### INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION LEGIONS OF HONOR



# Now Hear This...

### From the Commander's Desk...

The New Year started off as usual for me: Arab Shrine hosted a breakfast of eggs, rolls, coffee, juice and other drinks!! The annual New Year's Day program changes with each new Potentate, but this year it was mostly the same Five "F's" of Fun, Food, Family, Fellowship and a Fund raiser. It's also a good opportunity for Nobles to sell tickets to their unit activities for the next month of two.

Then Suzette and I did something just for us. We took an Educational Opportunities Cruise to the Caribbean. We boarded a ship at Fort Lauderdale, Florida and made port calls at Cartagena in Colombia, South America; Grand Cayman; Panama; Costa Rica; and Cozumel, Mexico. I had always wanted to travel through the Panama Canal from the Atlanta Ocean to the Pacific Ocean. I now can check it off my bucket list. We got back as our President was being sworn in, however we didn't stop for that, and just kept moving.

Anther first for us was a Tail Gate BBQ put on by the Egypt Shrine Legion of Honor at Saint Petersburg for the Shrine East-West Game. Here we met with Billy Kennedy, Ray and Pat Combs, Al and Laurie Gonzalez and many others from Egypt Shrine. The International Officers that were present joined the Egypt Legion of Honor and the Junior ROTC students in presenting the flag for the opening ceremonial of the game on national television.

We didn't stop there, however. We went on to Jericho Legion of Honor Change of Command, with outgoing Commander Norman Scott. Our 4th Lt Commander Al Gonzalez was the installing officer for Jericho LOH Commander Kenny Collier, 1st Lt. Bob Smith, 2nd Lt. J. C. Jones, 3rd Lt. Daryll McPheron and Adjutant Tom Herron. The ladies and unit put on a great hospitality room all weekend long.

Tangier Legion of Honor's 60th Annual Fez Ball was held as usual on the second weekend of February. The Tangier Legion of Honor was started by Donald Madsen, PP, who was Potentate 60 years ago. Donald passed away last November but he had marched with the colors in every parade until a year ago. His wife honored him and the 60th Anniversary by attending the evening. I had the pleasure of being the Installing Commander for Tangier Legion of Honor. The following officers were installed Commander Jeremy M. Martin, 1st Lt. Commander Michael P. Billquist, Adjutant John D. Dickey, and Finance Officer Thomas L. Upton.

The Shrine Circus is an important fundraiser for the Shrine Hospitals for Children and for each Shrine Center that has a circus. Arab Shrine Circus is always held in February and the Arab Legion of Honor Unit officers always work the Toy Booth on Saturday. This year, we had three International Officers, Chief of Staff Steve Suchsland, IALOH 4th Lt. Commander Al Gonzalez, and I, to help.

Next we took a trip down to Fredericksburg, Texas for the TALOH Change of Command. The program started on Tuesday with a Western dance theme of boots and jeans and hat. Thursday was the change of command with outgoing Commander Michael Dosier who put on a fine TALOH program as usual. The IALOH installing officer was 3rd Lt. Eddie Daffern, for the installation of Commander Arvid Bergman, with Jim Pulley, PIC as Marshall and Jack Tuomey, PIC as Adjutant. Fredericksburg, Texas has several major attractions, including the WW II Museum and the Admiral Chester W. Nimitz Museum. Due to the public turnout at these museums on weekends, TALOH holds its convention in the middle of the week. Next year's 2018 event is on February 28th to March 2nd.

Ray Combs and I attended



#### Morris Sykes

the Association Meeting held by the Imperial Shrine the first weekend in March. This is the second one to be held and it was held at Medinah Temple in Addison, a suburb of Chicago.

We received a lot of information and would recommend that the International 2nd to 4th Lieutenants should attend, before they have their convention finalized. The major message we received was that there is not enough communication between officers and the nobles as to increase the number attending.

I attended the Arab Shrine Fistful of Hollars, a western murder mystery dinner theater fun night. The Arab event was followed a few weeks later by the Moila Shrine putting on a murder mystery dinner theater night. Both events were put on by JEST Murder Mystery Co. a Comedy Entertainment Company, which is a small talented group.

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The Crystal Ball Looking at the Future... GLSA LOH Aug 9th—13th

SESA Aug 23rd—26th

TALOH Feb 20th - Mar 02

Check the IALOH web site www.ialoh.org for details and registration forms in addition to information and other upcoming events

If you would like your Association meeting listed here, please pass the information to the Adjutant.

### **Commander's Message**

I have contact information for JEST if anyone wants it.

It is now time for me to start packing my bags to attend the IALOH 86th Annual Convention in Corpus Christi. Commander Gilbert and Nelda Medina, PP have a great program lined up for everyone. It will start Wednesday with IALOH Golf and a Tailgate BBQ Dinner with Boots & Jeans Foot-Stompin' Country Music at Al Amin Shrine. Thursday evening the Welcome Party will be on the USS Lexington Museum on the Bay with Garcia's Big Band Music and the Ladies for Liberty from Louisville, KY. Friday and Saturday continue with the IALOH activities and end with the Installation Banquet.

Start communicating and keep communicating to increase the number attending any event!

Yours in the Faith,

Morris W. Sykes IALOH Commander

Mwsykes33@gmail.com

PS: Please send me a copy of your Annual Report with your officers' names, titles and email addresses so I can communicate directly to each of you.

## 1<sup>st</sup> Lieutenant Commander's Message

January started off with a BANG for us as probably for everyone else. What a great year 2016 was with a lot of traveling for the Combs's. Celebrated our daughters, Christy's birthday on the 3<sup>rd</sup>, then next day we were on the road!

Off to Kentucky, and on January 7, we were at Maddisonville KY, with the Rizpah Legion of Honor, Change of Command Ceremonies, where I was the Installing Officer. Big congratulations to Commander Wiggins and his officers for the ensuing year. I was honored to perform the installation and look forward to visiting Rizpah LOH in the future.

On January 18, we headed south to St. Pete Beach for the East-West Shrine Game with our Shrine Center, Antioch. As always a wonderful time was had by all. Once again, Egypt Shrine honored us by allowing us to assist with the Posting of the Colors, before the game. IALOH Officers in attendance were, Lt Commander Morris Sikes, Lt Commander Al Gonzalez, and myself. Lt Commander Al and Laurie shared Antioch's hospitality this year and I hope they will again in the future.

This year we were able to attend Jericho Shrine LOH Military Ball, honoring Commander Norman Scott and Lady Sallie. Great hospitality and wonderful friends, old ones and new ones!

February had us at home, looking forward to working at Antioch Shrine Circus, and I was privileged to Post Colors with Antioch's Legion of Honor. We had the honor of posting the colors for every show, 5 in total. As always our circus was a huge success and everyone enjoyed themselves immensely. I was not a clown this year but the wonder on the children's faces was still the same. Every show was fun spelled with capital letters. It is one of the most enjoyable things that Pat and I do together and we have so many fond memories. It is so hard to explain the gratification that we both have working for the children and our Shrine Center. GOD Bless the Shrine. We had great attendance for each show and each one was just as enjoyable as the last one with so many smiles and hugs from the children.

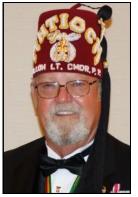
Antioch LOH had a Fish Fry in February, one of our fundraisers to help us along. Another wonderful evening with friends and family, and the food was amazing! In March I traveled to Addison Illinois for an Associations Meeting sponsored by the Imperial. Lots of information, brainstorming and fellowship was exchanged. April we attended Hadi's Potentates Ball with Lt Commander Mike Murray in Evansville Indiana. Again, we had a wonderful time, great folks, hospitality and accommodations.

Continued from page one

I assisted again this year working at the Scottish Rite Fall Reunion doing degree work. We had a great ceremony and I worked in the Candidate Room as well as taking a part in the 32 degree. What a meaningful and uplifting fraternal experience.

From the Lexington Board of Governor's side, the new hospital is so close to opening, May 21 is the Dedication Ceremony. The old hospital has been sold, but still under wraps as to who has purchased it. Now as we prepare to head to Corpus Christi Texas for the International Legions of Honor Change of Command, I can only say how very fast these last eight years have flown by. We have seen some beautiful countryside, meet the nicest people, and had a great time doing it. I hope you all have safe travels, and we see you soon in Corpus

### **Division Three**



Ray Combs P.P.

