, and by contributing to the Alee Shrine and the surrounding community as Shrine Masons” - the Pirate unit has had the distinct honor of having bestowed upon it the coveted “Unit of the Year” award for the Alee Shrine seven times.

1994 • 2004 • 2011 • 2012 • 2013 • 2014 • 2020

This honor has led the way to the Pirates distinct battle cry and motto, “Pirates ARGH Number One!”

Blessing of the Fleet Parade - Darien, Georgia - 1982



From left to right: Danny Nunn, Aaron E. Harmon, Carl J. Schlogl, William C. Colson, unknown, Drew Emerson, Jim Beard, William E. McKay, John E. Sherrod, Sr., Howard Bellinger, A. Michael Martin, Mike Broyles and George Hunt.  
Circa 1982.



Original Pirate cannon on a motorized - wheeled platform. Circa 1982.





# Commissioning of the YELDUZ ALEE

## The Christening of the YELDUZ ALEE

The original Alee Pirate Ship named the YELDUZ ALEE was Commissioned in 1983.



Past Potentate Floyd Pittman.



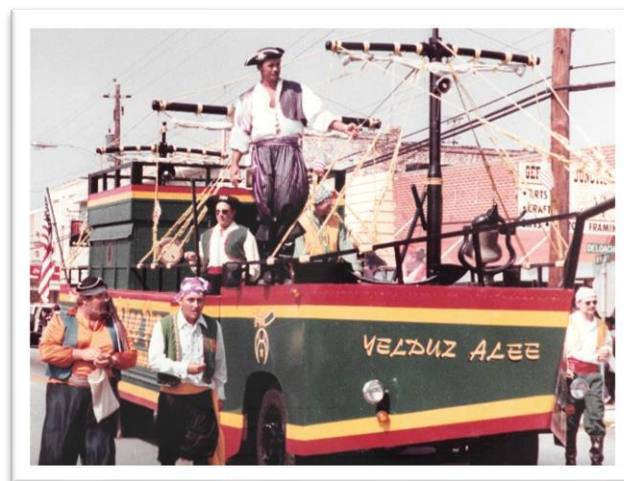
Lady Jeanette Pittman, Circa 1983



Past Potentate Floyd Pittman, William C. Colson, Lady Jeanette Pittman. Circa 1983



From left to right, from the bottom up: John W. Cummings, Howard Bellinger, Drew Emerson and George Hunt. Circa 1983.



Standing: Larry Purcell. Lower deck left to right: William C. Colson, Howard Bellinger. Bottom left to right: unknown, William E. McKay, Mike Broyles. Circa 1987.





## Decommissioning of the Yelduz Alee and Commissioning of the Yelduz Alee II



From left to right – the YELDUZ ALEE II and the YELDUZ ALEE. Circa 2019.

On the 8<sup>th</sup> of March, 2019, at the Alee Shrine in Savannah, Georgia in the presence of over 150 Pirates, Wives, Family, Friends and Shriners alike, the ceremony to decommission the YELDUZ ALEE and Commission the YELDUZ ALEE II commenced.

Of the YELDUZ ALEE - “She has been the Pirate work horse for many a year. Tried and true she be; always at the ready to parade the Pirates as all good Shriners do. Alas, she has grown tired. Ask any scurvy Pirate with us today and with ye they will share many a great tale of the YELDUZ ALEE.”



Tybee Prate Fest 2013 - From left to right: David White, Pat Thompson, Julian Browne, Chris Godbee.



Walter “Lucky” Luciano





The Christening of the YEDUZZ ALEE II. From left to right: Pirate First Lady 2019 Nikki K. Ventura & Past Potentate H. Jay Robbins. Circa 2019



The maiden voyage of the Yelduz Alee II, Tybee 2019. From left to right top standing - Greg Ray, Fred Maiden Todd Reed, Larry Pawlowski, F. Andrew Ventura, Mike Morris, Logan Spencer, John "Possum" Willis, Stephen Premo, Chris Godbee. Kneeling left to right: Kevin Prince, Danny Fries.

Of the YELDUZZ ALEE II - The 8<sup>th</sup> of March 2019 also marked a new chapter in Alee Pirate History. "The anchor is weighed; Her colors drawn high; a new vessel be at the ready. Pirate numbers grow strong, for argh Shriner Children we will forever be strong."

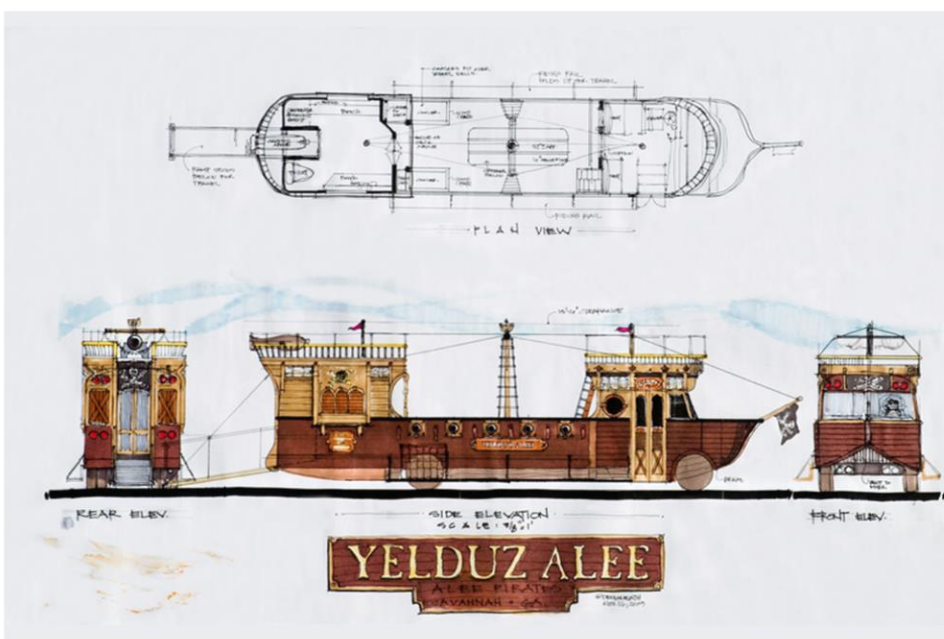




## The YELDUZ ALEE II and her inaugural crew.



Top row from left to right - Mike Morris, Ray Christian, David White, Danny Fries, Alvin Berry, Robert Rayner, Jason Hall. Bottom standing from left to right - Bobby Callaway, Eric, White, Sr., Fred Maiden, Daniel Smith, Jerald Smith, Robbie Moore, Ricky Taylor, Logan Spencer, F. Andrew Ventura, Larry Pawlowski, Illustrious Sir H. Jay Robbins, Tanner Reed, John "Pops" Williams, Kenny Williams, Johnny Howard, Mark Stafford, Chris Godbee, Illustrious Sir Charlie Brewer, Mark Eichenlaub. Kneeling from left to right - Pat Thompson, Todd Reed, Andrew "Ginger" Durrence, Ben Carrol, Jr. Circa 2019)



Original artist rendition of the YELDUZ ALEE circa 1990. During the creation of the YELDUZ ALEE II, great care was taken by the Pirate Unit to capture this vision and bring it to life. With a few modern modifications and a sound system that is beyond reproach the YELDUZ ALEE II was born.

## Alee Pirates Through the Years

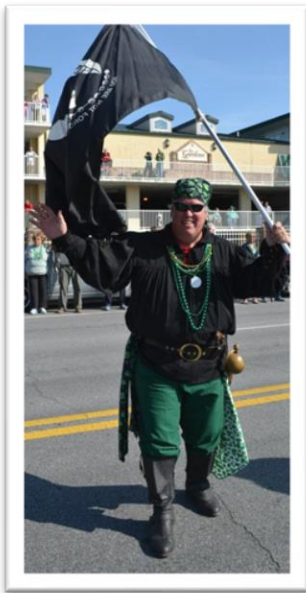
If ever there be a time to raise our colors it is done selflessly as we fly to the aid of argh Shriner Children. Though the faces have changed over the years the Pirate mission remains intact. As we raise our tankards and honor the names of Pirates past, we salute the Pirates present, and make way for those Pirates that shall be, for as we be steadfast and true, one can never deny that, "PIRATES ARGH NUMBER ONE!" Savvy?



From left to right: Tim Mercer, Sam Howell, Gary Parker and Bobby Callaway.



From left to right: Past Potentate H. Jay Robbins and Les McDaniel.



From left to right: David White, Byron Cox, Past Potentate Warren Brown, Johnny Howard.

From left to right:  
Chuck Stewart,  
unknown, Julian  
Brown.



From left to right:  
Andrew Favor,  
Rob Rayner





From left to right: Clay Taglioli and Angel Garcia



Mike Morris



Father and Son. From left to right: Kenny Williams and John "Pops" Williams



Ricky Taylor.



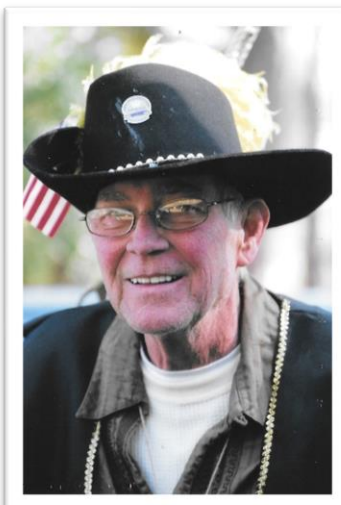
From Left to right: Steve Whittington, Jim Stillman.



From left to right: Gary Davis, Danny Fries, Julian Browne, Robbie Moore.



Brothers. From left to right: Chuck Dixon and Phillip Dixon.



Tharin Phillip "Uncle Phil" Conner.



Top left to right: Mark Bennett & Sam Howell. Bottom left to right: Matt Mercer & Chuck Dixon.



From Left to right: F. Andrew Ventura, Past Potentate Charlie Brewer, Ray







From left to right: Chris Godbee, Tommy Crowe, Greg Ray, Craig Scott, Les McDaniel and Johnny Howard.



From left to right: Sean Wilson and Todd Reed



From left to right: Danny Fries, Bob Bunkly and David White



**“Now and then we had a hope that if we lived and were good, God would permit us to be Pirates.”**

**- Mark Twain, Life on the Mississippi**