

The Accalette

2023 Fall Issue

3rd Quarter Accalette



Photo details on page 11

The Accalette

Email: accalette@accashriners.com
www.accashriners.com/accalette

Born in 1916, Reborn in 1992
 Volume 137, Issue 2

Managing Editor
 Mike Lott, Interim Editor

Assistant Managing Editor:
 Skip Floyd, Tom Hendricks

Staff - Ad/Sales Chairman - Bobby A. Gordon

Published three times a year, the ACCALETTE is the official publication of Acca Shriners of Shriners International, chartered June 9, 1886. It is directed to the interests of Acca Shriner's Nobility, the Masonic Fraternity and all affiliated orders.

All comments or inquiries about the ACCALETTE should be addressed to the Managing Editor at accalette@accashriners.com. News and Advertising deadlines are shown below to assist the Nobility in planning. The Accalette is published quarterly.

Please note the 2023 deadlines and plan accordingly.

2023 Accalette Deadlines
 April 15, August 15, December 15

Annual Unit or Club subscriptions may be obtained for \$14.50 by sending a check and mailing instructions to the ACCALETTE, in care of Acca Temple, 1712 Bellevue Ave., Richmond, Virginia 23227.

Flyers

Oktoberfest	4
Caroling in the Caverns	12
Halloween Dance	13
Acca Business Meeting	33
Acca Cruise: Bermuda	34
Fall Ceremonial & Potentate's Ball	35
Sportsman's Raffle	36

Accalette Contents

Potentate's Message	3
First Lady's Message & From the Editor's Desk	4
Events Coordinator & Office Manager	5
Acca Car Club	6
Upper Peninsula Shrine Club	7
Director's Staff	8
Golf Club	9
Ladies of the Shrine	10
Al and Lady Bette Rock	11
Caverns Shrine Club	12
Chester Shrine Club	13
After Hours Tailgate Concert	14
Mini Patrol	15
Greenville Hospital Report	16
Philadelphia Hospital Report	17-18
Valley Shrine Club	18
Manchester Shrine Club	19
Hospital Committee & Transportation Team	20-21
Transportation Fund	22
Million Dollar Band & Sauerkrauts	23
Provost Guard	24
Piedmont Shrine Club	25
Leaf & Barrel Club	26
Oriental Band & Hillbilly Unit	27
Ceremonial Cast	28
Motor Patrol	29

Advertisers

Anita L. Williamson, Realtor	4
Jay-M's Powerwashing	8
Blanton's Upholstery	8
Poegl's Pest Services	12
Turner's Auto Service	14
Local Electric Company	14
Bennet Funeral Home	15
KEIL Plumbing & Heating Inc.	16
Edwards Travel	18
Genesis Electrical Services	19
Sam Dunn Realtor	19
City Wide Decorators	25

Potentate's Message

Michael "Mike" Lott

First Lady Nancy and I are grateful for the wonderful support from everyone connected to the Acca Shrine. We attended the Shriners International Imperial Session in Charlotte, NC in July. It was an inspiring event with the opportunity to connect with Shriners and Ladies from the Virginia Temples; Kazim, Khedive and Kena and other Shriners from around the world.

2023 is going by fast, and we are having a busy fall. Nobles and Ladies are attending MASA in Virginia Beach and SASA in Myrtle Beach. We are having a Tailgate Concert, Pizza, Puzzles and Pitchers Competition, Canada, and New England Cruise, MAHOVA Parade, Sportsman Raffle, Car Show, Oktoberfest Party, Water Buffalo Degree, Halloween Dance, Ceremonial, Potentate's Ball, Santa Breakfast, and other events. Motleys Auctions continues to be the number one fund raiser for our units and clubs. Thanks to everyone who participated in the Carytown Watermelon Festival. It was an enormous success. Acca Shriners supports Shriners Children's and



the Acca Transportation Fund with financial donations and hundreds of volunteer hours.

The upcoming 2023 Acca Fall Ceremonial and Potentate's Ball are highlights of the year. We will recognize Illustrious Al Rock and Lady Bette for their service to the Acca Shrine. The Units and Clubs Open House is on Friday evening November 17 and the Ceremonial on Saturday morning November 18 followed by a cocktail party and dinner party with music and dancing on Saturday evening. I encourage everyone to attend these important and entertaining events.

Acca needs your support. Donations to the Temple and the Acca Transportation Fund keep our fraternity vibrant. We need Nobles and Ladies with audio, visual, social media, writing, communication, marketing, and graphic design skills. Please let me know where you can serve. Fraternally,

Ill. Mike Lott, Potentate



First Lady's Message

Nancy Lott

Divan Ladies Sparkle in 2023!

The Divan Ladies prepared gift bags and hosted a brunch to welcome new Ladies into the Acca Shrine. We invited the new Ladies to attend Acca events and encouraged each Lady to contribute their time and talents when needed. Over the past months we played games, baked goods for the Acca Tailgate concerts along with the Ladies of the Shrine and served watermelons at the Carytown Watermelon Festival! The Fancy Nancy Tea on September 17 is not named after me but is named for the inspired by books written by Jane O'Conner. Attendees to the tea wear their fanciest and most outrageous outfits! Plenty of feathers, pearls, and sparkles to delight everyone! Divan Ladies created sparkling centerpieces for the tea made of jewelry or another décor important to the Lady. Look for pictures in the next Accalette!

I am working on the plans to decorate the Acca Shrine Center for the holidays. The buildings are booked for many events during the season. We will schedule a holiday tree trimming event after Thanksgiving. Thank goodness Acca has a team of talented designers and organizers to assist me in this endeavor! Please look for gorgeous trees in the Assembly Room, Trophy Room, Ballroom, Hallway and Activity Center. Please let me know if you can help with the decorations.

Mike and I are looking forward to attending SASA in Myrtle Beach in September as well as our Canada and New England cruise up the East Coast in October. The opportunity to socialize with all of you is our greatest joy!

First Lady Nancy Lott

From the Editor's Desk

Acca Shriners is looking for a new Managing Editor for The Accalette. It is an important volunteer position for a person with the desire to support our fraternity. The Accalette is a first-class periodical that communicates with and entertains our members, ladies, patrons, sponsors, and friends. The position is fun and a terrific way to become acquainted with the people, clubs, and units in our organization.

For more information and to learn how you can help creating this important publication, please contact Ill. Mike Lott, Potentate at mikelott1973@gmail.com.

Acca Shriners Provost Guard

OKTOBERFEST

Fundraiser

OCTOBER 27, 2023

5PM - 8:30PM

Music by Sauerkrauts German Band

LOCATION

Acca Shrine Center
1712 Bellevue Avenue
Richmond, VA 23227

SERVING

Traditional Oktoberfest
Fare Including Pretzels,
Sausages, Potatoes, and
Sauerkraut

COST

Meal \$20 Per Person and
Kids Under 10 Eat Free

TICKETS

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www.accashriners.com

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Proceeds are for the benefit of ACCA Provost Guard and are not deductible as charitable contributions.



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Events and Rental Coordinator

Lynn Burris

I have been enjoying my job here at Acca, being responsible for leasing this wonderful venue. I am starting to think that we may go from “Hidden Gem” to “Popular Event Venue.” I have been booking conferences, weddings, graduation parties, galas and did I mention weddings! Lots of weddings and I am enjoying learning about diverse cultures and practices of our guests from India, Sudan, Guyana, Vietnam, Afghanistan and more.

I came to Acca after running a small family business for almost 20 years. I love not being the boss! I like to stay active and enjoy walking, hiking, fishing, canoeing, and firing up the disco ball for a dance party with my gentleman friend. I am also extremely proud of my three wonderful adult children.

Interesting things about me; I wanted to join the FBI or CIA when I was in college, or at least learn how to use a 007 James Bond spy gadget. I was also going to run for Mrs. Virginia and my talent was making Kraft macaroni and Cheese while blindfolded. I ran out of time, and I lost that special cooking skill when my kids graduated from elementary school. My niece, Sara, had spinal fusion about 15 years ago at Shriners Children’s Philadelphia and I hope to go there someday and meet Dr. Samdani, who performed the surgery. He followed Sara’s case for years at her checkups. Sara moved to Israel in high school and was able to serve in the Israeli Defense Forces even with a metal rod in her back, thanks to the skill and generosity of Shriners Children’s.

Business Office Manager

Sydney Hajacos

Before I started working at Acca, I paid my way through college working two jobs, one at Johnston Willis Hospital in Endocrinology and the other, making pizzas at Little Ceasars. I then graduated with an associate degree in applied science and not long after, I moved near the coast of North Carolina and got a job as a Dental Assistant in New Bern. Years later, missing my family, I moved back home to Richmond where I worked as an Office Manager for two local Neurologists until they retired. We stay connected to this day. I was then lucky enough to get the Acca Office Manager position, of which I am grateful. I have had the opportunity and pleasure to work with and meet such amazingly kind and generous people. This job has been the opportunity of a lifetime.

After work and on the weekends, I love to spend my day crocheting, knitting and have recently gotten into needle felting. By the end of the day, I love to curl up with a good book and jam out to any classic rock or 80’s “hair bands” due to growing up listening to AC/DC, Quiet Riot and Motley Crue (to name a few) with one of my best friends, my dad. If I’m not doing anything artsy or reading, I love playing my “nerdy” video games either on my Nintendo Switch or on the Xbox.

One thing people may not know about me is that my “better half” Christopher Dalton is not only a Mason, but also a Shriner at Khedive Shrine and Joelle Schwartz, my future mother-in-law, works at the Masonic Home of Virginia. If you

have not met me, come by the Acca office, and say hello, I may look young, but I have been told that I have an “old soul.” Feel free to contact me at the Acca Business office at 804-264-0509; email: businessoffice@accashriners.com.



Acca Car Club

Ed Johnston Jr.

The Acca Car Club spent a lot of time planning the logistics and organization for the 1st Annual Acca Car Club Car Show held on September 16, 2023, at the Temple. We truly hope by the time you read this we will have announced what a success it was! We planned to raise the money from the show to support the Acca Transportation Fund.

In preparation for our show, Noble Gary Prock and I attended the Khedive Shriners Auto Car Show in Chesapeake, VA on August 19, 2023. We got a lot of good information and some valuable tips on how to put on our show. This was their 31st year of having their show and they have it down to a “science”.

The Acca Car Club continues to raise much needed funds for the Acca Shrine, Acca Transportation Fund and Shriners Childrens. We are continually looking for more opportunities to earn money and donations while having fun. Our next fun event is the Acca Shrine Cruise to the Northeast and Canada, which ought to be a great trip! We are spending time weighing the cost, options and features of the many non-alcoholic and alcoholic beverage packages.

The Car Club did not staff a tent at the Carytown Watermelon Festival this past August. We just didn't have enough workers to pull it off. We gave our tent to the Oriental Band who did a great job! Several of our Club members did help the Oriental Band slice and serve the huge crowds that were out that Sunday. As usual, it was a hot day, but that's the way it is in Richmond in August.

We, like other clubs and units, are preparing our slate of officers for 2024. We anticipate a strong line of willing and capable officers.

We wish all a wonderful fall with great success for Acca Temple!

Reporter, Noble Ed Johnston Jr.
Acca Car Club



Upper Peninsula Shrine Club

Greetings from the Upper Peninsula Shrine Club, UPSC. The club attracts members from Eastern Henrico, Charles City, New Kent, King William, and James City Counties, but all Shriners are welcome and can join no matter where you live. Our officers for 2023 are Noble Steve Foster, President, Noble Skip Floyd Secretary and Noble Gary Palmer, Treasurer.

The UPSC meets on the second Thursday of every month beginning with a social at 6:30 PM followed by a dinner at 7:00 PM at Patsy's restaurant on Route 60 in Providence Forge. Patsy's is usually closed for dinner, but she has graciously decided to open her establishment just for the Shriners – wow what generosity. Patsy's is about halfway between Richmond and James City County, making it an ideal location for our shrine club to meet and others to visit.

Our guest for September was a comfort dog named Solomon, who hails from Chicago and now resides in New Kent County but is also required to travel to other locations for his work. His handlers were Dan and Terri Scungio from Williamsburg, VA, who work specifically with Solomon. Solomon received over 2,000 hours of specialized training in his chosen profession (few dogs can make the cut for training) before leaving the Chicago area. He has received accolades for his work with children and adults, who all enjoy being around him. He makes friends wherever he goes and often makes return visits. His talents were called upon after the Charlottesville protests to comfort and calm people affected by the trauma. Comfort Dogs are also

a bridge for compassionate ministry, opening doors for conversation. The Lutheran Church Charities currently has over 130 LCC K-9 Comfort Dogs serving in more than twenty-seven states and Solomon is part of that team.

Also, in September ACCA temple and the UPSC recognized Patsy's restaurant for her unselfish generosity by presenting her with an ACCA temple certification of appreciation to hang on her restaurant wall for all to see. As president of the UPSC I have always believed it is the Presidents role to recognize and give credit to as many folks as he can who step up to help our Temple and the "Kids" we support.

We are a small club but continue to grow, devoting most fund-raising efforts to the Motley Auto Auction in Richmond. The club has an amazing spirit of friendship and love for our "Kids" attracting members from as far away as Middlesex County in eastern VA.

We are an open club and welcome all Shriners and their Ladies and guests.

Cheers

President Noble Steve Foster
stevefoster1903@gmail.com

Secretary Noble Skip Floyd
hbskipfloyd@gmail.com

Treasurer Noble Gary Palmer
garyp208@verizon.net



Director's Staff

Noble Ken McSpadden

August 2023 was an eventful month for the Director Staff. We had a great turnout for the Watermelon Festival. Thanks to everyone who helped to make this year's Watermelon Festival a success. The ladies worked very hard at the front table selling the watermelon cups to our customers. The members working the slice and dice table did a great job in keeping the watermelon cups moving to the front. Again, thank you to everyone who worked one long day at the festival.

August 20, 2023, there was the first Ice Cream Social and was followed on August 27, 2023 by the Million Dollar Band Concert. Both events were well attended and FUN! Thanks to everyone in the Temple who attended and made these events happen.

September 2023 is another busy month. The next Directors Staff meeting is after the Memorial Service for Noble Dave Eells on September 12, 2023. On September 16, 2023 there is the Acca Car Show that the Car Club is organizing. The following week is Fall SASA in Myrtle Beach South Carolina. The Directors Staff looks forward to seeing everyone at the Acca Shriner Events this Fall.

Upcoming events:

- Water Buffalo Degree 10/01/23
- MAHOVA Day 10/07/23
- Potentate's Cruise 10/12 to 10/21/23
- Halloween Party 10/27/23
- Oktoberfest Party 10/27/23
- Sportsman Raffle 10/28/23
- Veteran's Day Breakfast 11/8/23
- Fall Ceremonial followed by Potentate's Ball 11/18/23

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Golf Club

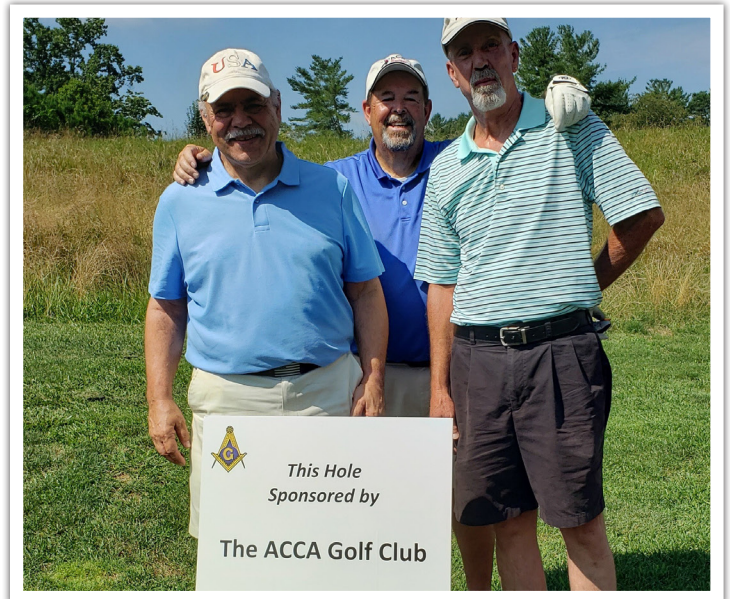
The "Acca Swingers" Golf Club is having another memorable year. We have played many of the best golf courses in the area and our schedule is only half complete.

We played the premier course at Spring Creek in Zion Crossroads and the members enjoyed the course so much it has been scheduled again in October.

Now the most exciting event so far this year. At a Shrine meeting, earlier this year, I talked to the President of the Kazim Golf Club about having a joint outing. He was excited about the idea and hoped we could plan an outing soon. A few days later he invited us to join Kazim at The Homestead. We're talking about the best of the best of Golf Courses in the area. We divided our foursomes so that two from Acca played with two from Kazim. It was both a memorable and exciting day. Plans are underway to schedule another outing with Kazim.

Another great day for golf was playing in the Grand Masters Tournament at the Lexington Golf and Country Club. The Acca Golf Club had three foursomes to enter the tournament. We also sponsored a golf hole. Noble Lin Spears, a member of the golf club, led his foursome to win the Tournament at fourteen under par. They donated their winnings to the Masonic Home of Virginia.

That brings you up to speed on our adventures. So, what's next? The remaining schedule consists of several courses our members enjoy. Brookwood in August, Crossings in September, Birkdale in October along with Spring Creek and we close out golf in November at



Sycamore Creek. Of course, we may add a few additions along the way.

Want to join us? We play the fourth Thursday of each month, March through November. The one exception is November, when we play the third Thursday because of the Thanksgiving Holiday. Our format is fair for everyone. Best drive off the tee, then play your ball into the hole. Tee boxes used varies with age. Pick up after bogey putt. Have friends who are not Shriners? No problem, anyone is welcome to play. The green fee is \$50 for each scheduled outing. Special events are a little more. Come out and join us for a round of golf and enjoy the fun and fellowship.

Be Nice-Keep the Sunnyside Up.

Larry Koon-President



Ladies of the Shrine

Greetings,

Summer is flying by and our court ladies are in high gear preparing to host the Mid-East Unit Meet the first weekend in October. We will “Reach for the Stars” as we host ladies from six states coming to Richmond for a weekend of fun activities. MEUM will be held at the Hilton Richmond Hotel and Spa.

We are so excited about our special guest coming to MEUM, Kechi Okwuchi. Kechi is a Shriner Alumni Patient Ambassador, and she has an incredible story to tell about surviving a plane crash. Kechi and her mom are coming from Houston to spend the weekend with us. She has an unbelievable singing voice and was a finalist on “America’s Got Talent” and received the Golden Buzzer from Simon Cowell. Kechi has written a book titled “More than My Scars” which tells about her recovery from the plane crash.

Lady Karen Przytula, Grand High Priestess of the Ladies’ Oriental Shrine of North America made her “official visit” to our court on July 10 and 11. Our ladies held a picnic in the activity center on Monday evening and the Past High Priestess Club hosted a luncheon for her at Sedona Taphouse in Midlothian on Tuesday. That evening the court meeting was held and then we had to say goodbye to a very special lady. We look forward to seeing Lady Karen again in October when she attends MEUM.

At the Imperial Session held in Charlotte, NC in July, Lady Karen Przytula, GHP presented a check for \$297,000.00. With other donations throughout the year, the LOS have given over \$500,000.00 to Shriners

hospitals, transportation funds and temples. Way to go ladies!!!

A special welcome to the newest members of our court, Lady Peggy Sears and Lady Suzanne Turner who became members of our court on June 25. Our ladies look forward to working with these ladies as they begin their journeys in the LOS. Lady Peggy is the mother of our High Priestess, Lady Debbie Bartol.

Accaba Court wishes to thank Sedona Taphouse for giving us the month of June for their Dine-Out for Charity Program and to everyone who visited Sedona on Mondays to help us raise \$845 in support of Shriners Hospitals for Children. The money will be donated to Acca’s Transportation Fund. Something else special about the check presentation day was Lady Karen Przytula was there with our High Priestess, Lady Debbie Bartol, to receive the check. Lady Karen told me that would be one of her “on the road memories” from her year as Grand High Priestess visiting all the LOS courts. Again, thanks to everyone for helping us support “Shriners Hospitals for Children.”

Sharon Heard, PHP



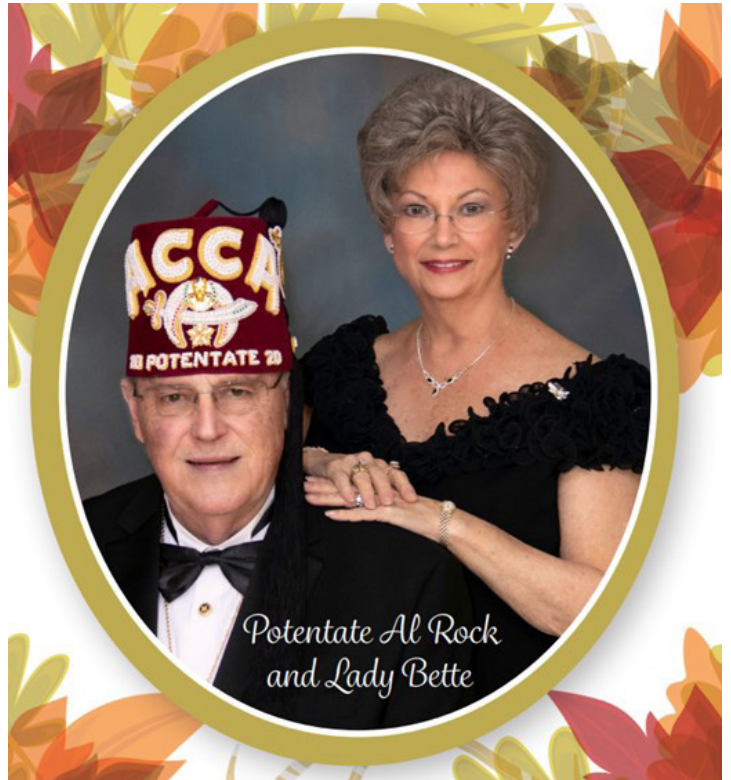
Al and Lady Bette Rock

Acca Shriners Fall Ceremonial and Potentate's Ball Honors Illustrious Al and Lady Bette Rock
November 17 – 18, 2023

In a distinguished tradition of recognizing outstanding service within the Acca Shrine, this year's Fall Ceremonial and Potentate's Ball holds a special significance as we pay tribute to Illustrious Al and Lady Bette Rock. Their unwavering dedication and commitment to the Acca Shrine and our Great Philanthropy Shriners Children's have left an indelible mark on our organization, making them truly deserving of this honor.

Illustrious Al and Lady Bette Rock have been integral members of the Acca Shrine for many years, contributing their time and expertise across various roles, including their invaluable service on the Divan, as well as active involvement in units and clubs. Their tireless efforts and passion for the Acca's mission have been an inspiration to all who have had the privilege of working alongside them.

The Fall Ceremonial and Potentate's Ball weekend serves as a fitting occasion to express our gratitude and



appreciation for Illustrious Al and Lady Bette Rock's exceptional contributions. It is a time to reflect on their selfless service and the positive impact they have had on our community. Their dedication exemplifies the core values of the Acca Shrine, and we look forward to celebrating their achievements during this memorable event.

As we gather to honor their legacy, let us also be reminded of the importance of service and camaraderie that defines the Acca Shrine. Illustrious Al and Lady Bette Rock's commitment sets a standard for all of us to aspire to as we continue our mission of making a difference in the lives of "Shriner's Kids."

We congratulate Illustrious Al and Lady Bette Rock once again and thank them for their exceptional service to the Acca Shrine. Their contributions are a testament to the spirit of unity and philanthropy that lies at the heart of our organization.

Cover Photo: Three Virginia Potentates

Photo taken at the Shriners International Imperial Session in Houston, Texas in 2021. Left to Right: Illustrious Mike Lott, Acca Shriners, (Richmond), Illustrious Tony "TJ" LaCava, Kena Shriners (Manassas), Illustrious Aubrey Rosser, Kazim Shriners (Roanoke)



Caverns Shrine Club

Summer Update

The Caverns Shrine Club continues to enjoy the hot summer with meetings at various club members beautiful homes and mountain cabin locations. Nobles Glenn Mayes and Noble Dennis Fleming have most recently led the hosting teams.

Besides enjoying great food and fellowship the meetings act as a planning session for the Caverns Shrine Club's major fundraising event Shiner's Caroling in the Caverns scheduled for December 9, 2023 at the world famous Luray Caverns. Coming off of the most successful event held in December of 2022, the club hopes to increase the amount raised for our hospitals. Last year the club donated \$30,000 to the Greenville Hospital setting a record for our club.

Sponsorship Opportunities are available for hosting this event and donations can be sent to Caverns Shrine Club, P. O. Box 64, Luray, VA 22835. Sponsorships and donations are tax deductible. For additional information please contact any member of the Caverns Shrine or President Mike Ashley at 540-975-3354.

Bill Dudley, Secretary



CAVERNS SHRINE CLUB
PRESENTS

Caroling In The Caverns

Journey into Luray Caverns for a unique Holiday Experience!

\$20
PER PERSON
(12 & UNDER FREE)

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Chester Shrine Club

On July 22, 2023, the Chester Shrine Club met at the Acca Shrine Center at 9:00 AM. A dozen members drove East in their cars on I-64 to the junction of I-664. We took the tunnel to Route 460 and then to Route 168 South. We made a pit stop at the WAWA service station located on the corner of Route 168 and Battlefield Boulevard and arrived at the Currituck BBQ in Barco, NC about noon. We enjoyed a delicious lunch of pulled pork and collard greens. After dining we got back on the road heading south to the Sanctuary Vineyard arriving at 1:30 PM for a round of wine tasting and shopping. We got back on the road again and headed South to Buffalo City Distillery arriving at 3:00 PM. We enjoyed tasting their products and shopping. We got back on the road and headed north on Route 168 and arrived at the Coinjock Marina Restaurant about 5:00 PM. We had reserved a private dining room on the water and

ordered a full Prime Rib dinner. After the delicious meal we returned to Richmond, arriving home at 9:00 PM.

The Chester Shrine club is on the move. Our regular meetings are held on the second Monday of each month at Antonio’s Restaurant and Wine Bar, 11956 Iron Bridge Plaza, Chester, Va. 23831 at 6:00 PM. All Shriners are invited to attend. Come check us out.

The club members are looking forward to attending our Christmas party on December 3, 2023, at the Swift Creek Mill Theatre in South Chesterfield, VA. We will enjoy a meal and matinee theatrical performance of “Greetings.”

Fraternally,
Noble Bill Ferguson
Chairman Acca Hospital Committee

ACCA MINI PATROL PRESENTS HALLOWEEN DANCE



MUSIC FEATURING KOS BAND

Come and join us for a spooky Halloween celebration wearing your best costume.
BYOB, setups & mixers available, \$3 beer for purchase, NO coolers.

October 27, 2023 | 8:00pm - 11:00pm | Acca Shrine Center 1712 Bellevue Ave Richmond, VA 23227

Get your \$20 per person tickets at www.accashriners.com

All proceeds benefit the Acca Mini Patrol and not deductible as a charitable contribution.

ACCALETTE NEWS DEADLINES

2nd Quarter.....March 15, 2023
3rd Quarter.....June 15, 2023
4th Quarter.....December 15, 2023

ACCALETTE ADVERTISING RATES per issue

Full Page (Back Cover).....\$350.00
Full Page.....\$270.00
Half Page.....\$135.00
Quarter Page.....\$67.50
Business Card.....\$25.00

After Hours Tailgate Concert

Acca Shriners presented the final 2023 After Hours Tailgate Concert on the beautiful grounds of the Acca Shrine Center on September 14, 2023. The weather was gorgeous and the KOZY CATS band performed a splendid outdoor concert. Plenty of grassy space and shade for blankets and chairs, plus good things to eat and drink.

The concerts are free to all – donations support the Acca Shriners and philanthropy.

Thank you, Noble Vic Sorrell, for planning and directing the event. We appreciate the Provost Guard, Arab Patrol and Oriental Band, and other units, clubs, Shriners, and individuals that attended, worked at, supported, and donated to the Tailgate Concerts.

Plans are underway for the 2024 season.





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Mini Patrol

Against the odds; the few, the proud, the Four did it at M.A.S.A.

The Mini Patrol brought home not one, but two trophies to Acca Shrine. We earned first place on the drill field. We may have made a mistake or two but fortunately for us, less mistakes than our competition. We happily took second place on the awesome obstacle course. We also ran a cat and mouse obstacle course race that may become a trophies race in the future. There were a lot of great Shriners who came out for the children and as always, to have some fun! The Mini Patrol would like to give a big thanks to Ill Mike Lott for his support.

2023 Mini Patrol Commander
Mustache Malcomb



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Charles D. Morehead,
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CENTRAL

3215 Cutshaw Ave.
Richmond, VA 23230
359-4481

CHESTERFIELD

14301 Ashbrook Pkwy.
Chesterfield, VA 23832
639-4975

Greenville Hospital Report

Richard "Doc" Redman



The Shriners system has been reorganized into regions and the Greenville Administrator, Bill Munley, has been designated as the Southeast Region Administrator. In addition to his new position, he will continue as the Greenville administrator.

The orthopedic surgeons for the Shrine system have formed the Shriners Children's Medical Group and our Chief of Staff, Dr Wattenbarger, will become the President of the group. This group is the largest pediatric orthopedic group in the world. Dr. Westberry will become our new Chief of Staff. Three new surgeons will be joining the staff. I will share more information about them in our next edition.

For the third straight year we have been honored with recognition by the Best of the Upstate awards. Greenville was recognized as Best Orthopedic Center, Best Pediatric Clinic and Best Hospital. We were chosen out of all the medical facilities in the northern half of South Carolina. These are considered very prestigious awards.

The entire Shriners system is beginning to focus more on international patients. Greenville currently is seeing patients from 25 foreign countries with 39 patients scheduled for appointments or procedures. There are another 88 in the

"pipeline" waiting for appointments. Surgeons and other support personnel are traveling to other countries helping train surgeons, nurses and physical therapists so that more procedures can be done locally and save on transportation and other factors. Surgeons from Greenville have been to El Salvador and Cyprus. More of these trips have been scheduled.

Ill Sir Dennis Berry and I thank you for allowing us to represent Acca on the Greenville Board of Governors.

Richard "Doc" Redman, MD



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C. Bryan Martin - President

Philadelphia Hospital Report

Noble Daniel L. Freye, Chairman

Greetings from Philadelphia and Hola from Puerto Rico! It's been a busy summer, so I'll get right to it!!

After a three-year delay caused by hurricanes and COVID, a 44-person team (myself included), from Shriners Children's Philadelphia returned to Puerto Rico for an outreach clinic held on May 20 and 21. The clinic has been a semi-annual event for the Philadelphia team since 1964 and the team was excited to reconnect with patients and their families. This year, the clinic was held at Orlando Health in Dorado, Puerto Rico, about 15 miles west of San Juan. It's a beautiful, brand-new facility, designed by the architect who designed the Ritz Carlton in Dorado Beach. It certainly felt more like a hotel than a hospital! Despite the 3-year hiatus, our brethren of Al Rai'e Saleh Shriners didn't miss a beat and provided invaluable volunteer support. In addition to logistic support-moving our equipment from the port to storage, to the hospital and back, and providing bus transportation for the hospital team-they worked as interpreters, assisted with patient processing, and did anything else asked of them! I am proud to be, as was the late Noble David Eells, associate members of Al Rai'e Saleh.

The Puerto Rico clinic was a huge success and a perfect example of Shriners Children's providing 'The Most Amazing Care Anywhere!' There were 279 scheduled clinical appointments and 31 walk-ins: 109 prosthetic and orthotics visits; 35 physical therapy visits; 29 occupational therapy visits; and 63 wheelchair fittings. Additionally, to round out our tripartite mission which includes education and research, medical and physical therapy students shadowed our practitioners on both days and 45 subjects provided 105 DNA samples for research. It's always good to impress your boss and we did! Imperial Potentate and Chairman of the Board of Directors of Shriners Children's, Kenny Craven, his Lady Jennifer, and John McCabe, Executive Vice President, Chief Operating Officer, paid us an unexpected visit Saturday morning and saw the team in full stride!

Numbers are impressive, but they don't begin to tell the story of how these clinics change our patients'

and their families' lives for the better. While we all experienced many tear inducing moments during the two-day clinic, one story shared with me by Dr. Terry Ishmael, particularly touched me. Terry was completing an initial evaluation of a young boy when mom broke down into tears. When she composed herself, she said, "Thank you! This is first time anyone has given us a care plan for our son."

Back on the mainland, it was my personal honor to host High Priestess Debbie Bartol of our own Accaba Court 105 and several of her Ladies at our June board meeting. We had a fun dinner at Miller's Alehouse on Wednesday night and the Ladies toured the hospital Thursday morning. Thank you for visiting, Ladies! The hospital is back open for tours, so please let Noble Dave or I know if any unit, club, or group would like to visit.

In July, Lady Gloria and I attended the Imperial Session in Charlotte. While there was not a lot of business for Colorado Corporation (Hospital) members to act on, the public sessions were impressive, we met the new international patient ambassadors (who are amazing!) and enjoyed a concert by award winning country music artist, Joe Nichols. But the true highlight of the session was spending time with Illustrious Sir Mike, Lady Nancy, and the rest of our Acca family!

Following our August board meeting, the hospital leadership team, board officers, and several board members traveled to Boston to participate in a Northeast Market Leadership conference. As you may recall from earlier articles, the Northeast Market consists of the Philadelphia and Boston hospitals and the Erie and Springfield clinics. Good presentations and excellent networking opportunities were the main takeaways from the two-day conference.

Looking ahead to the fall, the Joint Boards approved two additional Puerto Rico clinics; one in September to deliver wheelchairs, prosthetic and orthotic orders from the May clinic, and a second full clinic in November. The hospital's annual Walk for Love is coming up on Saturday, October 7, at the Philadelphia Zoo. This is the hospital's only fundraiser. While it may

be difficult to attend in person, I encourage you to participate virtually by joining my team, the "Board Walkers," at <https://donate.lovetotherescue.org/team/502233>. I sincerely appreciate your support!

I am honored to serve on the Philadelphia Hospital Board of Governors, as was the late Noble David Eells, and represent Acca in that capacity. Please let me know if you have any questions about the hospital and especially if you know of a child who could benefit from Shriners' care. As always, thanks to all Acca Nobles and Ladies for your continued support and commitment to Shriners Children's Philadelphia and the World's Greatest Philanthropy. Thanks also to our drivers who safely transport our kids to and from their appointments. Please follow Shriners Children's Philadelphia on Facebook for current information.

Fraternally and sincerely,
Noble Daniel L. Freye, Chairman
Board of Governors
Shriners Children's Philadelphia



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Valley Shrine Club

The Valley Shrine Club kicked off the summer season with its traditional "steak night" in June at the homes of Noble Irving Byrd and Lady Pat and Noble Danny Neese and Lady Chip; they provided delicious side dishes and desserts to accompany the meal. A huge thank-you to (1) Noble Ken Hoes for his hard work to provide the grill and other items, (2) Noble Danny Swanson for cutting the steaks, and (3) Noble Mike Mars for providing and cooking the turkey fries. A total of 33 Nobles attended the meeting, including members of other clubs and the Divan.

The VSC hosted a catered picnic on July 14th prior to the start of the Bridgewater Fireman's parade. The meal was enjoyed by 43 Nobles, Ladies, and guests. Units and clubs in attendance included members of the Divan, Hospital Committee members with the ACCA hospital van, Manchester Trikes, Heritage mini-truck, Motor Patrol, Hillbillies, Clowns, and VSC members.

Wednesday, August 23rd, will mark the end of VSC outdoor activities for the year as the club will have a catered picnic and cornhole tournament for Nobles, Ladies, and guests to be held at the Bridgewater Oakdale Park beginning at 6 p.m.

Sales of tickets for the VSC 50/50 raffle remain brisk. The drawing will be held at the VSC October dinner meeting. CCA Sportsman Raffle tickets. The VSC will return to our 4th Monday dinner meetings at AmVets beginning in September. All Nobles and their Ladies are welcome, and we invite any Mason to attend who may desire to become a Shriner. VSC members continue to meet for breakfast each Wednesday morning at IHOP in Harrisonburg.

Respectfully submitted,
Dan Perry, Secretary, VSC



The
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Richmond, Virginia

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Nobles, Ladies and Sweethearts of ACCA,

Summer is coming to an end, but it has shown us the true colors of heat. We hope you have kept your cool and had a safe and fulfilling vacations and time with family. Let us now look forward to the cooler temperature and bountiful colors of fall.

Our meetings over the summer have been well attended with great food, beverages, and fellowship. Many thanks to all have volunteered to provide meals. The continued support keeps our cost down as well as no charges for dinner. President Bill Bond and his Lady Tracy started silent auctions at a few of our meetings with some wonderful items being donated. It has been a lot of fun and raised a little money for our cause.

Our fundraising has been quite a bit slower this year with most of our members having left or soon leaving Greys Point. They still have a couple of events coming up before seasons end. We need some other ideas to make up for this so please bring them to the table. Let's get some new people involved to continue our long-standing excellence in giving back. With that, our TC Atkinson 50/50 is underway and has just a few tickets left. One hundred tickets at \$100, \$5,000 to the winner and \$ 5,000 to our causes. We also will be beginning our Shriner ring raffle. This is a beautiful ring donated by our

sweetheart Ro Allen valued at \$ 5,600. Don't miss your chance at this piece of our history. Tickets will begin being sold at SASA.

Our Drifters have been busy with parades and practices. Their latest was the Walkerton Parade where they were awarded the final trophy of the night. Congratulations on winning the "Special Judges Award". These guys have worked hard and will going to new levels when they get to this year's SASA. Get out and give them your support. If you may be interested in joining them, please catch up with the Captain, Noble Bobby Smith, he will be glad to help you become informed.

Speaking of SASA, it is coming up quickly. Manchester will again be providing lunch on Saturday after the parade. If you are planning on being there, please reach out and give a hand.

Come give us a visit, have a meal, help with a fund raiser. You never know, you may want to become the newest member of the #1 club in ACCA.

Fraternally,
Manchester Shrine Club

"No man stands so tall as when he stoops to help a child"



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Hospital Committee & Transportation Team

Noble Bill Ferguson, Chairman

Thank you for allowing me to serve in 2023 as the Chairman of the Acca Shriners Hospital Committee and manage the transportation needs of Shriner's Kids, our patients, to the various Shriners Children's hospitals and clinics. I was asked if this was like running a day care center, I responded it is more like a symphony orchestra, and I am the conductor. The dedicated drivers and committee members are my musicians and when they do their job, it is like beautiful music. Without them I would just be a single person, with a baton, in front of a quiet room. Nothing would get done!

I have been asked many times why Acca Shriners help patients and their families with the transportation to appointments for treatments at Shriners Children's hospitals and clinics. Why do we spend long hours driving our vans to help kids that we do not know? My first comment is that it is "The Feeling" that you get for providing these critically needed services. Yes, it is addictive, but not from drugs. Take a minute and close your eyes and think back. Picture in your mind how you felt when your child, grandchild or friend's child took their first steps. This feeling is as close as I can describe to explain how you feel when helping these kids.

My first story is about a dear little girl, and I must be very careful not to break any HIPA or Privacy Rules which govern what I can say. Her story starts before she was even born. Her mother suspected that there was a problem with spina bifida affecting her unborn child. Her brother had this condition, so there was a possibility that her unborn child could be affected. They ran a test and confirmed her fears. At six months into her pregnancy, she went to Childrens Hospital of Philadelphia where the fetus was removed from her uterus, surgery was performed to correct the problem and then returned to uterus, so she could carry the child to term. The mother stayed in the hospital for three months until she delivered her child who was then referred to Shriners Children's Hospital in Philadelphia. The little girl became a regular transport patient to and from the hospital and spoke at Acca telling her story. One day while I was dealing with my wife's medical problems, I received a

text video from the mother. It was a video of the child taking her first steps. It made me feel like all the trips, time and effort were worthwhile. I keep this video on my phone and watch it from time to time for inspiration and to remind me of the important services that Shriners provide. We change lives.

When I first started this job, I was sitting on the patio with my wife when the phone rang, it was an Acca Shriner. He asked me if I could call a young lady about a medical problem with her child and could the Shriner's Childrens possibly help her. I called the number, and a young girl answered. She was crying and with a great sense of desperation she told me the story of how she had given birth to a little girl, six days old, that was born with clubbed hands and feet. The hospital told her that "because she had no medical insurance, they could not treat her child and take her home." I immediately called Noble Richard Redman, M.D., who serves on the Acca Hospital Committee and asked him to call the child's mother and determine if treatment is available at a Shriners Children's hospital. I looked up to see tears running down my wife's face as she could feel the pain this young girl was going through. About two hours later the young mother called back saying that her child had been accepted as a patient at the Shriners Children's Greenville hospital, but she had a problem. She did not own a car and had no means of transportation to travel from Norfolk to the hospital. I told her not to worry, I would talk to our brothers at the Khedive Shriners in Chesapeake, VA who would gladly transport them to the hospital. Khedive started transporting her and I received regular notes of her appointments from the hospital. About a year ago I was carrying a patient from Richmond to Greenville and stopped for lunch at the Smithfield Barbeque restaurant in Henderson NC. Drivers from all the Shrine Centers pass around the names of good restaurants in our price range, so it is not unusual to run into other Shriners at the same restaurants. The Khedive van was in the parking lot when we arrived. When we went into the restaurant, I noticed the drivers were with a mother and a little girl. After finishing their lunch, I saw

the little girl in her walker heading to the van with the Khedive drivers. She was not fast, but she was getting there. The mother approached us and asked if we were from Acca, and I replied yes. She asked if I knew a guy named Bill Ferguson. I replied, "That's me." She gave me a big hug and thanked me for I was the one on the other end of the phone that day on the patio when she had all but given up hope. I had "The Feeling" as I watched the little girl get into the Khedive van.

My job and responsibilities have rewards and challenges. The other day we received a patient referral from a local children's hospital which is not unusual. I listened to the information on the patient from the hospital but at the end of the conversation the case worker said, "Oh by the way. the mother only speaks Swahili." My comment was "this should be interesting." It turns out that the patient is a teenager in the Henrico County school system and is bilingual. I just call him after 3:00 PM when he gets home from school, and we work out the hospital trip details -- in English.

If you would like to have "The Feeling" there are two ways to do that. First volunteer and become a driver. You will need to fill out the proper paperwork and be approved. Second, donate to the Acca Transportation Fund which is a 501(c)(3) charitable organization and is tax deductible. Donations to Acca Transportation Fund dropped off drastically during COVID and have not rebounded to keep pace with rising transportation costs. Every dollar given to the Acca Transportation Fund is spent carefully and used to pay for the necessary transportation costs for our patients to travel to Shriners Children's hospitals and clinics for treatments. There is a statue in front of Acca Shrine center of a Shriner carrying a child. There is a saying that goes along the statue that says "no man stands so tall as when he stoops to help a child." How tall are you?

Mike Lott, our 2023 Acca Potentate, reminds us to:

- Be the reason that someone believes in themselves.
- Be the reason that someone has dreams.
- Be the reason that someone knows that there is goodness,
- And encouragement and love in this world.

Shriners and Ladies provide the resources that allow kids to dream and believe about mobility, to stand, to walk, use their arms and hands, speak without a cleft palate, and restore their burned body. A dream that had been unimaginable to many of them. We show our love with hundreds of volunteer hours and our financial support.

Fraternally,
Noble Bill Ferguson
Chairman Acca Hospital Committee

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Transportation Fund

Donations to the Transportation Fund are not keeping pace with expenses this year. The Transportation Fund pays the expenses for patients to travel to Shriners Children's Hospitals and Clinics for treatment. It is funded locally by grassroots support from our community and the efforts of Acca Shriners' hard work. The Transportation Fund does not receive funds from Shriners Children's or Shriners International.

We continue to add new patients that increase our transportation expenses. Several patients require air travel to access services in a specialized Shriners Children's Hospital. These costs are in addition to our normal transportation operating expenses, which have also increased significantly since the end of COVID restrictions and the full reopening of Shriners Hospitals.

We have a patient from Richmond with Brittle Bone. The patient was evaluated by the Philadelphia Hospital, and we are waiting to find out if they will be transferred to Montreal. Angel flight does not fly to Montreal, so plans are to fly the patient and parent by commercial air at about \$2,000 a trip plus lodging and meals.

Saint Louis Shriner's Hospital will treat a patient from our area that was referred by the VCU Children's Hospital. In the next three months, three trips are planned to the Saint Louis Hospital, one will be a month-long stay at the hospital and lodging. The cost of airfare will run approximately \$2,000 per trip or \$6,000 total cost. If you add \$4,000 for hotel and food costs, this patient will add \$10,000 to our expenses.

A patient from King George will travel to Philadelphia to undergo spinal surgery followed by an 8-week plus stay with Halo treatment. Hopefully, we can get them into Ronald McDonald house at \$15.00 a night or approximately \$2,000. We can furnish a food card to the cafeteria which averages \$15.00 a day or about \$2,000. This patient could add about \$4,000 to our expenses.

The average cost of a Shriner-driven trip in our hospital vans is about \$1,200 per trip. You can see from the financial summary below, coupled with the unexpected expenses detailed above, we need your help to get the children to our hospitals. Shriners Children's provide world-class, innovative medical services to children in need regardless of their ability to pay. This includes transportation, lodging for the family, and meals. We estimate that we will spend \$80,000 in 2023 to cover patient transportation expenses.

HELP US REDUCE ACCALETTE EXPENSES

Dear Nobles, Ladies and Friends of Acca Shriners:

The Board of Directors is taking steps to make sure our finances are being well managed. Much has been done to reduce wasteful spending and control expenses by reviewing our spending habits, contractual agreements, and compensation offerings.

We realize the Accalette is a quality publication that many of you enjoy. However, costs of publication and mailing run from \$12,000 to \$15,000 annually. When the publication is delivered to the U.S. Post Office for bulk mail distribution it can take weeks before it reaches the reader. That and the fact we have already reduced the number of issues to save cost can make the news in the magazine old news. We feel our best method of communication with the membership is through email and telephone.

Consideration was given to making the Accalette a digital publication only, but we recognize that some of our members would not be able to receive it in this manner. Therefore, we ask for your help. If you would like a copy of the Accalette mailed to you, please email accalette@accashriners.com and please provide us with your full name and mailing address. For additional information refer to the Editor's article on page 4 of this edition.

Your cooperation in this matter would be greatly appreciated.

Sincerely & Fraternaly,
Brian F. LaFontaine
Past Potentate
Acca Shriners

Million Dollar Band & Sauerkrauts

Once again, I will be consolidating both of our bands into one article. The reason is a little difficult for me to put into words but I intend to try.

Over the years in writing articles about the Million Dollar Band, I have talked about great achievements, new opportunities to showcase our talents and our commitment to our charity, the friendship and brotherly love so important in being who we are, and of fond memories and looks to the future. But recently, I have been writing more about struggles to maintain the excellence that we have shown in the past and continue to perform at the level of professionalism which we seek in the future. You have read about our dwindling membership and our reliance on guest musicians necessary to keep us going. Along the way, we have discovered that we can no longer do all of those things that we have enjoyed doing in the past and realized that changes must be made. This year, we decided to start over.

Without having the numbers of musicians and the necessary spread of instrumentation to properly perform musicals and other show pieces, we realized that a different type of musical style must be adopted. A style that fits with who we are and what we enjoy doing and one that audiences can “get into”. We talked about becoming strictly a swing band, but some of us are not so inclined from either an enjoyment standpoint or from a musical standpoint. Each of us has a style of music we like and a feel for what we do best. To throw everything into one category just isn’t who we are. So, we have decided to slowly redefine who we are and how best to reach that desired goal. Bottom line is, we want to be around playing music, having fun, making people happy and supporting our philanthropy as long as there’s an Acca Shrine. One of Richmond’s most noted musical talents, Mr. George Jacob has volunteered to help us along in this rediscovery phase and I for one am excited about our future.

One feature of our performing genre that we still do, do well and thoroughly enjoy, is parading. The MDB proudly performed in parades in Charlottesville, Goochland, Sandston and Scottsville. Fun was had by all.

Now for the explanation for one article for both bands. Since almost all of the members of the Million Dollar Band play a role in the Sauerkrauts as well, we wish to maintain that strict distinction going forward. These bands are totally different in looks, music and performing style. We may be the same group of guys and gals but we have the ability to take on a completely different persona while on stage. The Krauts are known not only for their music but as “showmen” as well. We take pride in getting our audiences enthused and participating along with the band. Because of this ability to “cut up” a little we are becoming more and more popular each year, and our level of financial support seems to reflect that. Because the big band is still undergoing change the Krauts are in the position to take the lead role. This year for our annual Showcase Performance, the Sauerkrauts will be representing Acca.



Another first for us is that the Sauerkrauts will be representing Acca at MASA this year. We have always enjoyed SASA but as musicians we want to have more opportunities to showcase our talents. SASA will only provide the parade for us to perform in this year whereas in the past we could attend jam sessions with musicians from other temples, perform a concert and join in a dance band. MASA provides all of these opportunities, and we are excited about going back to Virginia Beach and performing for a whole new group of parade goers. There will only be ten of us going (the typical number of Krauts for a gig) but we fully expect to represent Acca in a very large and positive way. We are being hosted by Rajah Shrine out of Reading PA. They were gracious enough to adopt us by providing us with the same room rate as their members and the full use of their hospitality room. What a generous act that truly demonstrates the depth of brotherly love among fellow Masons.

Until next time,

Noble Bill Hudson, Reporter

Provost Guard

Mission and Activities: The Acca Shriners Provost Guard is a distinguished unit within the Acca Shrine, with a noble mission. Chartered in 1958 for the purpose of promoting fellowship, democracy, cooperation, and good clean fun among its members, the unit stands as a testament to camaraderie and unity.

The Provost Guard proudly performs its duties at the direction and pleasure of the Illustrious Acca Potentate. This commitment to serving the Potentate and Acca Shriners reflects their unwavering dedication to the mission of Shriners International.

Philanthropic Support: Beyond their mission of fellowship and camaraderie, the Provost Guard is deeply committed to philanthropy. They actively support the Acca Transportation Fund, facilitating the essential transportation of patients to Shriners Hospitals and Clinics for medical treatment. Additionally, their heartfelt dedication extends to funding Shriners Children's which is the Great Philanthropy of Shriners International.

By combining their sense of togetherness with a commitment to supporting vital causes, the Provost Guard embodies the core values of the Acca Shriners and makes a meaningful impact within their community and beyond.

The Provettes: A Vital Support System The strength of any organization often lies in the dedicated individuals who work tirelessly behind the scenes. In the case of the Provost Guard, this vital support comes from the Provettes, an auxiliary Ladies organization.

The Provettes' Contribution: The Provettes play a pivotal role in the success and effectiveness of the Provost Guard. Their unwavering dedication, support, and tireless efforts complement the Guard's mission and success is often achieved through teamwork and unity.

Diverse Volunteer Activities: The Provost Guard is engaged in a diverse range of volunteering activities, making a substantial impact within the community. The unit rolls up its sleeves and actively participates in events that serve as critical fundraising and awareness-building mechanisms.

At the heart of these collaborative efforts lies a shared dedication to making a difference in the lives of patients. Through their involvement in these events, the Provost Guard and Provettes exemplify the Shriners' mission to provide essential care and support to children in need.

Parades: When it comes to Shriners in parades the Provost Guard leads the way. The Guard proudly carries the Acca Banner in the front and leads the Acca Potentate and other units in the parade.

Motley's Auctions: The Provost Guard actively volunteers to drive cars each Friday morning through the Motley's Auction blocks. Funds earned through this work supports the Transportation Fund and Shriners Children's.

After Hours Tailgate Concerts: Adding a dash of entertainment to their philanthropic endeavors, the Provost Guard and Provettes manage the After-Hours Tailgate Concerts in the Spring and the Fall each year. These lively community outreach events not only provide memorable experiences for attendees but also raise awareness and funds for the Acca Shrine.

Oktoberfest and More: The Provost Guard Oktoberfest held on the last Friday of October is the best Shriner party of the year! But the Guard's commitment extends beyond this single event and encompasses various other Acca gatherings during the year. The tireless efforts of the Guard create memorable moments for attendees while generating support for Shriners Children's.

We celebrate the Provost Guard's remarkable efforts in supporting the Acca Shrine. We recognize that their dedication goes far beyond and represents the enduring spirit of giving and service that defines the Provost Guard.

Major Bert Norfleet
Acca Provost Guard

Piedmont Shrine Club

April 15th was a beautiful day for a parade and a picnic. ACCA Units and Clubs had a tremendous group of about 25 to 30 Nobles to represent all of us as Shriners in our local Charlottesville Dogwood Parade. Each of the ACCA Units were well represented and they arrived at the Charlottesville Elk's Shelter hungry and ready to eat. And, we were ready for them.

Our Piedmont Shrine Club was up for the task as we were also well represented by Nobles and Ladies. There were 60 burgers and 60 hot dogs along with a table full of food and drinks. As it goes, many hands make for light work and it was certainly the case yesterday. All the burgers and hot dogs were gone at the end of the day as was most of the delicious food and desserts. We thanked the visiting Nobles and sent them headed back home full and happy from the picnic.

Our PSC President Brandon Black wishes to send along his sincere thanks to all of the ACCA Units and Clubs that were present as well as to the Nobles and Ladies of PSC that stepped up to help. He wanted to mention that there were

several sponsors that provided everything for the main course and our Nobles brought covered dishes, desserts and drinks.

The sponsors were: Commonwealth Senior Living, Heartland Hospice, and local REMAX Realtor, Karen Nelson.

As a result of this effort by our Nobles and Ladies, there were no costs directly to our Piedmont Shrine Club for this large undertaking which was magnificent.

There was \$181 raised from the 50/50 drawing and we received an application for a new member to join PSC. That application will be presented at our next meeting in May.

Thanks also to Noble Julian Taliaferro for arranging the use of the Charlottesville Elks' Lodge Shelter.

Respectfully submitted,

Larry Claytor, Secretary
Piedmont Shrine Club

Delightful Picnic after the Charlottesville Dogwood Parade provided by the Piedmont Shrine Club

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The Leaf and Barrel Club has been very active in 2023!

Helping Kids and Having Fun!

We gave away a couple of containers of fine limited edition distilled spirits in early 2023, that resulted in a substantial donation for the Acca Transportation Fund. After meeting monthly in the Activity Center throughout the Spring, we noted the rising temperature and began to search for venues with air conditioning and great ventilation. We connected with the owner of Griffin Cigars located in the Stoney Point Fashion Mall in Richmond and learned how small the world can be. The owner offered us the use of the private lounge in the establishment.

The activity of the evening was a fraternal fundraiser (to benefit the Acca Transportation fund) where everything was “on the house,” and we “paid” by putting cash in a bucket which was matched by our host and guest speaker Abdullah (Abe) Al Sanabani. “Abe” was the victim of a Saudi air raid on a Mosque in Yemen where forty-eight guests and family members were killed. Abe was burned over 85% of his body. After being treated for a short time in a Yemeni Hospital, his family contacted Shriners International, who took over his case and transported him to the Boston Shriners

Hospital for treatment. His recovery, he says, was not only medical, but also was accomplished through the LOVE that was shown him by all the staff at Shriners. He was also treated in Dayton and Chicago Shriners. He revealed his appreciation to Shriners at the end of the evening, when he matched the \$250, we had placed in the bucket with his \$250! The Leaf and Barrel was able to donate \$501 to our Transportation Fund. The extra dollar was the “seed money” placed before we started contributing. We all had a great time, and plan to revisit Griffin Cigar very soon.

As Autumn approaches we realize that 4th Fridays interfere with many Holidays and have decided to combine our September and October meetings and meet at the Activity Center starting on Friday, October 6th.

We will have elections of officers, discussion of a year-end event, and of course share spirits and smoke. To join the Leaf & Barrel Club you don’t have to smoke or like Bourbon and Scotch. All you need to do is carry on a good conversation.

We invite everyone to attend our meetings for a grand night of fellowship and fun.

Please join us in the coming months!

Dann Ladd

Secretary Leaf & Barrel Club



Oriental Band

Eddie Pearson, OB President

As you can see from the photo, the Oriental Band had a great day at the Carytown Watermelon Festival. Also, you will see some of our new recruits... The Oriental Band appreciates the help we received from other units as well as family and friends to make this a day full of fun and fellowship.

Upcoming OB activities are numerous: We are cooking for the Tailgate on September 14th, Sponsoring the Loyal Order of Water Buffalo degree on October 1st, running the lunch counter for the Quilters Show October 7th – 8th, assisting with the food prep for the Sportsman's Raffle on October 28th and running the lunch counter for the Richmond Coin Show November 2nd – 4th.

Let us not forget, the Oriental Band does more than cook! SASA in Myrtle Beach is September 21st – 24th! The South Atlantic Shriners Oriental Band Association events are held on Thursday, September 21st at the Pine Lakes Country Club with the South Atlantic Shriners Oriental Band Jamboree at 2:30 and the SASOBA Banquet/Officer Installation at 6:30. Join our "Award Winning Band" for the "Sweetest Sounds this Side of Heaven" along with lots of fun and fellowship! Please reach out to Nobles Pearson or Colletti for banquet details.

If YOU have an interest in the Oriental Band, just look up any of our members. Musical talent is NOT a prerequisite. If you don't want to join but just want to have FUN and share in the FELLOWSHIP, please join us at the events listed.

Eddie Pearson, OB President



Hillbilly Unit

Ross Morland, Secretary

Howdy y'all! The summer months ended much too quickly and the kids are now back in school. I recently started a new job and it's going okay. The first thing I do when I get to work is to hide. Know why? Because they say a good employee is hard to find!

On June 3rd, members of the Hillbilly Unit traveled down to Acca Shrine in Richmond to attend the Spring Ceremonial. As always, the event was very well organized, the ritual impressive, and brotherly love shared. Kudos to the Ceremonial Cast for a fine job conferring the ritual. Welcome to the Shrine Fraternity all you new Nobles!



The Unit was excited to host our annual summer Hillbilly Jamborees at three area campgrounds. Each year these events grow larger in camper participation and in funds raised for our Hospitals for Children. And let's face it, these are not just any old "fundraisers" - they are PARTIES!!! We have more fun than you can shake a stick at. Much of the extra funds raised this year were due to increased raffle ticket sales. Special thanks to Lady (and Shrine patient mother) Cindy Weaver for her effort to sell tickets throughout the campground. The Unit was blessed with a great turnout of volunteers to help coordinate all the games and activities. Well done, Nobles and Ladies!

We're looking forward to seeing everyone at SASA and then at the MAHOVA Family Day. Y'all take care and Honor the Cob!



Ceremonial Cast

On Friday June 2nd 2023 ACCA held their spring Open House. The Ceremonial Cast had a good turnout of Nobles as well as perspective candidates. Below are some pictures of the Ceremonial Cast and Manchester Shrine Club's joint open house.



At the June Ceremonial Cast Meeting Noble Bill Bond; President, and Noble Billy Farmer; 1st VP presented Noble Rodney Gallagher and Sharon Gallagher a One Hundred Million Dollar Certificate for their generous contribution to the Ceremonial Cast & their volunteering at the Motley Auto Auction.



On Saturday June 3rd the Ceremonial Cast performed the Ritual of the Order at the ACCA Shrine Temple. Candidates received the Ritual in a very impressive ceremony.



Noble Bruce Smith recited the Shriner's Creed for the candidates.



Nobles who participated in the ritual are:
From left to right, Noble Bruce Smith; Orator, Illustrious Al Rock; Alchemist, Noble Jeremy (Boomer) Calhoun; Oriental Guide, Noble Bill Eddeilton; High Priest and Prophet, Noble Vernon Korb; 2nd Oriental Master, Noble Billy Farmer; Chief Rabban, Noble Donnie Korb; 1st Ceremonial Master, Noble Paul Rinko; Potentate, Noble Tom Clayton; Slave, Noble Bill Bond; Father of the Seven Sons, Noble Bobby Smith; Assistant Rabban, Noble Nelson Bryant; Alchemist & Noble Rodney Gallagher; Master of Ceremonies.



Members of the Ceremonial Cast assisted with the Carytown Watermelon Festival on August 13th. Members who assisted are From left to right: Noble Bruce Smith, Noble Rodney Gallagher, Noble Bill Bond, Noble Bobby Smith & Noble Billy Farmer.



Respectfully Submitted:
William R. Bond, III, President ACCA Ceremonial Cast

Motor Patrol

Illustrious Sir, Nobels, Ladies, and Friends of ACCA Shrine. Your legendary Motor Patrol proudly represented Acca Shrine in numerous events and parades this year. The Dapper Drifters took their daring exhibition on the road to delight crowds in Elkton, Bridgewater, Irvington, and Sandston so far. The Sandston Memorial Day Parade was a blast. Our tricked-out trikes and go kart thrill rider delighted all the kids, young and young at heart alike. Although we put on a proper show for the people, we did not lose sight of what the day was about. Eleven noble riders gathered to honor our nation's fallen military service members along with many other ACCA Units and Clubs. It was a great day to be a Shriner! It's hard to believe, but we do more than just ride fast and look cool. We recently served watermelon at the annual Watermelon Festival and often cater meals for fundraisers. Speaking of that, we'll be cooking lunch for the ACCA Car Show 9/16/23. If you're interested in the Motor Patrol, that would be a perfect time to meet some members and learn more about what we do. We look forward to seeing all of you at SASA this year. We'll be the cool-looking guys on the big-wheel trikes helping kids and having fun.

Noble Mary Ledbetter, President
Written by Noble Joey B Collins



Upcoming Events

OCTOBER

October 1, 2023	Water Buffalo Degree
October 7, 2023	MAHOVA Day & Parade
October 7, 2023	Bass Pro Shops Ticket Sales
October 8, 2023	Bass Pro Shops Ticket Sales
October 12-21, 2023	Canada & NE Cruise
October 24, 2023	Joint Uniform Council & Business Meeting
October 27, 2023	Oktoberfest
October 27, 2023	Halloween Party
October 28, 2023	Sportsman Raffle

NOVEMBER

November 4, 2023	Kazim Pote's Ball
November 8, 2023	Veteran's Day Breakfast
November 9-23, 2023	Grand Lodge of VA
November 17-18, 2023	Ceremonial & Pote's Ball
November 28, 2023	Uniform Council Meeting

DECEMBER

December 9, 2023	Caroling in the Caverns
December 12, 2023	Annual Business Mtg
December 16, 2023	Breakfast w/Santa
December 31, 2023	NY Eve Party w/Escorts

DONATIONS

DECEMBER 15, 2022 – AUGUST 15, 2023

DONATIONS TO SHRINERS CHILDREN'S HOSPITALS

- | | |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------|
| James E. Creech | David L. Whipp |
| Warren Rofe | John Shreckhise II |
| Peggy Sears | Donald & Gloria Hamrick |
| Paul & Bonnie Robertson | Gary W. Grant |
| Linda & H. Gary Fitzgerald | Michael Huff |
| Ted Rittenhouse | William Woodson |
| Ivan Letner, Jr. | Richard J. Grier |
| James R. Adams | Thomas W. Hamner, Jr. |
| Robert Dunbar | Thomas Daughtrey, Sr. |
| Nabil Aboulhosn | John Craft |
| Richmond Area Bottle Collectors | |

- | | |
|---------------------------|------------|
| Raymond P. Brown, Jr..... | Anonymous |
| Robert Tatum..... | Mark Tatum |

IN HONOR OF DONOR

- | | |
|--------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Bonnie Prince Davis..... | H. Lee Self Jr. & Family |
| John & Vicky Conover..... | Walter Yarboro |
| Acca Steel Drum Band..... | LC Bird High School |
| John Conover & Lady Vicki..... | Walter Yarboro |

IN MEMORY OF DONOR

- | | |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Lennie Garrett..... | Anonymous |
| Wayne Edwards..... | Walter Yarboro |
| David Burrough..... | Valley Shrine Club |
| Kenneth Shook..... | Claire Kaugars |
| George Moore, Jr..... | Richard & Margaret Stockton |
| Lon Richard Stockton, Jr..... | Richard & Margaret Stockton |
| David Burrough..... | Dr. Kirk Sheap |
| Nina Jett..... | H. Lee Self, Jr. & Family |
| David Burrough..... | Lamplighters |
| David Burrough..... | Dan Perry |
| Richard "Sonny" Gilman..... | Adriana & Lena |
| Jerry Pugh..... | Manchester Shrine Club |
| Kenneth Shook..... | Joan & Gil DeBiasi |
| Claude Sears..... | Peggy Sears & Family |
| Wayne Edwards..... | Walter Yarboro |
| Earl "Tommy" Smith..... | Petersburg Shrine Club |
| Robert Tatum..... | Energy Land & Mineral Inc |
| Robert Tatum..... | Petersburg Shrine Club |
| Robert Tatum..... | Ralph Bartley |
| Robert Tatum..... | Dr. Anthony & Mrs. Valente |
| Robert Tatum..... | Gioia & Leonard Valente |
| Robert Tatum..... | Ed Johnson & Laurie Michel |
| Robert Tatum..... | Eric & Nancy Hamilton |
| Robert Tatum..... | Richard & Pamela Caudill |
| Robert Tatum..... | W. Haley Cole & Elizabeth Cole |
| Robert Tatum..... | Michael & Deborah Aaron |
| Wayne Fifer..... | Luther Easley Spencer |
| Anna M. Small..... | Richard H. West |
| Wayne Fifer..... | Manchester Shrine Club |
| Wayne Fifer..... | Benjamin D. & Barbara Holder |
| Wayne Fifer..... | Washington Henry Masonic Lodge #344 |

DONATIONS TO ACCA SHRINE CENTER

- | | |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------|
| James E. Creech | Thomas Daughtrey, Sr. |
| Director's Staff Ladies | Ivan Letner, Jr. |
| Upper Peninsula Shrine Club | Alan Stamp |
| Hopewell Shrine Club | Bill Bond |

IN MEMORY OF DONOR

- | | |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Janet Faye Roach..... | Acca Motor Patrol |
| Thomas Shanon Berry, Jr..... | Marcia Berry |
| Wayne Edwards..... | Walter Yarboro |
| Harry J. "Toby" Brown, Jr..... | Piedmont Shrine Club |
| Jerry Pugh..... | Patricia Jasinkiewicz |

IN HONOR OF DONOR

- | | |
|--------------------------------|----------------|
| Acca Director's Staff..... | Marcia Berry |
| John Conover & Lady Vicki..... | Walter Yarboro |

DONATIONS TO 100 MILLION DOLLAR CLUB

IN MEMORY OF DONOR

- | | |
|------------------------------|----------------------|
| Jack Williams..... | Acca Legion of Honor |
| Richard "Sonny" Gilman..... | Provost Guard |
| Peggy Marrs..... | Provost Guard |
| Jack Williams..... | Acca Legion of Honor |
| Willis Sheffield..... | Acca Legion of Honor |
| Thomas Shanon Berry, Jr..... | Acca Directors Staff |
| Frank C. Jones II..... | Acca Directors Staff |
| Samuel A. Abrash..... | Acca Directors Staff |

IN HONOR OF DONOR

- | | |
|--------------------------------|----------------------|
| Rodney & Sharon Gallagher..... | Acca Ceremonial Cast |
|--------------------------------|----------------------|

DONATIONS TO ACCA SHRINERS HOSPITAL TRANSPORTATION FUND

Valley Shrine Club	Piedmont Shrine Club
Manchester Shrine Club	Acca Sauerkrauts
Accaba Court No. 105	Jerry W. Camp
Acca Shrine Provost Guard	
Richmond Auto Auction of VA, INC	

IN MEMORY OF

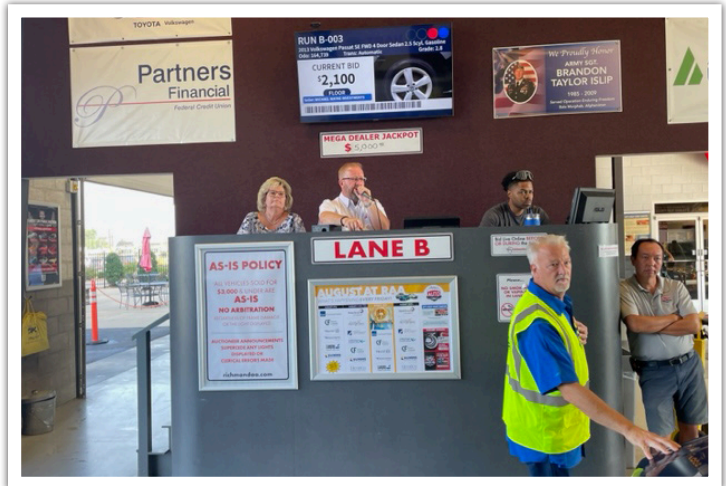
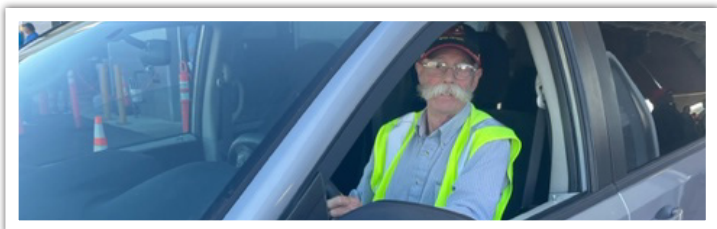
DONOR

Ronald Butler.....	Stuart & Barbara Cook
Kenneth Shook.....	Jeannie Wright
Richard "Sonny" Gilman.....	Les & Dusty Gillenwater
Jerry Pugh.....	Les & Dusty Gillenwater
Roy Lewis, Sr.....	Sappony WOM
Earl "Tommy" Smith.....	Dr. Richard Redmon & Susan Shorb
Jack Williams.....	Acca Legion of Honor
Judy Wiley.....	David & Bina Bishop
Ronald Butler.....	David & Bina Bishop
Kenneth Shook.....	David & Bina Bishop
Morris Frank Adams, Jr.....	David & Bina Bishop
E. Jean Cozart.....	David & Bina Bishop
Richard "Sonny" Gilman.....	David & Bina Bishop
Carolyn Beverly Lantz.....	David & Bina Bishop
Abby Warren.....	David & Bina Bishop
Jerry Pugh.....	David & Bina Bishop
Franklin D. Simmons, Jr.....	David & Bina Bishop
Ronald Butler.....	Shirley Harvey
Wayne Edwards.....	Walter Yarboro
Briant E. Cummens.....	Nelson & Anna Bryant
Lady Nancy Jenkins.....	Acca Legion of Honor
Willis Sheffield.....	Acca Legion of Honor
Robert Tatum.....	Jolly Bunn & Melva Armstrong
Wayne Fifer.....	Richard & Donna Willis
Thurston "Buddy" Boggs, Jr.....	David & Bina Bishop
Richard D. Chumney, Jr.....	David & Bina Bishop
Wayne Fifer.....	David & Bina Bishop
Milton E. "Moe" Starke.....	David & Bina Bishop
Nancy Jenkins.....	David & Bina Bishop
Dominic Viscardi.....	Eddie Pearson

IN HONOR OF

DONOR

Mary and Dan Thomas.....	G. Bernard Dungan, Jr.
John Conover & Lady Vicki.....	Walter Yarboro
Sting Ray Stitchers Quilt Guild.....	Accaba Court No. 105





ACCA SHRINERS

BUSINESS

MEETING

OCT 24, 2023

Catered Dinner
➤ 6PM

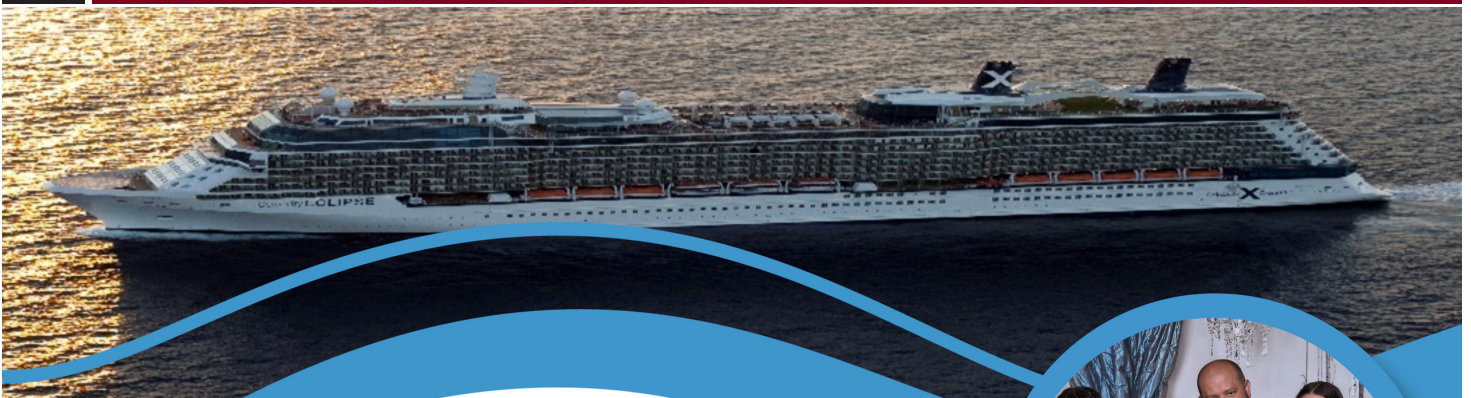


Business Meeting /
Uniform Council Meeting /
Ladies Program

➤ 7:30PM

Pork Tenderloin, Rice, Vegetables, & Dessert.
Meal served in the Assembly Room.
Dress: Fez; Shriner Shirt. Meal: \$20 per person.

R.S.V.P. Dinner Reservations by Friday October 20, 2023
businessoffice@accashriners.com
804-264-0509



June 16th - 23rd

ACCA CRUISE

Bermuda



Chief Rabban Andrew Coelho, Lady Michelle, and the ACCA Shriners invite you to join them aboard the Celebrity Eclipse, as they sail round trip from Cape Liberty.

ITINERARY:

- SUNDAY, JUNE 16.....EMBARK CAPE LIBERTY, NJ
- SUNDAY, JUNE 16.....STATUE OF LIBERTY (CRUISING)
- MONDAY, JUNE 17.....AT SEA
- TUESDAY, JUNE 18.....AT SEA
- WEDNESDAY, JUNE 19....ROYAL NAVAL DOCKYARD, BERMUDA
- THURSDAY, JUNE 20.....ROYAL NAVAL DOCKYARD, BERMUDA
- FRIDAY, JUNE 21.....ROYAL NAVAL DOCKYARD, BERMUDA
- SATURDAY, JUNE 22.....AT SEA
- SUNDAY, JUNE 23.....CAPE LIBERTY, NJ

PRICE PER COUPLE:

- DV – DELUXE VERANDAH.....\$4732.46
- I1 – INTERIOR.....\$3552.46
- V1 – PRIME VERANDAH.....\$4638.46
- V2 – VERANDAH.....\$4550.46

Deposit: \$500 per cabin
Final Payment: March 8, 2024

Join us on
November 5th
at 3:00pm for a
Presentation
about the
cruise!

For Reservations and Information:

Jenny Muehlenkamp
Phone: 804-293-4043
Email:
jmuehlenkamp@aaamidatlantic.com
Swift Creek
13732 Hull Street Rd
Midlothian, VA 23112



*Prices are per cabin, based on double occupancy and do not include Motorcoach. Prices, dates, itineraries, inclusions, and amenities are valid at time of printing and subject to change without notice. AAA is not responsible for errors or omissions. Prices include Gratuities, Classic Drink Package, and Unlimited Basic Wifi.

Acca FALL CEREMONIAL & POTENTATE'S BALL NOVEMBER 17-18



Having Fun & Helping Kids

Be a part of our Shriner
Family and support the
World's Greatest
Philanthropy

Find Out More About Membership:

(804) 264-0509

www.joinacca.com

\$200 Initiation & 2024 Dues

Friday, Nov 17th:

Units & Clubs Open
6:00p - 9:00p

Saturday, Nov 18th:

Candidates & Ladies
Breakfast at 8:00a

Initiation Ceremony
9:00a - 12:00p

Potentate's Ball 5:00p

ACCA SHRINE 18TH ANNUAL SPORTSMAN'S RAFFLE



Saturday, October 28, 2023

12:00 P.M. - 5:00 P.M.

PRICE \$20.00



Free Food and Refreshments 1:30 – 3:30 p.m.

1712 Bellevue Avenue Richmond, VA 23227

A PRIZE GIVEN AWAY EVERY 4 MINUTES!

All prizes except UTV & trailer from Bass Pro Shop. John Deere Gator UTV from James River Equipment. Each orange ticket has 76 chances to win. You need not be present to win. Tickets are available from any Shriner.

For more information, please call Acca Shrine Center at 804-264-0509.

All Local, State and Federal laws will be adhered to. Must be 18 years old to purchase a ticket. Ticket will be verified before going in tumbler. You must present a ticket to enter or receive food. If substitution is made, the value will be equal or greater. No substitution on UTV or trailer. You need not be present to win. All winners will be notified. All firearms & prizes except UTV & trailer will be issued from Bass Pro Shop. UTV from James River Equipment in 510 West Colonial Trail Hwy Burkeville 23922, (434) 767-5578. If enough tickets not sold to cover prizes by 10/1/23, money will be returned to buyer. \$600 winnings subject to 1099, copy to IRS.

2023 PRIZES

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1 ASCEND ZION MOUNTAIN BIKE | 39 WINCHESTER XPR HUNTER RIFLE W/ SCOPE |
| 2 40QT CABELA'S EQUALIZER - TAN | 40 VORTEX DIAMONDBACK BDC RIFLESCOPE |
| 3 RUGER AMERICAN RIFLE .30-06 SPRINGFIELD | 41 \$500.00 GIFT CARD |
| 4 ASCEND 12T SIT-ON KAYAK | 42 GLOCK 45 GEN5 9MM PISTOL |
| 5 \$500.00 GIFT CARD | 43 CABELA'S INSTINCT SCOUT 2-PERSON TENT |
| 6 RUGER 10/22 CARBINE RIFLE W/ SCOPE .22LR | 44 SAVAGE A22 PRECISION RIFLE .22LR |
| 7 WINCHESTER WILDCAT RIFLE .22LR | 45 BASS PRO SHOPS POND PROWLER 10FT FISHING BOAT |
| 8 CABELA'S BOW & RIFLE PACK | 46 JOHNNY MORRIS PLATINUM BAITCAST ROD/REEL COMBO |
| 9 SUMMIT VIPER STEEL CLIMBING STAND | 47 TRAEGER PRO 575 PELLET GRILL |
| 10 WINCHESTER SXP MARINE DEFENDER PUMP SHOTGUN 12GA | 48 SAVAGE A17 RIFLE |
| 11 JOHNNY MORRIS CARBONLITE 2.0 ROD & REEL COMBO | 49 YETI HOPPER FLIP |
| 12 TAURUS G3C COMPACT PISTOL 9MM | 50 SAVAGE 64F TAKEDOWN RIFLE .22LR |
| 13 \$500.00 GIFT CARD | 51 JOHNNY MORRIS PLATINUM SPINNING ROD/REEL COMBO |
| 14 VORTEX SPARC AR RED DOT SIGHT | 52 WINCHESTER SXP WATERFOWL SHOTGUN 12GA |
| 15 LOWARNOE HOOK2 4XBULLET GPS PLOTTER FISH FINDER | 53 RUGER 10/22 CARBINE RIFLE .22LR |
| 16 WINCHESTER WILDCAT SEMI-AUTO RIFLE .22LR | 54 WEBER SPIRIT II E-210 TWO-BURNER GRILL |
| 17 BPS STAINLESS STEEL TURKEY FRYER | 55 RUGER AMERICAN PREDATOR 6.5 CREEDMORE RIFLE |
| 18 GARMIN STRIKER VIVID 7 | 56 FN 509C 9MM HANDGUN |
| 19 BLACKOUT X83 HUB STYLE GROUND BLIND | 57 CABELA'S 4 BURNER GRILL |
| 20 SAVAGE AXIS XP BOLT-ACTION RIFLE .30-06 | 58 HENRY US SURVIVAL AR-7 RIFLE |
| 21 VORTEX CROSSFIRE II RIFLE SCOPE 6-18X | 59 \$500.00 GIFT CARD |
| 22 CABELA'S OUTDOORSMAN 5,000W GENERATOR | 60 S&W 642 AIRWEIGHT DOUBLE ACTION REVOLVER .38 SPECIAL |
| 23 RUGER EC9S PISTOL 9MM | 61 KIMBER STAINLESS RAPTOR II PISTOL .45 |
| 24 BROWNING AB3 COMPOSITE STALKER RIFLE .270WIN | 62 VORTEX CROSSFIRE HD BINOCULARS STRATA CAMO |
| 25 JOHNNY MORRIS PATRIOT CASTING ROD | 63 HENRY CLASSIC LEVER-ACTION RIFLE .22LR |
| 26 BROWNING BPS FIELD SHOTGUN 12GA | 64 SAVAGE RASCAL SINGLE-SHOT YOUTH .22LR |
| 27 SMITH&WESSON M&P 15-22 SPORT .22 LR W/SCOPE | 65 SAVAGE 301 TURKEY SINGLE SHOT SHOTGUN |
| 28 \$500.00 GIFT CARD | 66 PENN FIERCE IV SPINNING ROD/REEL COMBO |
| 29 SMITH&WESSON M&P15 SPORT II SEMI AUTO RIFLE | 67 SAVAGE ARMS 93R17 BTV BOLT ACTION .17HMR |
| 30 ASCEND 10T SIT-ON-TOP KAYAK ENHANCED SEATING | 68 KIMBER MICRO 9 TWO TONE PISTOL 9MM |
| 31 SAVAGE 93R17 GV .17 HMR RIFLE - WALNUT STOCK | 69 \$500.00 GIFT CARD |
| 32 BENELLI SUPERNOVA PUMP ACTION SHOTGUN 12 GA | 70 BERETTA A300 ULTIMA 12GA SHOTGUN |
| 33 WEBER Q1200 PORTABLE PROPANE GRILL | 71 GLOCK 43X SUBCOMPACT 9MM HANDGUN |
| 34 TIKKA T3X LITE RIFLE - .308 WIN | 72 MOSSBERG FLEX 500 SUPER BANTAM YOUTH SHOTGUN 20 GA |
| 35 40QT CABELA'S EQUALIZER COOLER | 73 CABELA'S INTENSITY HD SPOTTING SCOPE 20-60X |
| 36 WINCHESTER SXP EXTREME DEFENDER SHOTGUN | 74 CZ TEAL OVER/UNDER 20GA SHOTGUN |
| 37 MOSSBERG INTERNATIONAL 702 YOUTH RIFLE .22LR | 75 BROWNING A5 SWEET SIXTEEN SHOTGUN |
| 38 ASCEND MUD CREEK MOUNTAIN BIKE FOR KIDS | 76 2023 JOHN DEERE GATOR, 2-SEAT W/6'X10' UTILITY TRAILER |

Proceeds are for the benefit of Acca Shrine Center and are not tax deductible.



You're a brother and a friend. You know you can make a difference. *You're a Shiner.*

When you become a Shiner you become part of a brotherhood of men committed to family, engaged in ongoing personal growth, and dedicated to providing care for children in need. While our backgrounds and interests may be diverse, what binds us together are shared values and a desire to have fun, do good, and build bonds that can last a lifetime.

Becoming a Shiner is easier than you may think. The rewards can be far more than you expect.

Visit our website.

beashriner.com

INTRODUCING OUR 2023-2024 INTERNATIONAL PATIENT AMBASSADORS:

MEET GIANNA AND JUAN DIEGO



Every year, Shriners Children's™ selects a pair of International Patient Ambassadors to represent the healthcare system's patients. The ambassadors share their stories of perseverance and the ways Shriners Children's has made a difference in their lives. We are honored to have these impressive young people advocating for our healthcare system.

GIANNA

Gianna, 15, was born with a rare condition called proximal femoral focal deficiency (PFFD), which caused her to be missing part of her left femur. Her parents knew they had to find the right specialized care for their daughter, and were grateful to learn that the orthopedic team at Shriners Children's Southern California had the expertise to treat PFFD.

Gianna's left leg was shorter than her right one, and she faced hip malformations and other congenital left extremity limb deficiencies, said Robert Cho, M.D., pediatric orthopedic surgeon and chief of staff at Shriners Children's Southern California. "Gianna did not have a functional knee joint, and she had a non-functioning foot that was pointed inward. It would have been essentially impossible for her to walk without amputating that and giving her a prosthesis," Dr. Cho said.

Gianna had her first visit at Shriners Children's when she was 3 months old, and at 9 months, she received her first prosthesis.

As Gianna grew older she became aware of her physical differences and at times struggled with her self-image. With the unwavering love and support of her family and her care team at Shriners Children's, she developed

the confidence to embrace life. The prosthetics and rehabilitation teams worked with Gianna to teach her how to adapt and build the skills to meet her physical challenges.

"My Shriners Children's family taught me to never let my leg hold me back from being the best version of myself," she said.

Now Gianna is an active high school student who is both an artist and an athlete. She is an avid sports fan and keeps busy by competing in tennis and golf. She especially loves football, and her favorite team is the Kansas City Chiefs. Her dream is to be the commissioner of the NFL someday. With her drive and spirit, Dr. Cho has every confidence that Gianna can achieve what she sets her mind to.

Gianna's father was so impressed with the care his daughter received he was inspired to become a Shriner and currently serves as chairman of the Board of Governors at Shriners Children's Southern California. "I'm so proud of my dad. I'm glad that he has found a brotherhood and a community. Just as I have found support, he has, as well," said Gianna.

"Shriners Children's was there for me when I needed them," said Gianna. "I wouldn't be where I am today without them. Being an International Patient Ambassador gives me the opportunity to show my gratitude for Shriners Children's. I want to inspire and encourage kids just like me and let them know that the limits are endless. All they have to do is try!



**Shriners
Children's**

JUAN DIEGO

Juan Diego, 18, was burned in an electrical accident when he was 13, leaving his hands seriously disfigured. He spent more than a month in the hospital in Honduras. When he returned home, he was completely dependent on others for even the most basic tasks. He could not take care of himself, go to school, or draw or play music, two of his passions.

The Ruth Paz Foundation, a non-profit organization in Honduras devoted to providing quality medical services to children, learned about Juan Diego's burn injury and connected him with Shriners Children's Boston. Four months after his injury, he arrived at the hospital in Boston. Some of his burn wounds were still open, requiring immediate attention from the acute burn team. Juan Diego knew the road ahead was going to be challenging, but he approached every day, every treatment and every obstacle with a positive attitude.

During his two and a half months in Boston in 2018, much of Juan Diego's treatment involved intensive physical and occupational therapy. He worked with therapists at least five days a week, sometimes multiple times a day. Occupational therapist Courtney Updegrove fabricated customized splints for his hands, enabling Juan Diego to relearn how to care for himself. He was even able to draw and play the drums again.

Along with his traditional therapy sessions, Juan Diego was a member of Team Brave, the hospital's community reintegration program and competed in a Spartan Race as part of Team No Limits. He was also one of five patients who attended Game 1 of the World Series. He says it is a night he will never forget.



Juan Diego transferred to the reconstructive phase of his care where Joseph Upton, M.D., a plastic surgeon hand specialist, was able to restore sensation and mobility by taking tissue from another part of Juan Diego's body and building a web space between his thumb and index finger. Juan Diego continues to come to Shriners Children's Boston for reconstructive and laser surgeries to improve the function and mobility of his hands.

With every improvement, Juan Diego is able to do more of what he loves. From art and music to so many sports - soccer, football, tennis and ping-pong, Juan Diego keeps very busy. He would even love to go to the Paralympics to compete in ping-pong someday. "I should probably start practicing!" he laughed.

Now a college student in Honduras studying international relations, Juan Diego is honored to represent Shriners Children's as an international patient ambassador.

"I want to put into action all of the gratitude I have for Shriners Children's and those who have helped me since my injury," he said. "I hope my story brings inspiration and hope to others."

To learn more about Shriners Children's, please visit shrinerschildrens.org.



**Shriners
Children's**

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Richmond, VA 23227-3920

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