Keep em Flying Ray Combs, P.P. 1st Lt Cmdr, IALOH

## 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant Commander's Message

### Greetings from Texas!

In January, I had to stick close to home to take care of my side business of being mayor. I had many meetings and conferences to attend, but I did manage to be part of the color guard for the Grand Lodge of Texas during their Annual Convocation. I also attended The Potentate's Ball at Alzafar Shrine in San Antonio participating with the Highlanders.

February 27 through March 2 was the Texas Association Legions of Honor annual gettogether. Commander Michael Dosier and Lady Linda, along with their staff did an outstanding job. The event was well attended and everyone had a great time. Arvid Bergman was elected as the new Commander. The new 3<sup>rd</sup> Lt. Cmdr. Is Charles McIntosh from Karem Shrine in Waco, TX. Commander Arvid is dividing up the state so his officers will start visiting all the temples in Texas, especially the temples without a Legion of Honor. He is trying to get all 13 temples to have a LOH unit. He and I will be working very closely and he has already arranged meetings with some of them.

In March, I had more meetings and conferences for my side business. Lady Shari and I also attended Ben Hur's Potentate's Ball in Austin. Most of the active members of the LOH were there and we had another great time. March 19 through 23 Lady Shari and I accompanied Commander Gilbert Medina, Lady Nelda, Chief of Staff Jim Fox, Lady Maureen, 4th Lt. Commander Al Gonzales, Lady Laurie and TALOH Commander Arvid to Guadalajara, Mexico. Specifically, we were mostly in Lake Chapala area, about 35 mines southwest of Guadalajara to meet with the Shriners there. we met with the Shrine Club and the Legion of Honor members. Frank Callam, the Commander had an itinerary planned for us and took us to many great places to eat and to many interesting sites. All of the Shriners are "ex pats" from Canada and the U.S. They have a wonderful LOH and are quite

busy in the Lake Chapala and Ajijic area .

April 18 through 23 was the International Association Legions of Honor Annual Convention in Corpus Christi, TX. Commander Gilbert, Lady Nelda, Jim Fox, Lady Maureen and their staff had such a great convention that it will be hard for those following him to maintain that same level of entertainment.

There was a Wednesday night BBQ at Al Amin Shrine and a western dance. Thursday, for the welcome party, Commander Gilbert had us all onboard the USS Lexington, which was a 1940s theme. The band was great, but the main attraction was the Ladies of Liberty. A trio of women dressed in proper costume from Kentucky that sang many of the songs of the Andrews Sisters. Another wonderful night! There were the usual business meetings, a well-stocked hospitality room and the Formal Banquet. Commander Gilbert was given the accolades he deserved for an outstanding convention and 1st Lt. Cmdr. Morris Sykes was installed as the new Commander for 2017-2018. David Ginapp was elected and installed as our new 8<sup>th</sup> Lt. Cmdr. He and Lady Jan are going to be a great addition to the International line.

### **Division Seven**



Eddie Daffern P.P

Until next time...

Semper Fi, Eddie Daffern, PP 2nd Lt Commander, IALOH

## 3<sup>rd</sup> Lieutenant Commander's Message

We started off in Spfd. MO @ Abou Adhem for their Change of Command Ceremony. The International Cdr. Gilbert Medina was there as the Installing Officer and I was the Installing Marshal. Gilbert's traveling party included his Chief of Staff Jim Fox and Lady Maureen, the 1st Lt. Cdr. of TALOH Arvid Bergman and Lady Barbara. In my party was Lady Laurie, my former COS Bill Allen and Lady Barbara, CSSA Cdr. Darold Farless and his Lady Maxine.

Then it was off to St. Petersburg FL for the East-West Shrine Bowl where we Tailgated with the EGYPT LOH. What an honor to present Colors on the field with the EGYPT LOH Unit and the JROTC. The participating International offic-



Al Gonzalez

### **Division** Five

-ers were Morris Sykes, Ray Combs, and Bill Kennedy, a Personal Aide, now Chief of Staff to Lt. Cdr. Tracy Coughlin. We were treated to Sky Box seats to watch the game.

We left Florida for Raleigh NC to attend the Amran LOH Change of Command. Enroute, we followed two Storm Chaser trucks through Georgia thinking hard about driving into all the storms swirling around us...but we made it safely to NC. I was able to have a nice visit with my two Assistant Chiefs of Staff at Amran, Jim Cone and David Conley.

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## **3<sup>rd</sup> Lieutenant Commander's Message** continued

From NC we traveled to Jericho Shrine in Kingsport TN to attend the LOH Change of Command Ball. I was privileged to be the Installing Officer and Herb Kennedy acted as Installing Marshal. Congratulations to the new Cdr. Kenny Collier and all of his new Officers. We met up with Intl. Officers Ray Combs and Lady Pat, Morris Sykes, John Robert Smith and Lady Anita, Jr.Past IALOH Cdr. Jim Pulley and Lady Deb. Also, attending was the SESA Cdr. Jim House and Lady Barbara along with his COS. We had a wonderful time at the Ball. We arrived in Topeka in time to work the Circus for my home Temple..Arab Shrine. Then we readied for travel to TALOH in Fredericksburg TX. TALOH ladies never fail to make you welcome. They run their Hospitality room like a well oiled machine. Congratulations to all the newly elected Officers of TALOH.

Lake Chapala was next. We traveled with Cdr. Gilbert Medina snd Lady Nelda. Lt. Cdr. Eddie Daffern and Lady Shari, COS Jim Fox and Lady Maureen, and Asst. COS & TALOH Cdr. Arvid Bergman. As it turns out, Lake Chapala is really South Canada. We met many great Canadians there and Denny Strole who was the first WSA Cdr. after me, Eddie Daffern & Howie Wynia reactivated it. Then we attended SESA in Augusta GA. Great job my friend Cdr. Jim House and Lady Barbara. Been attending SESA for about 10 years now.

We are headed for a quick visit at Jericho Shrine in Kingsport TN and then to the IALOH Convention in Corpus Christie TX.

Having a great time on the road! 3rd Lt. Cdr. Al Gonzalez

## 4<sup>th</sup> Lieutenant Commander's Message

Greetings from Division 4 of the International Association Legions of Honor.

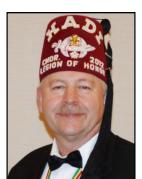
Division 4 is working hard on sponsoring the Annual Arlington Pilgrimage for 2017. We are requesting ADA (American Disabilities Act) compliant buses for the event to better serve our handicapped veterans. We are also making some changes in the hospitality room operations to provide more userfriendly services. There will be some new gift basket offerings this year including, but limited to, an "Over the Hill" basket for you senior citizens and a "Zombie Survival" basket for you Sci-fi folks. We are still looking for a few good Legionnaires to help us. We would like a few more bartenders to volunteer their services.

Division 4 is constantly working on membership. We are preparing to do a charter presentation at Medinah Shriners in Addison (Chicago), Illinois. Medinah is a brand-new Legion of Honor and we welcome them to our brotherhood. Medinah LOH Commander Scott Olson is looking forward to having IALOH visit his shrine center. We welcome them into our Association and hope they have a long and successful membership with us.

Army Strong!

Doc Murray

4th Lt. Cmdr., IALOH



**Division Four** 

**Mike Murray** 

## 5<sup>th</sup> Lieutenant Commander's Message

I'd like to thank you for allowing me to continue serving you as the new 5<sup>th</sup> Lt. Commander in the IALOH. I am deeply humbled by your vote of confidence and promise to continue serving you and your unit in any way that I can. Please let me know how I can accomplish this task, my contact information can be found elsewhere in this newsletter. I retained the same division for the next year, and hope to see everyone in the Southeast soon. Let me know what you have going on at your unit and if at all possible, I'd be honored to participate.

I'd also like to congratulate Past International Commander Gilbert "Dead Eye" Medina on his year in office and thank him for his guidance. Deadeye put on a fantastic convention at Corpus Christi and everyone had a great time, from the Texas style bar-b-que, through dinner on the USS Lexington, and wrapping up with a wonderful banquet on Saturday night. It was an excellent opportunity for us Lt. Commanders to get together for fun, fellowship, and a little business, but it was all about the fun. "Ya done good, Dead Eye!"

And I can't forget to congratulate our new International Commander Morris "Rock Chalk" Sykes. I'm sure it will be a year full of him barking orders and making demands. You all know how those commanders can be when they take over.

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**Division Eight** 



**Tracy Coughlin** 

## 5<sup>th</sup> Lieutenant Commander's Message

But fortunately it's only for a year and then he'll be a PIC, if they'll have him. We also picked up a new  $8^{th}$  Lt Commander, Dave "Motorboat" Ginapp from the Ocala Shrine Club. The rest of us line officers will try to train him as best we can, but you know how young pups can be. The fact that he got on this line to begin with just shows how little sense he has and what we have to work with.

We had a great time in Georgia as well when we attended the Southeast Shrine Association (SESA) LOH mid-winter in Augusta. Congratulations to Jim "Soda Pop" House, who was elected and placed in command of SESA this year. If there's anything I can do to help out, let me know and I'll see if I can find someone...

Don't forget to register for the IALOH Pilgrimage to Arlington for our Annual Wreath Laying. This year it will be held 2-5 November with the wreath laying occurring on the  $4^{th}$ . It's a great time to pay respects to those that have gone before us and join in camaraderie with other Legion brothers. You can find a registration form on the IALOH web site, <u>www.ialoh.org</u>, under EVENTS.

I do have a question for everyone, especially the unit commanders. What are you doing to have fun in your units? I don't know of any Nobles who joined the LOH to sit in a meeting and pay annual dues. Everyone wants to have fun and feel like they are contributing to something bigger than themselves. Please give this some serious consideration and perhaps our numbers will grow again.

Lastly, I'd like to express extreme sorrow for the loss of a special friend, brother and Noble, PC Wayne Forcade of Ainad Shrine in E. St. Louis, IL who has passed to that grand lodge in Heaven. Wayne was a very dear friend, my top line signer, and the person you can blame for getting me involved in the LOH. You'll be missed my brother, but you can stand down now, you're relieved of your earthly duties.

Until next time, AIM HIGH and remember, IT'S AN HONOR TO BE IN THE LEGION OF HONOR!

## 6<sup>th</sup>Lieutenant Commander's Message

I hope everyone's start to 2017 has been glorious. In our neck of the woods, being So. California, it has been very good within Al Bahr and our LOH unit. During our installing in January, we had five new members.

I missed the meeting in February for the good of the order. My wife and I traveled to the Philippines for 15 days and what a memorial trip it was. It was originally planned as a wedding trip, but things changed and we turned it into a vacation and building process. One opportunity we had was to visit with the members of Mabuhay Temple in Manila during their installation of officers for the ensuing year. Excellent, excellent time with new nobles and their ladies and some I have known. I couple of days later we met with the current Divan from Mabuhay where I made a presentation to them for forming a LOH unit. They were very interested in the process and as I write they are preparing their credentials to be chartered.

As many within the IALOH family knows, there are two temples in the Philippines, being Mabuhay and Agila. So with the contacts I have made there, a similar packet of information was given to Agila for their formation of a unit. To say I am extremely excited for these possibilities is an understatement.

After all the fun Shrine events Leighanne and I were off to our site seeing. The apartment where we stayed treated us fabulously and arranged our trips for us. We were able to meet up with Leighanne's brother one morning and who showed up at our apartment but, Bill Horrom from Ansar Shrine. He was visiting friends there and made our visit just that much better. During our March unit Meeting we swore in two members and things are going well for us. During the last parade we attended for the Potentate we had ten Legionnaire's in attendance, not counting LOH members that are a part of the Divan. Next we are off to Las Vegas for the Western Shrine Association from 4/6 - 4/9/2017. As the WSA LOH Cmdr this year I am holding a business meeting on the morning of 4/6.

### **Division Six**



Then it will be off to Corpus Cristi on the 4/18

Corpus Cristi on the 4/18 for our annual convention .

Hope to see lots of Legionnaires there.

Steve Walker

#### Yearbook advertising rates are as follows:

Full Page	\$110.00
Three Quarter (3/4) Page	\$85.00
Half (1/2) Page	\$60.00
Quarter (1/4) Page and	
Business Card Size	\$30.00
Four 1/4 Page Ads	\$110.00

Ad submission forms are available online and in this newlettefrat www.ialoh.org or from the International Adjutant.

Yearbooks are also available to the general membership for \$20.00 per copy plus postage.

Remember, your support is deeply appreciated.

### Continued

## 7<sup>th</sup>Lieutenant Commander's Message

Greetings Nobles, As we enter into the second quarter of 2017, things are taking shape for IALOH Convention in Corpus Christi, TX. I started off the year with a trip to Jericho Shrine Temple in Kingsport TN., Change of command. We had a good showing of our International officers. The IALOH officers were recognized at the banquet and well received. Our next trip was to SESALOH Midwinter in Augusta, GA. We were hosted by Alee Shrine LOH. The ladies did a great job preparing Foods and desserts. Commander Jim House had a great turnout for this event. There were approximately 40 people present. On Friday evening, we all went to Sconyers B.B.Q for dinner. Saturday morning we had our executive officers meeting and following With a general business meeting. There were 3 IALOH present, Al Gonzalez, 4th Lt. Com, Tracy Coughlin, 6th Lt. Com., and John Robert Smith, 8th Lt. Com. In addition Past IALOH Com. Ted Henderson and (Fred) was present. Also, Harold Kitchens, past IALOH Com. Came by to pay us a visit. Good to see him and his wife.

Tracy Coughlin spoke about the Arlington Wreath Laying and the hospitality room. Al Gonzalez spoke on the International Legions of Honor. I then spoke on the International Convention in Corpus Christi, TX. One of the big items I spoke about was the Ads and Ad blanks for the year book. The deadline is May 15th, 2017. The forms are on IALOH.org website under forms. Anita and I will be leaving for the International in Corpus Christi, Tx, April 17 and arriving on 18th or 19th. There are 5 or 6 couples from Yaarab Temple coming. Looking forward to this event!

Have a great Spring, YITF, John Robert Smith, 7th Lt. IALOH Commander

## 8<sup>th</sup> Lieutenant Commander's Message

On April 22<sup>nd</sup>, it was my honor to be elected to be the 8<sup>th</sup> Lt. Commander for the International Legions of Honor.

I have been assigned to District one and look forward to meeting and getting to know everyone. I will soon contact all the LOH units in the district to introduce myself and see if there is any assistance that I can offer.

My lady Jan and I had a great time meeting new and seeing old friends at the IALOH convention in Corpus Christi. Every event was first class and will be remembered for a long time. The hospitality, meal and dance at the Al Amin shrine temple, the dinner and music aboard the USS Lexington and the IALOH banquet was a great time.

Congratulations to Commander Sykes and the other Lt. Commanders. I know this year will be great because of the dedication of the IALOH line and everyone's support. Let me know if I can help or support your LOH unit.

Remember that Imperial is fast approaching and hope to see everyone in Daytona.

David Ginapp

### **Division One**



John Robert Smith

### **Division Two**



### **David Gnapp**

## Past International Commander's Message

Greetings Legion Nobles & Ladies

On behalf of the IALOH Organizers of this Convention, it is indeed my pleasure to make a few closing remarks and express gratitude to all those who made this event a reality.

The planning of the International Association Legions of Honor 86<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention was initiated at the Holiday Inn Downtown Marina Corpus Christi, Texas. Those who attended came to the City by the Bay, home of the USS Lexington Museum Aircraft Carrier, Corpus Christi, Texas.

Our Business meetings, Election, and Installation Banquet was great. The Golf Tournament, The Formal Opening with the Veteran's Band, the Tailgate BBQ Dinner with Foot-Stomping' Country Music, the Welcome Party on the flight deck of the USS Lexington Aircraft Carrier with Garcia's Big Band Music and the Ladies for Liberty from Louisville, Kentucky were outstanding. The moment of Highlights, the honoring of our five WWII Veterans, Noble Dale McMillian, Noble Ralph Bass, Noble Charles Masterson, Noble George Barber and Mr. Julian Hall.

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**PIC Gilbert Medina** 

### Past International Commander's Message continued

The Necrology program with the USS Lexington "the Blue Ghost" display and the Video was a memorable event

Finally, I would like to thank our own staff for helping organized this event and ensuring it ran so smoothly; the International Chief of Staff Jim Fox & Lady Maureen and Asst Chief of Staff, TALOH Commander Arvid Bergman & Lady Barbara, and Asst Chief of Staff Richard Russell for their help & support. Also, many Nobles & