



**SALAAM
SHRINE
NEWS**

February / March 2021

**114 Algonquin Parkway Ste 1
Whippany, NJ 09781**

(973) 992-1111

**Office Hours
9:00am-1:00pm
Monday to Thursday**

2021 ELECTED DIVAN



POTENTATE

Illustrious Sir Paul V. DiGaetano



Chief Rabban
Noble Robert H. Welch



Assistance Rabban
Noble Joshua I. Katzenstein



High Priest & Prophet
Noble Thomas Murphy



Oriental Guide
Noble William Bianco



Treasurer
Illus. Sir Frank Williams P.P.



Recorder
Noble Harry R. Worstell

2021 APPOINTED DIVAN



Director General.....Noble Brian R. Cole
 Assistant Director General.....Noble Laurence “Larry” Frolow
 Assistant Director General.....Noble Daniel J. Vitello
 Director of Ritual.....Noble Glenn T. Visscher
 1st Ceremonial Master.....Noble John Cataldo
 2nd Ceremonial Master.....Noble Walter Siri
 Marshal.....Noble Gary Serkin
 Captain of the Guard.....Noble Roy A. Herzfeld
 Outer Guard.....Illus. Sir Richard "Dick" Ash



POTENTATE'S MESSAGE



Dear Illustrious Sirs and Nobles,

Illustrious Sirs and Nobles, I hope this newsletter finds you and your families faring well in these uncertain and tumultuous COVID-19 times.

As this is my first message of the year, please allow me to extend my sincere appreciation for the distinct honor which you have bestowed upon me by electing me your Potentate for 2021. Notwithstanding the COVID-19 restrictions which have been placed upon us by our government, you should be comforted in knowing that the operation and function of Salaam Shriners has continued at a rather high level throughout. Our Shriners Children are being served and their needs are being met in our customary and exemplary manner.

As you know, we have elected a new Recorder and Treasurer in Noble Harry Worstell and Illus. Frank Williams . They have both spent the past few weeks becoming familiar with and organizing the functions of their respective positions to ensure that the administration of Salaam Shrine is performing at the highest level. I would like to extend my personal gratitude to both of them for the amount of their time and effort invested in the performance of their duties. Our Recorder has been physically present in our office almost every day and he is regularly there for the entire day which is much more than was anticipated. His personal dedication and service is saving us a substantial sum of money as well and we are very thankful. Our Treasurer's attention to detail coupled with his legal expertise have proven to be extremely beneficial for us and you will hear more in this regard this very shortly .

I am also extremely pleased and encouraged by our entire elected and appointed Divan for 2021 who have taken their obligations seriously. There is clearly an elevated level of energy and I very much look forward to the year working alongside each of them. Together we hope to reinvigorate some of our traditional Units and Clubs as well as to consider the establishment of some new and innovative groups of nobles as the interest and desire is manifested. I encourage each of you who may have a little time and interest to step forward and to participate in renewing the excitement and fraternal interaction of Salaam nobles. While the future restrictions and constraints of COVID-19 remain rather uncertain, it is my sincere hope and my belief that by the end of spring we may see the ability to enjoy, once again, some of the larger group activities. In

of the larger group activities. In that regard, I would like to see us plan to participate in local and nearby parades this year in the hopes that COVID-19 science and our government will permit that.

With regard to our stated session attendance, the Divan has deemed it appropriate to have only Divan members present in person at our February stated session and to provide a Zoom connection for all other nobles.

By the date of our March Stated Session ,however, we do anticipate some revised direction from Grand Lodge and we hope to be able to invite all Salaam Nobles to be physically present if they so choose for that and for future Stated Sessions and activities. We will certainly keep all of you informed as things continue to evolve in this current state of flux.

In closing, please allow me to restate my goal of having a great deal more of fraternal interaction and in-person activities here at Salaam Shrine and I look forward to an exciting year ahead for Salaam nobles and families.

Yours In The Faith,
Paul DiGaetano,
Potentate

From The CHIEF RABBAN

Greetings fellow Nobles,

Congratulations to our new Potentate, Illustrious Sir Paul DiGaetano and the rest of our newly elected Divan Officers. My Lady and I look forward to working with all of you and the Nobility in moving Salaam Shriners forward through this pandemic driven turbulence. Stay tuned, great things are coming!

Lastly, I want to thank Illustrious Sir Frank Williams and his Lady Caitlin for their leadership in keeping the Shrine upright and on course through the worst of the social lockdowns last year. Not an easy task for a social organization such as ours!

Lady Tes and I are excited for this year and ramping up to our big centennial celebrations in 2022. Come join the fun!

Noble Robert Welch and Lady Tes
Chief Rabban

From The Recorder

Shriners International is an international fraternity based on fun, fellowship, and the Masonic principles of brotherly love, truth and relief. At the local level, we carry these principals out by having fund-raising activities, social events, driving children to and from SHC facilities, participating in community events like parades and many other activities.

When I see a list like this, I am proud to be a part of an organization like the Shriners. But one thing is typically left out on lists like this: the fact on the bottom line, this IS a business. If the "business" does not function correctly, it could harm all the good work we do.

The function of the Recorder in this business is to run the day-to-day operations at the Shrine. This includes seeing that bills get paid, maintaining the membership database (WebFez), make sure dues are credited properly, oversee most communications to and from the temple, take minutes of official meetings, field all incoming calls, and assist the Potentate, Treasurer and membership when and where needed and much more. This is just a very short list of the Recorder's duties.

I just want the membership to know that I am honored that you thought enough of me to elect me to this position in the Shrine and I thank you and look forward to your continued support in this endeavor.

Yours In The Faith,
Noble Harry Worstell



2022 MASA Potentates' Cruise

LEAVING FROM	SHIPNAME
New York, New York (Cape Liberty, N.J.)	Anthem of the Seas
DAY	PORT
1	New York, New York (Cape Liberty, N.J.) Departs at 3:00 PM
2	Cruising City at sea
3	Orlando (Port Canaveral), Florida From 12:00 PM - 9:00 PM
4	Perfect Day at CocoCay, Bahamas From 9:30 AM - 6:00 PM
5	Nassau, Bahamas From 7:00 AM - 6:00 PM
6-7	Cruising City at sea
8	New York, New York (Cape Liberty, N.J.) Returns at 6:00 AM



Royal Caribbean Anthem of the Seas
 April 10, 2022 – April 17, 2022
 Prices will range from \$750 Interior to \$1500 Suites

2021 Chief Rabbans – Will your Shrine join us? Please contact Mike Gordon (MASA VP) to let him know if your Temple is interested so he may set an appropriate room block with Royal Caribbean.
Almas@michaeltgordon.com / 817-366-6377



7 NIGHT BAHAMAS CRUISE FROM CAPE LIBERTY

April 10, 2022 (Anthem of the Seas)

Cape Liberty, NJ	2022-04-10		3:00 PM
Cruising	2022-04-11		
Port Canaveral , Orlando FL	2022-04-12	12:00 PM	9:00 PM
Perfect Day Cococay , Bahamas	2022-04-13	9:30 AM	6:00 PM
Nassau, Bahamas	2022-04-14	7:00 AM	6:00 PM
Cruising	2022-04-15		
Cruising	2022-04-16		
Cape Liberty, NJ	2022-04-17	6:00AM	

Cat 4U (Ins) - \$784 Cat 2N (OV) - \$892 Cat 4D (Bal)- \$1029

Please pay deposit of \$250.00 per person to reserve Cabin. For more information call:

EDWARD'S TRAVEL & CRUISE

3972 Holland Road Suite 107, Virginia Beach, VA 23452
 Tel. 757-431-8624 / Toll Free 866.339.2737





MID-ATLANTIC SHRINE ASSOCIATION

Office of
Johnny Bittner, P.P.
MASA President 2020-2021

Storm3206@abglobal.net
304-312-6785

Member
Osiris Shriner
Wheeling, West Virginia

Illustrious Sirs and Nobles,

On behalf of the MASA Officers, I hope this letter finds you well. It has been a busy year planning for 2021 MASA with a lot of information to share. Please communicate the following to your Divans and nobility at your next business meeting.

- 1) Spring MASA 2021 – Unfortunately, the COVID-19 pandemic continues to affect our events. The Spring MASA venue has cancelled all their upcoming events including ours. Therefore, Spring MASA will be a virtual Zoom meeting once again. **Please mark your calendars for 10AM Eastern time on Saturday, April 24, 2021 for our virtual meeting.**
- 2) 2021 MASA Dues Waived – To help reduce the financial burden on our member temples, the MASA Board has voted to waive MASA dues for 2021. There are a few temples who have not paid their 2020 dues. A separate notice is included for those temples.
- 3) Contact information – The last few years have demonstrated that effective communication is the key to success. MASA once again requests that your Nobles adopt the enclosed resolution at your next business meeting granting MASA officers access to your membership roster as allowed by Imperial Bylaws "§ 335.6 Furnishing List of Names". **MASA will use this information solely for the purposes of communicating MASA events and news to the nobility.** We have struggled the last several years with communicating hurricane and pandemic related information to our members without having their email addresses. We currently have resolutions on file from: Acca, Almas, Crescent, Osiris, and Rajah. For these temples, there is no need to provide another resolution. For all others, we would greatly appreciate your support.

Ill. Sir Mike Gordon and I have been partnering to make improvements to our Fall 2021 and Fall 2022 conventions. We will continue to host your temples in Virginia Beach with improved events. Notably:

- There will be a free light breakfast (Breakfast Sandwiches and Coffee) prior to the main masa meeting. In addition, an abbreviated Necrology service will be contained within the men's meeting. Therefore, there will be no need to extend the meeting after lunch.
- The 2021 Presidents BBQ beach bash will be held on the beach at the 24th street beachfront park. There will be entertainment, bouncy house, and an OPEN BAR included in the price. Tickets are \$30 and children under 12 are free.
- The Ladies luncheon has moved to the top floor of the Virginia Beach Hilton overlooking the ocean. Tickets are \$40 including one free drink.
- MASA registration has been set at \$35 for each noble. Registration fees for lady's have been eliminated but registration is still required for insurance purposes.
- The Cabiri dinner remains at the Convention Center with a ticket price of \$50.

Thank you for your continued support of the Mid Atlantic Shrine Association. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at any time.

Fraternally – Johnny



MID-ATLANTIC SHRINE ASSOCIATION

Office of
Johanny Dittus, P.P.
MASA President 2020-2021

Storm3506@shrinersinternational.net
304-312-6785

Member
Oquirri Shriners
Wheeling, West Virginia

RESOLUTION

Whereas: The Board of Directors of the Mid-Atlantic Shrine Association (MASA) seeks to more effectively communicate with individual Nobles from its member temples; and

Whereas: Section § 335.6 of the bylaws of Shriners International states: "A temple or Noble: May furnish a list of members of the temple to others solely for fraternal purposes for the benefit of the temple and then only upon such terms and conditions as directed by a resolution duly adopted by the temple"; and

Whereas: Section § 335.6 of the bylaws of Shriners International states: Shriners International, its officers and employees: May furnish a list of members of temples to others, after obtaining the consent of the temples, solely for fraternal purposes for the benefit of the Order and then only upon such terms and conditions as directed by a resolution duly adopted by the board of directors of Shriners International; and

Whereas: The business of MASA is solely for fraternal purposes for the benefit of the Order.

Therefore, Be it resolved: That the Members and Board of Directors of _____ Shriners voted to grant the officers of MASA access to its list of members and contact information as provided by the Temple Recorder to Shriners International per Shriners International Bylaws Section § 335.6a and § 335.6b

Attest:

(Print Name, Sign & Date)

Potentate

(Print Name, Sign & Date)

Recorder

SHEPHERDS CLUB CORNER

Your Salaam Shepherds were busy in 2020 even with the Covid virus and suspension of runs for a few weeks. The Shepherds completed 156 runs to the Philadelphia Hospital and a few train trips to Boston Hospital. The total amount of driving/waiting time was 2,258 hours. We also worked with Ronald McDonald House providing food and cleaning products. This helps make our families stay at Ronald McDonald House easier while their child is being treated at the Philadelphia Shriners Hospital. Thank you to Noble Dave Meredith who organized this effort. The membership should be very proud all of the work and accomplishments of our Nobles, Masons, and Wives of our Nobles.

All the best in the 2021 New Year!

Noble Gordon Fleming
Shepherds Club President

POTENTATES AIDES UNIT

Our Potentates Aids unit would like to wish our new Potentate Illustrious Sir Paul DeGaetano and our new Divan the best of luck and let you know you have our support in the New Year 2021.

We ushered in 2021 with a change in our officer line Colonel Clay Bailey stepped down after 5 great years we will miss his magical touch on getting things done. Noble Robert Jaekel has stepped up to the plate and will wear our Colonel's Fez for the coming year. Rob is active and likes to get things done. He will make sure we follow and support our Potentate's agenda. Rob knows that it is not an easy task. He will do what ever has to be done to keep our Shrine moving forward. We have been trying, like all other Units, to have some kind of meeting to keep our Unit together. We meet the 2nd Thursday of the month during the day at 12:00PM "Lunch Time" at the Shrine Center. If you are in the area stop by and join us. We meet just so we can get together and have a bull session and try to check on our members' health or if they need a hand with something or maybe Noble Harry, our new Recorder, needs a hand on some projects he is working on and maybe...just maybe, we just like to get out of the house or awhile.

With the new year on us, hopefully we will be receiving enough COVID-19 vaccine for everyone and we can settle down to our normal routine. If we can remember what that was. The longer we keep postponing our lodge, Shrine unit meetings and all of our Shrine activities, the harder it is going to be to keep our members on board. We all know it is not our fault. It is just one of those things that upset all of our future plans and we also know that this too will pass. It is the damage and the fall out that we are worried about. Our past Potentate Illustrious ir Frank Williams had a really rough time last year. His plans were cut short and he couldn't do anything about it. He had his hands tied, but he held us together as best he could with all that was going on in this crazy world of ours.

On the good side, we are still together and looking forward to the New Year and our 2021 Potentate Illus. Sir Paul DiGaetano for his future guidance and plans for moving us on to a brighter world. Illus. Sir Paul, we are with you, especially since you came to the Shrine last Tuesday with that big concrete drill and then you manually used it to break that big cement slab that that took up half of the boiler room. A job well done, if our Shrine bar ever opens...next drink to on me. To our ne Divan, good luck and hopefully better days ahead.

Noble Jim Upritchard, PC

Secretary

BURN AWARENESS 2021

Burn prevention is a key endeavor of Shriners Hospitals for Children, which is why the health care system began its Burn Awareness campaigns more than 20 years ago. Burn Awareness Week, Feb. 7–13, 2021, is the kick-off of a yearlong campaign.

Shriners Hospitals for Children® entered the pediatric burn care field in the 1960s, and quickly became a leader in this arena. Today, our locations that provide burn care are known around the world for their staffs' expertise in providing excellent, innovative care to children with all types of burn injuries. An extension of this commitment involves helping prevent burn injuries by educating the public on burn awareness and prevention.

NORTHERN VALLEY SCOTTISH RITE..... KEEPING IT MOVING!

As the Valley approaches the completion of our first quarter of the year, both January and February were important months in terms of Valley activity. The first two months of the year featured zoom styled lectures related to “Freemasonry & the Underground Railroad” as well as, “An explanation of the meaning behind the 15th and 16th Degrees”.

We also conducted two successful and government compliant watch parties highlighting the 10th degree radio play and the showing of the 27th Degree. Ill. Paul Ferreira, Executive Secretary also arranged to show videos for the 4th, 22nd, 24th and of course the 27th degrees during these showings. New members were initiated and member packet kits with dues cards were distributed to the members in attendance.

February features the Sovereign Grand Commander Ill. David Glattly as a guest speaker via zoom in a series entitled “Ask the Commander”, and our second meeting of the month themed after the Scottish Rite Charities and Hauts Grades paper summary by a Sublime Prince and honoree from the Valley of Cleveland.

The Month of March promises to be exciting with Ill. Len Vanderhorn joining us for his topic “Not all Heroes wear capes”. Later in the month, the annual Feast of the Paschal Lamb has also been planned.

The valley has made every attempt to keep the brethren inspired and involved during these uncertain times. Our motto remains two-fold. “When the Pandemic says no way, the valley says.... let’s find a way” and “Valley of NNJ.... the Desire to Inspire.”

Sincerely,

ILL. Paul M. Ferreira, 33°, MSA
Executive Secretary

Salaam Shrine 2021 Installation



To all my fellow Nobles.

It is great to greet you with this new "SALAAM SHRINE NEWS" letter. It is being published by Nobles for Nobles for Salaam Shrine and friends. This will be published every February, April, June, August, October and December. It will be sent to you by either email, regular mail or both. Let us know how you would like to receive your Salaam Shrine News. All units and clubs that would like to contribute to the news letter with articles should submit their contribution to the editor and must be in by the first day of the month before the news letter will be shipped.

Anyone who has a function they would like publicized in the news letter, please send the information 2 - 3 months prior to the event as we only print the news letter every other month.

Anyone interested in helping make the news letter a great success should call the Shrine Office. All are welcome to help.



Salaam Shrine News

- Editor: Noble Gordon Fleming
- Contributor: Illus. Sir Paul V. DiGaetano, Pottentate
- Contributor: Noble Robert H Welch, Chief Rabban
- Contributor: ILL. Paul M. Ferreira, 33^o, MSA
- Contributor: Noble Gordon Fleming
- Contributor: Noble Jim Upritchard, PC
- Contributer: Noble Harry Worstell
- Technical Consultant: Noble Barry Gould
- Layout: Noble Harry Worstell

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