

The Accalette

2024 Directory Issue



The Accalette

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www.accashriners.com/accalette

Born in 1916, Reborn in 1992
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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, July 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.

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Potentate's Message

Andrew Coelho

Let me start off by telling you how honored I am to serve you as this year's Potentate. As any Past Potentate can tell you, this gig is a mixture of leadership, planning, public relations, and conflict resolution. It's quite a herculean effort – one I wouldn't have dared to undertake without the support of Lady Michelle and so many great Nobles and Ladies around me.

Luckily for all of us, you have elected a terrific team to serve with me on the Divan this year. I am confident that this merry band of Nobles and Ladies will continue to show the rest of us the definition of leadership and hard work. I am honored to consider myself a small part of this team of giants.

Thank you to the Nobles who are serving our Temple on the Uniform Council and various committees this year. Our Temple doesn't run without their hard work and commitment to the fraternity. But they could always use more help and fresh eyes. If you are interested in supporting our Temple by joining a committee, it's not too late. Contact me to get involved.

One of the true pleasures I have had on my Shrine journey has been serving with Ill. Mike Lott, PP and Lady Nancy. Over the past year, Mike tried new ideas. He experimented with events. He pushed back against "the way it's always been done." And he always was willing to listen to concerns, doubts, and criticisms. But the thing that makes Mike special is that he did all of it with patience, empathy, and grace – traits that I struggle to possess but are necessary for a good leader.

Along with Mike, I have had the privilege to serve on the Divan under a rather wide variety of Past Potentates, whom I consider to be both mentors and friends. Under Ill. Brian LaFontaine, PP, I learned that leadership means ignoring the drama around you and focusing on the business. Under Ill. Rick Marion, PP, I've learned that leadership means taking a stand for what you believe in. Under Ill. Al Rock, PP, I learned that leadership can sometimes be a gentle smile or a kind word. And under Ill. Ed Ernouf, PP, I learned that leadership doesn't mean you shouldn't have fun.

I would be remiss if I didn't thank Ill. Dennis Berry, PP, and Lady Toni for all they have done for us. When I was a Novice, my signers were unable to attend the Open House and Ceremonial. So, Dennis and Toni were assigned as our mentors. They guided us to every room at the Open House. Dennis made sure I was given special attention



by the Directors Staff for the Second Session. And at the Ceremonial Ball, they sat us at their table alongside Ill. Larry Parks, PP, Lady Tamara, and Noble Jason from Kena. Since that weekend, Dennis has made it his mission to encourage and support me on my Shrine journey. From buying mini trucks at about the same time to agreeing to serve as Recorder for another year, Dennis has been a true friend.

So why did I write all of this about Dennis? First, it's to show him a bit of public gratitude – which is often neglected for recorders and lodge secretaries. Second, it is to remind each of us about our responsibilities as signers and mentors. So often, we get into the habit of bringing in a brother from our Blue Lodges and then leaving them to their own devices after the Ceremonial. I get it. I've done this myself. We don't want to unfairly influence our new Noble's decision to choose a club or unit. But we didn't bring them to the Shrine to gain Samsar points or win a wrestling belt. We brought them here for them to experience how special this fraternity can be. One weekend just isn't enough. We need to double-down on inviting them to events, nudging

Potentate's Message

Continued

them towards a club or unit, and supporting them on their Shrine journey. So please give your past novices a call and get them active.

Lastly, I wanted to quickly tell you about my motto for the year: "Keep Moving Forward." This phrase is commonly found in the military, arts, politics, and business. In essence, the phrase can be broken down into two ideas: First, we should always look for creative and new ideas to change things for the better. Second, when we hit obstacles or even failure, we'll learn from our mistakes and try again.

For me personally, this has been a personal motto for most of my life. When opportunities arise, I like to say, "what the heck" and jump right in -- which can lead to some interesting consequences. (The current situation I find myself in as Potentate is a great example.) And when obstacles and tragedies inevitably strike, I try to come back to this phrase to brush myself off and get back to work. All of us have experienced obstacles and tragedies in our lives – many of you more than I could ever know. But in spite of everything, here you are devoting your time and treasure to making the world a better place through this fraternity. Thank you for all you do. And let me encourage you to keep moving forward!

One of my favorite quotes is from Walt Disney: "Around here, however, we don't look backwards for very long. We keep moving forward, opening up new doors and doing new things, because we're curious... and curiosity keeps leading us down new paths."

From grown men driving tiny cars to bands marching down the street dressed like genies to a network of children's hospitals treating over 1.5 million kids, Shriners became famous worldwide due to their curiosity, innovation, and creativity. In 1872, Imperial Sir Walter Fleming, PIP, thought "I wonder if we could..." and formed the Shrine. Fifty years later, Imperial Sir Freeland Kendrick, PIP, asked "What if we tried this..." and created our Shriners Children's hospital network. In short, we are a fraternity built on ideas and experimentation. So, I challenge you and your clubs and units: What experiment will you try this year to move ACCA Shrine forward?

Fraternally, Andrew Coelho

From the Editor's Desk

Greetings ACCA Family,

The Potentate recently asked me to take over this Editor role and get us back on track. I am eager to contribute to our publications' future success.

Due to the delay of this first newsletter, we will be adjusting our publication schedule to ensure you don't end up with back-to-back newsletters.

I look forward to working with each of you and showcasing the remarkable work that ACCA's units and clubs perform. As we move forward, please remember to submit articles, activities, and events that highlight the achievements and initiatives of our Shrine Center.

Your contributions are invaluable in shaping the narrative of our Temple and fostering a sense of community.

Thank you for your cooperation, and I anticipate a productive collaboration ahead.

Sincerely and Fraternally,
Nobel David Bucciarelli

First Lady's Message

Michelle Coelho

Greetings, ACCA Family! It fills my heart with gratitude to see the support and trust you have placed in Andrew as Potentate. As the new First Lady, I am thrilled to share my vision for our future adventures at ACCA Shriners. Buckle up, my friends, because we're about to embark on a journey. So, let's rally together, embrace the concept of "Keep Moving Forward," and attempt to make a lasting impact.

First and foremost, I am committed to strengthening our Ladies' programs by creating a space that celebrates and utilizes their unique contributions. We recognize that our Ladies bring a wealth of skills, talents, and perspectives to the table. In addition to a growing cadre of younger ladies with fresh perspectives, we are lucky to have a strong group of active past First Ladies, Sweethearts, and Ladies who have been part of the Shrine Family for decades. These Ladies are

our guiding lights on this adventure as we move forward into the future.

To inject vitality into our Temple and fill this building with the laughter of children, we must prioritize dedicated children’s activities. When planning events, we will make it a point to ask the crucial question, “What do we have for kids?” Kid-friendly initiatives, interactive experiences, kid-led fundraisers, and engaging workshops will be at the heart of our children’s program. We want every child who walks through our Shrine doors to feel as though they are stepping into a magical world filled with joy, wonder, and limitless possibilities. By creating cherished memories and fostering a sense of belonging, we want to cultivate a love for the Shrine within the next generation and inspire them to become active participants in our noble mission.

In our mission to spread our compassionate care to more families in need, we will spearhead an innovative outreach program in collaboration with Shriners Children’s Philadelphia and Shriners Children’s Greenville. By partnering with the local public school system, we will identify and support new Shriner patients, ensuring that no child or family is left without the vital resources and information they require. Through this program, we will embody the spirit of “Keep Moving Forward,” extending our helping hand beyond the confines of our Temple’s walls to touch lives and make a lasting difference in our community.

Nobles and Ladies, the road ahead is filled with incredible possibilities, and I am honored to stand beside you as we navigate it together. I believe we have an extraordinary opportunity to develop robust Ladies’ programs, engage our Ladies in exciting fundraisers and events, revitalize children’s activities, and reach new Shriner patients through a groundbreaking outreach program. Together, we will forge a path toward a brighter future, ensuring that ACCA Shriners continues to inspire, uplift, and make a positive impact on the lives of countless individuals and families. Thank you for your trust, and let’s embark on this incredible journey together!

Sincerely, Michelle Coelho



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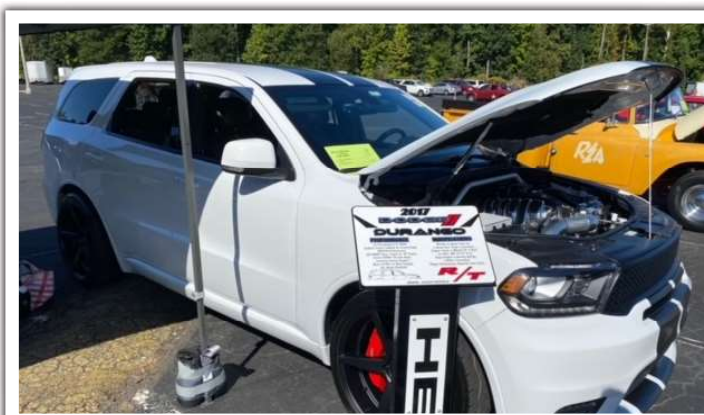
We hope all had a wonderful Christmas and Happy New Year! Now let's get geared up for an even more prosperous 2024!

Our ACCA Car Club worked harmoniously together to earn money towards our ACCA Transportation Fund. We started a new tradition at ACCA with our First Annual Car Show. We've revived interest in The Car Club to many others in Masonry, including the Nobles and Ladies of ACCA. We're doing well and striving to do even better!

Our total 2023 donation to the ACCA Transportation Fund was \$5,000. And our donation to the ACCA Shrine Center was \$2,470. That makes a grand total of \$7,470 in donations for the year. We are a proud and hard-working group within ACCA.

We hope to increase the number of parades we can participate in as The ACCA Car Club. We're looking for others to join us as we look into the future and strive to participate in even more ACCA Temple events and activities in support of our Temple and Transportation Fund. If you're interested in joining us and showing off your car or truck, contact any ACCA Car Club member.

Lastly, we pray for the community we serve as Masons and Shriners and especially the children we transport to and from hospitals around the country.





Upper Peninsula Shrine Club



Greetings and Happy New Year from the Upper Peninsula Shrine Club. While we are the youngest Club in the ACCA family, we are not lacking in enthusiasm. Many of our members participate in the Motley Car Auction weekly and enjoy the brotherly love with other ACCA Shriners at the Center.

At our recent elections, we re-elected our current officers and continue to meet on the second Thursday of each month at Patsy's Diner in Providence Forge at 6:30 P.M. Good food and fellowship are always followed by an interesting speaker. Through our speakers, we have enjoyed learning about Martha Washington prior to and during her marriage to President/Brother George Washington, the archology excavation of the Curtis gardens in Colonial Williamsburg (and yes that was Martha Washington's family), the migration paths of ducks from the north to the south and ongoing efforts to protect their habitats, and Solomon the Comfort Dog and all that he does for our communities,

Our Guest for November was Mr. Jeff Toalson on the War Between the States and his research of letters between southern soldiers and their families. Most especially, Captain Richard Watkins and his wife Mary who lived near Meherrin, Virginia. Richard enlisted in Company K of the 3rd Virginia Calvary and later received his commission as an officer. Richard and

Mary had three daughters and sharing their letters with future generations was probably something they never imagined. Mr. Toalson has published several books on letters of Civil War soldiers where he focused his attention, mainly, on enlisted soldiers and their families. His most popular book is "Send Me a Pair of Old Boots & Kiss My Little Girls." The Club purchased a copy of this book to use as a door prize. As fate would have it, Noble Robert E. Lee, a member of our Club was the winner of the door prize.

Even though we are a small club, we look forward to increasing our membership. So if you are interested in joining us, please contact one of our Club officers or just visit us at one of our meetings to find out what we are all about. All are welcome, and we are sure you will enjoy Patsy's home cooking.

Contact Information:

President Noble Steve Foster
 Stevefoster1903@gmail.com

Secretary Noble Skip Floyd
 hbskipfloyd@gmail.com

Treasurer Nobel Gary Palmer
 Garyp208@verizon.Net



Golf Club

The Acca Swingers Golf Club completed the 2023 golf schedule on November 16th at the Sycamore Creek Golf Club. It was a very good year for the club. We played many of the better courses in and around the Richmond area. For added pleasure, we played one of the premier courses in Virginia, the Crossings at Zion Crossroads and we did it twice. Once in the Spring and then again in the Fall.

We have one more major event left to end the year, although it will be in February of 2024. Our annual Ladies Appreciation Event. It will be a Luncheon this year and held on February 3rd at 1:30pm at the Acca Shrine Center. This change was made in part to accommodate those who have difficulty with night driving and travelling long distances. We hope that it will prove beneficial. You will have already received a flyer with all the information. We certainly hope you and your Lady plan to attend as we have a great program planned. The main item on the agenda will be announcing the winner of the Acca Swingers Golf Club Champion for 2023. The Second and Third place winners will also be announced. All three will be rewarded for their outstanding golf.

The Officers of the club for 2024 have changed slightly. Larry Koon will remain President, Rusty Brinkley will be Secretary and Brian LaFontaine will remain as Treasurer. We really enjoy working with the club and sharing the good times with our golfers.

We have already started working on the 2024 Golf Schedule. We try to include those courses that most of our golfers enjoy, and we will address a few changes. If you have a course to recommend, inform one of the officers.

We will again be open to an out-of-town golf trip. Most trips involve two nights and three rounds of golf, but a one night and two rounds of golf can easily be arranged. Of course, they would be more local.

By observation, it appears most of us have adapted to the new handicap scoring system. I think it is a big improvement. We thank Rusty for setting up the



program and giving us immediate results.

Finally, and personally, I want to thank James Sadler for being our Vice-President for the last few years and to Rusty Brinkley and Brian LaFontaine for continuing in office for 2024. The success of the Acca Golf Club would not be happening without their devotion and work ethics. Thanks Guys.

BE NICE, KEEP THE SUNNY-SIDE UP
Larry Koon-President

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The beautiful colors of fall have come and gone, and our Thanksgiving feasts are another memory of great time spent with family. We come upon the Christmas season where all seems right in the world no matter the reality. The time of year where all seems to correct itself and we start anew again with hope of a better year to come and to better ourselves and the lives of those around us. Please enjoy the season and help others enjoy as best as you are able.

We continue to grow here in MSC, meetings have been well attended and the meals have been over the top. New ideas are popping up for fundraisers and we need to continue to brainstorm these. Please let us know of any thoughts you may have; you never know until you bring it up. On that note, I believe our Toga Party is coming up in January, stay tuned. Our Brunswick stew went very well and we had an awesome stew crew helping out. Stew was ready by 12:30 with a total of 732 quarts raising \$4,762, what a great day. Don't forget the Jam's being sold by Lady Linda through MSC

Our Drifters have been very busy with parades and practices. They continue to rake in awards and totally delight parade goers. Recent parades include; Keysville, Gordonsville, South Boston, Urbanna, Mechanicsville, Ashland and Powhatan. 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.

Our Christmas Party was the largest ever with almost 90 people attending. Great food was overly abundant and beverages flowed freely from all of our volunteers for the day, you know who you are! The final silent auction of the year with 25+ prizes and the proceeds going to MSC, all year President Bill and his Lady Tracy have been heading this up, it has been great fun.

Speaking of President Bill and his Lady Tracy, we thank you for a fantastic year. You have gone over and above with your efforts. The stories, the laughter, and the fellowship we share at MSC is second to none. Let's

continue the new year with President Bobby Smith and his team, no pressure guys!

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”

APPLY TODAY!

HELP WANTED

ACCA is looking for a few motivated Nobles.

Building Managers

This is an hourly paid position for mostly nights and weekends to host and support outside groups renting the building.

Audio Visual Techs

Volunteers needed to operate the audio-visual equipment. Training provided, but basic electronic know-how a plus. Potential for paid work as well.

Marketing / Public Relations

Photographers, marketers, and social media managers needed to support ACCA's outreach to the membership and community. Experience is a plus, but not required. This is volunteer position only.

**APPLY BY EMAIL:
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JOB OPENING

Mini Patrol

For the first time in a very long time, the Acca Mini Patrol made the Dominion Christmas Parade crowd cheer with excitement and joy. Along the 2.2-mile parade route, the Mini Patrol brought many smiles to kids of all ages. As we turned the corner onto Broad, the crowd roared for the little mini cars. We're looking forward to next year and the many parades to come.

Mike "Mustache" Malcomb
Acca Mini Patrol Commander 2023



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Accaba LOS

LOS Greetings,

Happy New Year from the Ladies of Accaba Court! We wish everyone a happy, healthy and safe 2024.

Congratulations to the LOS ladies for their accomplishments in 2023 and all the hard work on various projects. As a PHP, I am so proud to be a member of this great organization and be able to brag on the members of Accaba Court 105. Our ladies have worked hard all year and did some interesting, fun and exciting new things in 2023 under the leadership of our High Priestess, Lady Debbie Bartol. Lady Debbie and her officers have done an outstanding job this year. Congratulations ladies!! Lady Debbie, you will soon be earning a new title, Past High Priestess. But this doesn't mean your work is over, you'll just get new assignments.

At the Fall Ceremonial, Accaba Court donated \$5,647 to Shriners Children's, \$470 to Acca Temple, \$6,041 to the Transportation Fund for a total of \$12,158 in 2023. Way to go ladies!!

In June, some of our ladies made a trip to the Philadelphia Shriners Hospital for a tour and were able to attend the board meeting there. August brought the Watermelon Festival - a fun project, but a lot of work. Our "Fancy Nancy Tea Party" in September was something totally new this year. Not only was it a fundraiser for the court, but it was also in honor of Lady Nancy Lott, First Lady of Acca Shrine and a member of the LOS. Lady Nancy held a silent auction featuring Stauers Jewelry with proceeds going to Acca Shrine Center.

In October, we hosted the Mid Eastern Unit Meet at the Hilton Richmond Hotel and Spa/Short Pump on Broad Street. Lady Donna Prock, President of MEUM, and her committee members did an outstanding job and MEUM was a great success. Thank you, Donna and your ladies, for all you did to make this event such a memorable one for the ladies attending. They have taken home special memories of their 2023 trip to Richmond. No one will ever forget Kechi Okwuchi, our special guest from Houston, Texas. Kechi's performance was over the top! She's a very special lady and a Shriner Alumni Patient Ambassador and also was a finalist on "America's Got Talent." She has written a book entitled "More Than My Scars" which tells of her recovery from surviving a plane crash.

We ended 2023 with the LOS Christmas Party. So much fun! Lady Lisa did a fantastic job on the Christmas Party, and everyone in attendance had a great time. Thank you for all

the hard work and thanks to the ladies who brought desserts. Ladies from each unit had outstanding performances. Thank each of you for sharing your time and talents!

Again, a Happy New Year to everyone and now it's time to get back to work. Holidays are over!!



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ACCALETTE NEWS DEADLINES

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 3rd Quarter.....July 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

Philadelphia Hospital Report

Noble Daniel L. Freye, Chairman

Greetings from Philadelphia! There are so many great things happening at our Philadelphia Hospital, it is hard to condense all I'd like to convey into a few paragraphs, but here we go!

The first weekend in October, Lady Gloria and I participated in the 9th annual Walk for Love and 5K. Despite a rainy forecast, we had a beautiful morning at the Philadelphia Zoo. My team, the Board Walkers, raised over \$12,000, and the overall fundraising total exceeded \$400,000!

While on the subject of fundraising, the Philadelphia Hospital is leading the entire Shrine Hospital system in donations. As of November 30, donations to the Philadelphia Hospital, excluding bequests and estate gifts, totaled \$13,718,539.42, representing 133.5% of our goal! Thanks to all of you who helped with donations!

On the clinical front, the Hospital is doing well on all metrics. Of the numbers I monitor, Average Daily Census (ADC) is the one I focus on. Full disclosure; it's the easiest metric for me to understand! It is simply the number of heads in beds at midnight, which,



for a hospital is a key indicator of how busy it is. As of December 15, our ADC, year to date, is 11.2. That makes Philadelphia the second busiest hospital in the system behind Northern California!

Over the last few months, I've had the opportunity to be in meetings with Imperial Sir Jerry Gantt and John McCabe, President and CEO of Shriners Hospitals for Children, respectively. In private conversations, both have expressed to me how proud they are of the Philadelphia Hospital. Of course, actions speak louder than words and I'm happy to report that the Joint Boards approved all of our of budgetary requests! The operating budget for 2024 was approved for \$55.6 million; 16 of 18 capital requests were approved, totaling \$700 thousand; and we received an award of \$2,040,050 for clinical and basic research.

Our outreach clinics are back and going strong! In my last article, I wrote about the first post-COVID/Hurricane Puerto Rico clinic held in May. The team returned in November and saw 299 kids! Since I had a conflict that weekend, I 'encouraged' Chris Ritchey, my Vice Chairman to go. Despite his initial resistance, he called me from the airport on his way home, thanking me for 'making' him go, and calling it a "life changing experience!" Similarly, a joint team from Philadelphia and Greenville made a return trip to Cyprus this fall. Our Dr. Amer Samdani performed the first spinal fusion in that country. The team will be going back to Cyprus in January with two surgeries scheduled. Both clinics are groundbreaking for expanding Shriners



Children's 'Best Care Anywhere' to the Caribbean and Mediterranean.

By the time you read this, I will have achieved one of the most exalted honorifics in Masonry--the title of "Past"! I presided over my last Board of Governors meeting as Chairman on December 14. While it was my last, I have to admit that it was probably the most fun! I had the privilege to recognize and present certificates to 27 employees celebrating milestone anniversaries from 5 to 40 years of service. It was a privilege to thank the doctor, nurses, physical and occupational therapists, security guards, food service, and maintenance professionals for their years of service and for the compassionate care each of them provide to our patients and their families.

I was also privileged to present a plaque to Illustrious Sir Robert DiCarlo, Kismet Shriners, honoring his elevation to Emeritus status. Robert served on the Board for 11 years. I also had the honor of presenting certificates of appointment to four new Board of Governors members: Ill. Sir Scott Burford, Zembo Shriners; Noble Fred Lynch, Nur Shriners; Noble Ed Pearson, Jr., Crescent Shriners; and Noble Larry Frolow, Salaam Shriners.

By now, I'm really on a roll! Thanks to the generosity of our own Debbie Bartol, High Priestess of Accaba Court No. 105, Ladies' Oriental Shrine, and the Ladies of the Court, I had the honor of both delivering and accepting their generous donation of books, toys, gift cards, and a \$2,597 check dedicated for the surgical unit! Thank you so much!

I was thrown a curve ball at the board meeting when our Chaplain, Noble Jim Atkins, asked for a deviation from the agenda. He presented me with a beautiful memento of my chairmanship. Often, patients will use the movement of painting to help in their healing and to regain mobility. This patient painted a musical treble clef embedded with a heart. My Board members were so right when they thought it would be perfect for me!

The incoming Chairman of the Board, Ill. Sir Chris Ritchey, has assured me that he will keep me gainfully employed next year. I will be serving on the Strategic Planning and Patient Safety Committees in 2024. My other focus in the new year will be finding a fellow board member and/or successor. There will be an opportunity for an Acca Noble to serve on the Board



of Governors as either a regular (voting) or associate (non-voting) member in 2025. In January, the Chairman will be sending letters to the affiliated Temple's Potentates and Recorders soliciting applications for Board of Governors appointments. A candidate must obtain the recommendation of a majority of the members of his Divan; must interview with and receive the recommendation of the nominating committee of the Hospital; get the endorsement of the Board of Governors of the Hospital; and be appointed by the Board of Trustees of Shriners Hospitals for Children. Applications must be received at the hospital by May 1, 2024.

For now, I bid you farewell. It is an honor and privilege to serve on the Philadelphia Hospital Board of Governors 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, Past Chairman
Board of Governors
Shriners Children's Philadelphia

SASA

Message from Illustrious Sir Thornton Holt, SASA President

I'd like to thank everyone at ACCA for electing me to the SASA board. The journey to becoming SASA President has been both rewarding and fulfilling for Debby and me. We had the opportunity during this journey to meet many Shriners that we otherwise would not have known.

Spring SASA on March the 22nd and 23rd is fast approaching.

I hope you will please consider attending Spring SASA to help me show off my ACCA family. There will be many activities planned for fellowship with other nobles from the other 20 temples in attendance. The weekend is affordable for all Nobles, their Ladies, families, and friends.

It would mean a great deal to both Debby and me to have you join us. So please mark your calendars and give your upmost consideration in attending this event.

A schedule of events accompanies this article. Please visit the SASA web site at SouthAtlanticSA.net to register and make hotel reservations. The hotel is Courtyard by Marriot located at Hamilton and Broad St., Richmond.



2024 South Atlantic Shrine Association
Spring Festival
Richmond, Virginia
March 21-24, 2024

<u>Thursday, March 21, 2024</u>	
4:00 PM	Hotel Check In Courtyard by Marriott 3800 W Broad Street Richmond, VA (804) 877-0010
4:00 PM to 6:00 PM	Registration open at Courtyard by Marriott – Ella Meeting Room
3:00 PM to 5:00 PM	Hospitality Open at Courtyard by Marriott *Registration Badge Required*
8:00 PM to 11:00 PM	Hospitality Open at Courtyard by Marriott *Registration Badge Required*
<u>Friday, March 22, 2024</u>	
7:00 AM to 9:00 AM	Buffet Breakfast at Courtyard by Marriott *Ticket Required*
8:30 AM to 6:30 PM	Registration open at Courtyard by Marriott - Ella Meeting Room
11:00 AM	Ladies Luncheon *Ticket Required - Transportation Provided At ACCA Shrine Center 1712 Belleview Ave, Richmond, VA Dress: Church attire
11:30 AM	Representatives Luncheon *Ticket Required - Transportation Provided At ACCA Shrine Center 1712 Belleview Ave, Richmond, VA
12:30	Welfare and Advisory Meeting - Imperial Officers, SASA Officers, SASA Past Presidents, Potentates and Recorders from each member shrine Center should plan to attend at ACCA Shrine Center 1712 Belleview Ave. Richmond, VA
1:30 PM to 4:00 PM	SASA Business Meeting at ACCA Shrine Center 1712 Belleview Ave., Richmond, VA Transportation provided
4:00 PM to 6:00 PM	Hospitality open at the Courtyard by Marriott *Registration Badge Required*
7:00 PM to 10:00 PM	SASA Debry Party at ACCA Shrine Center. 1712 Belleview Ave., Richmond, VA *Ticket Required – Transportation provided Heavy hors d'oeuvres and open bar
9:30 PM to Midnight	Hospitality open at Courtyard by Marriott *Registration Badge Required*
<u>Saturday, March 23, 2024</u>	
7:00 AM to 9:00 AM	Buffet Breakfast at Courtyard by Marriott *Ticket Required*
10:00 AM	SASA Business Meeting at ACCA Shrine Center 1712 Belleview Ave., Richmond, VA Transportation provided
12:00 Noon	Representatives Luncheon at ACCA Shrine Center *Ticket Required
1:00 PM to 3:00 PM	SASA Business Meeting at ACCA Shrine Center *Transportation provided SASA Fall Festival Parade drawing at the end of the business meeting
3:00 PM to 5:00 PM	Hospitality open at the Courtyard by Marriott *Registration Badge Required
6:00 PM to 9:00 PM	President's Banquet at ACCA Shrine Center 1712 Belleview Ave., Richmond, VA *Ticket Required – Transportation provided 6 PM Banquet Cocktail Hour 7 PM Banquet

Thank you for coming to Richmond. Please be safe traveling home.

See you in September in Myrtle Beach.

Provost Guard

As always, the Provost Guard stays active. And this winter season has been no exception.

Our Oktoberfest Fundraiser Event occurred on Friday October 27th. The event was fun with lots of tasty food, beer, and wine. The Sauerkrauts provided the entertainment for the evening. This year's event also included special German Oktoberfest Kitchen Aprons, traditional Flower Headbands for Oktoberfest Celebrations and Oktoberfest Table covers. A wide selection of German beers and traditional foods were served. Special thanks go out to Noble Martin Myers for managing the event, ordering the food, coordinating the setup, and just making sure the whole evening went off as planned. Our only comment is that while people from the community, friends and neighbors

attended this event we wish we had had more Shriners at the Oktoberfest.

In November, we moved our called meeting to the Masonic Home. This allowed our fellow Provost Guard members that reside in the Masonic home to easily attend this meeting. As always beverages and delicious food followed the meeting. It was great having our Masonic Home brothers join us.

We ended the year in bang with Provost Guard Christmas dinner party on Wednesday, December 13th at Carini Italian Restaurant. Over thirty members attended and there was a lot of great fellowship and fun.

Noble Bert Norfleet,
Major Acca Provost Guard.





The Valley Shrine Club concluded its summer activities with a catered picnic at the Oakdale Park in Bridgewater in August before resuming our monthly dinner meetings for member Nobles and Ladies. The club met its goal of selling 200 tickets for the 50/50 raffle, raising \$5,000 for the hospitals and transportation fund. In all, the VSC contributed over \$20,000 for the Shriners.

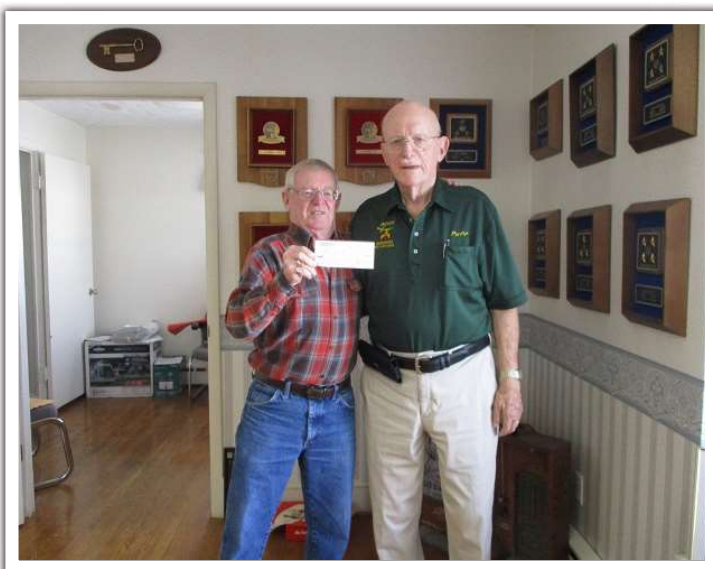
Noble Rodney Good was honored in October with a pin and certificate in recognition of his 50-year membership as a Shriner. Noble William "Bill" Vigar was also to be recognized for his 50-year membership. But, unfortunately, Bill passed away on December 2nd before the presentation could be made. The formal presentation will be made to Laddy Debbie on a later date. Noble Bill was buried with full Masonic rites.

At the November dinner meeting, Noble Robert Frakes presented a program honoring his father's

military service and the time he spent as a German POW in WWII. Lt. Frakes was rescued by members of the Belgian resistance fighters after he was shot down flying a P-38 fighter. Because his pilot's uniform was destroyed in the crash, he was wearing civilian clothing when captured by the German army and was arrested as a spy. He was imprisoned in solitary confinement, tortured, and scheduled to be executed until he was able to communicate with another American POW using Morse Code. The other American was able to convey to the Red Cross that Lt. Frakes was an American pilot which spared him from execution. Several members of the Frakes' family, including his grandson Noble Matt Frakes, were in attendance at the dinner.

Valley Shrine Club officers and Board of Directors were duly elected for 2024, and plans are underway for another year of activities.

Respectfully submitted,
Dan Perry, Secretary, VSC



Palmore Car Show

Palmore's Pasture Party and Cruise-In Held for Acca Shriner's Transportation Fund

Curtis and Debbie Palmore of Kents Store, VA held their 14th Annual car Pasture Party and Cruise-In on August 26, 2023. For the second year they chose Acca Shriner's Transportation Fund as their charity. Curtis and Debbie funded all expenses and donated all proceeds of \$3,782 from the entry fees for the cars, 50-50 raffle, and other donations to the ACCA Shriner's Transportation Fund. There were eighty plus vehicles entered in the show. The ACCA Transportation Van was also there to share with the crowd.

Former Shriner Child, Kirksey Grace, shared her experiences as a Shriner Child with everyone. She had been having problems and other doctors could not find what was wrong. When she found out about the Shriners Hospitals, she contacted them, and they were able to determine her problem and help her. She is now attending nursing school to be a forensic nurse. She decided to pursue this career because of her experiences with the Shriners Hospitals and their staff.

Representatives from ACCABA Court #105 of the Ladies Oriental Shrine, ACCA Hillbillies, and ACCA

Transportation Drivers were also in attendance. They also shared stories of their trips to the hospitals.

Three trophies were given for the cars and a fourth trophy winner was chosen by the Acca Shriners. The ACCA Hillbillies presented Curtis and Debbie with a trophy thanking them for their generosity.

Although the day was very warm, all enjoyed being together. We truly appreciate and thank Curtis and Debbie for helping us transport our Shriner Kids to the hospitals.



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

Ceremonial Cast

On November 17th, ACCA held their fall 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.



On November 18th, the Ceremonial Cast performed the Ritual of the Order at the ACCA Shrine Temple. Candidates received the Ritual in a very impressive ceremony.



Election of Officers was held on Friday, December 8th at Anna's Italian Restaurant. Illustrious Sam Dunn installed the Ceremonial Cast officers for 2024. Those elected officers are from left to right: Rodney Gallagher; Proxy for Director Clay Farmer, Boomer Calhoun; 2nd VP, Bobby Smith; 1st VP, Billy Farmer; President, Donnie Korb; Secretary, Illustrious Sam Dunn, Installing Officer, Vernon Korb; Asst. Sec/Treas., and Bill Eddleton; Treasurer.



The election of Officers was held at Anna's Italian Restaurant & Pizzeria in Mechanicsville. Pictured below are all who attended as well as the presentation to the outgoing President of a gift from the Ceremonial Cast as well as the presentation of a gavel to the new President, Billy Farmer.



Million Dollar Band & Sauerkrauts

At the close of one year and the beginning of another, I again combine these two outstanding units into a single article. I have heard many people say something like, “I remember you all from last time, but you were dressed differently.” My typical response is, “Yeah that was us, but we performed as another band. We wear several hats, so to speak.” And so, as we become smaller, we have to wear different hats. But the great thing about it is that we enjoy making the transition.

While a few of our musicians only rehearse and play with the Million Dollar Band, the majority are embracing that old adage “Change is the Spice of Life.” It’s what keeps some of old geezers going. A great example of this was demonstrated during this past Fall Ceremonial weekend. Friday night found us cutting some “Swing” as the River City Ramblers entertained for open house. Then on Saturday morning, we were decked out in lederhosen as the Sauerkrauts performed for the ceremony. And on Sunday afternoon, we were on board our trailer as the Million Dollar Band treated several thousand folks to some festive holiday tunes during the Ashland Christmas Parade. If you had asked us if we were worn out from all this, we would have said “NO!” We had a ball, and we would do it again in a heartbeat. Music is like that; it has a way of moving you.

The new year has found us settling into our rehearsal routines as we prepare for things to come. The Million Dollar Band will be gearing up for another ambitious parade schedule and putting together some patriotic pieces for concert performances. The MDB will again this year be hosting our annual Showcase, a concert which will feature our MDB as well as performances by some outstanding local guest bands and musical ensembles. The Sauerkrauts are gearing up for another wild ride throughout Virginia and beyond, while the River City Ramblers will be perfecting their magic designed get folks on their feet and out on the dance floor.

Even though the year is just getting started, it’s never too early to start getting ready for September. This year

we plan on doing it up right. We hope to once again join Rajah Shriners in Virginia Beach for MASA and then head right around for Myrtle Beach for SASA to show our support for Illustrious Sir Thornton in his role as SASA President.

This may sound like big plans for small bands, but for a bunch of crazy musicians, it sounds like FUN!



Caption: Sauerkrauts presentation of \$1,000.00 donation to the Transportation Fund from Powhatan Moose Lodge 1840

Motor Patrol

What a year 2023 has been!

Your premier Motor Patrol was busy this fall and winter having fun and helping kids. There are far too many events to share, so here's the highlights:

We renovated the Motor Patrol room! "The Stunt-Rider's Lounge" has new flooring, fresh paint, a hand-painted mural, and a fantastic bar! Showing off in parades is what we do best!

The crew slipped, slid, drifted, and spun their way around MAHoVA and local Christmas parades.

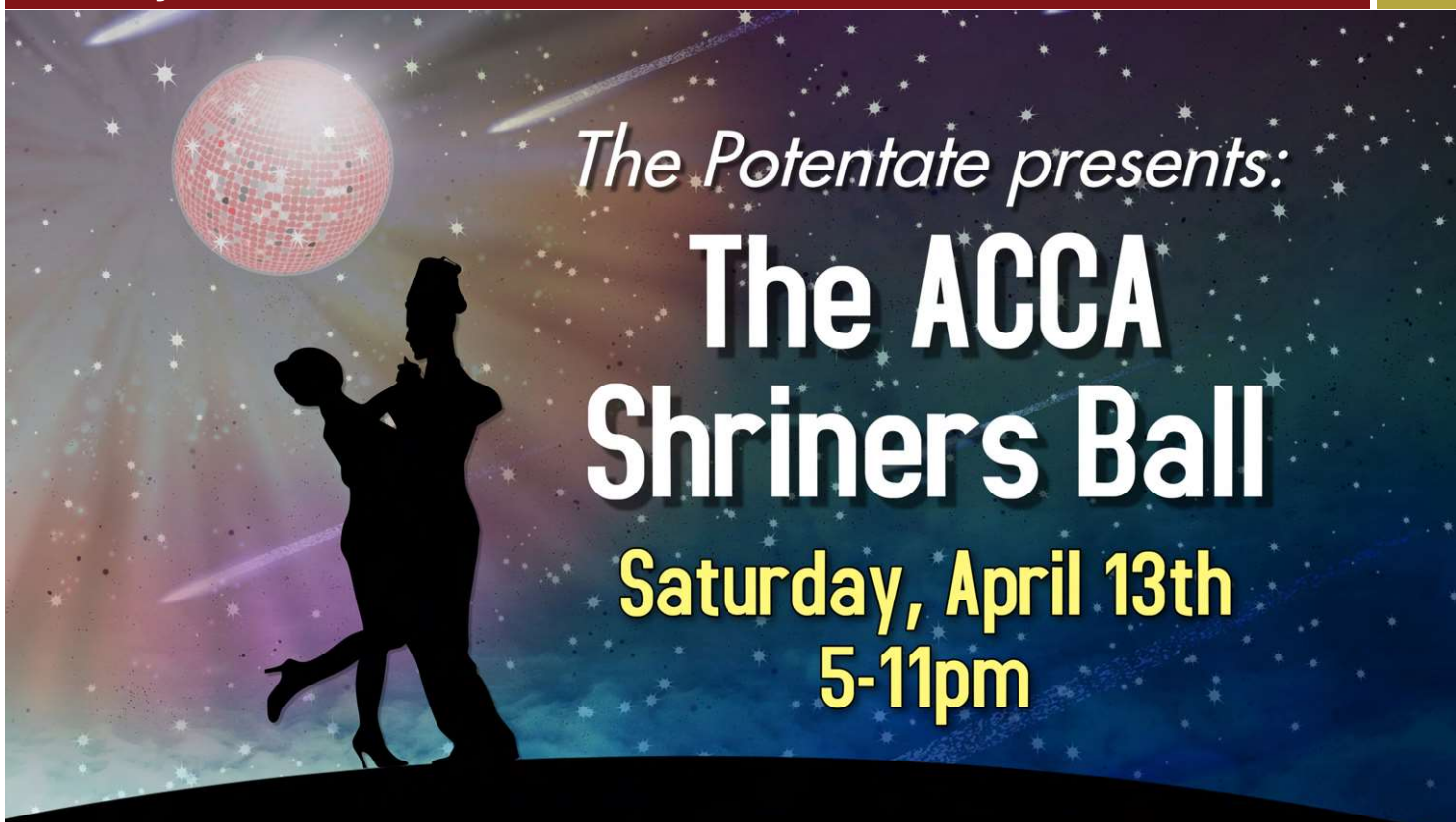
Speaking of parades, you'll see some of us on new rides next year. Your Motor Patrol is back on two wheels, little wheels. That's right, we're adding mini bikes to our motor pool. We have a style and wheel choice for just about anyone who is thinking about joining a unit.

Our 2024 Officers were installed at the annual Christmas Party and ladies' night. Potentate Mike Lott installed JJ Mantlo as President, Charles Hanbury as Vice President, Joey Collins as Secretary, and Bill Wichelman as our Treasurer. It was our honor and privilege to host Potentate Mike Lott and First Lady Linda as our guests at the party. Thank you Illustrious Sir and First Lady for the hard work you put in to ACCA in 2023. Congratulations on a successful and fun-filled year!

Finally, we honor Past President 2023 Marty Ledbetter. His contributions to the Unit and ACCA Shrine Center will be enjoyed and appreciated for many years. A special thanks to Lady Nicole for supporting Marty and the Unit throughout the year. Congratulations Marty on a fantastic year!

Oh, one more thing. If you like our parade shenanigans, then you will love to see us dance! See you at the New Year's Eve party!





The Potentate presents:

The ACCA Shriners Ball

**Saturday, April 13th
5-11pm**

Join Illustrious Sir Andrew and Lady Michelle for an enchanted evening of fun and dancing under the ACCA Disco Ball.

Reserve Your Tickets at:
shrinertickets.com

Or call the business office:
804-264-0509



Dress:

- Men: Fez, Tuxedo, or Suit
- Ladies: Cocktail Attire



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Hotel Deadline March 22

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**kids under 12: \$20*

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BOYS

DANCE



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FOR MORE INFORMATION & TICKETS:

WWW.RICHMONDSHRINERS.COM

All net proceeds to benefit Shriners Hospitals for Children.



ACCA SHRINERS

CEREMONIAL & LUAU

SATURDAY, JUNE 1st

Come for the Initiation, Stay for the Pig Roast!

.....

EVENT SCHEDULE:

- 8:00am - Candidates & Ladies Breakfast
- 9:00am - Initiation Ceremony
- 1:00pm - Luau Party!

.....

Call (804) 264-0509 to RSVP

Luau Free for Novices & Ladies
Donations Appreciated from Members

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Dress: Hawaiian Wear or Business Casual
Kids are encouraged to attend!



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ACCA SHRINERS

QUARTERLY
BUSINESS
MEETING



APRIL 23, 2024

6PM CATERED DINNER

**7:30PM QUARTERLY BUSINESS
MEETING / LADIES PROGRAM**

Meal served in the Assembly Room

Dress: Fez; Business Attire
Meal: \$20 per person



RSVP Dinner Reservations by Friday April 19, 2024

businessoffice@accashriners.com | 804.264.0509

Upcoming Events

MARCH

- March 8, 2024 Greenville Hospital Shriner Day
- March 10, 2024 Accaba Chapter LOSNA
Installation
- March 22-23, 2024 Spring SASA
- March 26, 2024 Monthly Business Meeting
- March 29-30, 2024 Manchester SC Cornhole
Tournament
- March 30, 2024 Easter Egg Hunt & Magic Show

APRIL

- April 6, 2024 Kazim Potentate's Ball
- April 13, 2024 ACCA Shriner Ball
- April 23, 2024 Quaterly Business Meeting &
Dinner

MAY

- May 14, 2024 Century Club Luncheon
- May 25, 2024 Khedive Spring Ceremonial
- May 28, 2024 Monthly Business Meeting
- May 31, 2024 ACCA Open House

JUNE

- June 1, 2024 ACCA Spring Ceremonial
- June 8, 2024 Kena Potentate's Ball &
Ceremonial
- June 16-23, 2024 Potentate's Cruise
- June 30-, 2024 Imperial Session

DONATIONS

AUGUST 16, 2023 – DECEMBER 15, 2023

DONATIONS TO SHRINERS CHILDREN'S HOSPITALS

James E. Creech	David L. Whipp
Wayne C. Chandler	Christopher N. Sheap
Raymond M. Ridgeway	Doris Stone
William F. Reinhold	AMVETS Post 7
Charles E. Bingley Jr.	John S. Cornette
Richard J. Grier	Robert L. Crawford
Jack K. Lewis	Dr. T. C. Dickerson
James R. Adams	Lawrence B. Smith
William J. Swackhamer	Don K. Neal
Carter G. Wells	John C. Burton Jr.
Jeffrey E. Hodges	Brian C. Dillard
H. G. Broughton	Douglas M. Cameron
Raymond D. Steele	Wayne B. Wenger
Miro J. Spirk Jr.	Malcolm T. Robison Jr.
Donald W. Hauser	William H. Garrison
William A. Havard	Peyton B. Baughan
William L. Barnett	William J. Ledbetter
Thomas M. Lewis	David W. Hayes
Clyde E. McDaniel	Lawrence C. Haake
Nabil H. Aboulhosn	Piedmont Shrine Club
Fluvanna County High School	Joseph W. Taylor
Richmond Area Bottle Collectors	

Peyton B. Baughan	William L. Barnett
Michael L. Arnold	Douglas E. Hawk
Lawrence C. Haake	Accaba Court No. 105
Piedmont Shrine Club	

IN MEMORY OF **DONOR**
 Joseph Dunaway-----Sonny & Ruth Ash

IN HONOR OF **DONOR**
 Scott Davis-----Ashland Masonic Lodge 168
 Ill. Al & Bette Rock-----Piedmont Shrine Club

DONATIONS TO 100 MILLION DOLLAR CLUB

IN MEMORY OF **DONOR**
 David Eells-----Acca Provost Guard

IN HONOR OF **DONOR**
 Acca Car Club-----Acca Oriental Band
 Ed Johnston Jr-----Acca Oriental Band
 Victor Sorrell-----Acca Oriental Band
 Am Vets Post #7-----Valley Shrine Club
 Philip R. Johnson P.P.-----Acca Million Dollar Band
 John H. Stenstrom-----Acca Million Dollar Band

IN MEMORY OF **DONOR**
 David Eells-----Valley Shrine Club
 Richard E. Lyons-----Dr. Kirk & Norma Sheap
 Wayne Fifer-----Sonny & Ruth Ash
 Bill Vigar-----Valley Shrine Club

IN HONOR OF **DONOR**
 Jack K. Lewis-----Pittsylvania Lodge No. 24 AF & AM
 L. Epsley Spencer-----Sonny & Ruth Ash

DONATIONS TO ACCA SHRINERS HOSPITAL TRANSPORTATION FUND

Jacobi Leathers	Ronald & Janice Sams
Richard Berkowitz	Acca Car Club
Acca Mini Patrol	Caverns Shrine Club
First Lady Nancy Lott	Genevieve Bayliss
Lakeview Elementary School	Scott LaRochelle
Accaba Court No. 105	Chester Shrine Club
Upper Peninsula Shrine Club	Acca Arab Patrol
Richard "Dick" Willis	

DONATIONS TO ACCA SHRINE CENTER

James E. Creech	Manchester Shrine Club
Wayne C. Chandler	Christopher N. Sheap
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Lowell H. Fallen, Jr	Nelson M. Bryant
W.A. Robison Sr.	Murray S. Harris
Wayne B. Wenger	Miro J. Spirk Jr.
Robert Norfleet Jr	Brian C. Dillard
Malcolm T. Robison Jr.	William H. Garrison

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 David Eells-----Georgetta Stedeford
 David Eells-----Accaba Court No. 105
 David Eells-----Julia A. Willis
 David Eells-----Charles & Barbara Doyal
 David Eells-----David I. & Bina W. Bishop
 Christopher Wayne Burruss-----David I. & Bina W. Bishop

IN MEMORY OF

DONOR

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 David Eells-----Georgetta Stedeford
 David Eells-----Accaba Court No. 105
 David Eells-----Julia A. Willis
 David Eells-----Charles & Barbara Doyal
 David Eells-----David I. & Bina W. Bishop
 Christopher Wayne Burruss-----David I. & Bina W. Bishop
 Jeannine Marie Duckworth Korb-----David I. & Bina W. Bishop
 Clarence Lynn Newcomb-----David I. & Bina W. Bishop
 Thelma Bryant-----ABC Store Employees via Hillbilly Unit
 Tommy Jones-----Richard & Donna Willis
 David Eells-----Les & Dusty Gillenwater
 James S. Akers-----Barbara Akers
 James "Sonny" Ash-----James & Ann Kenner

IN HONOR OF

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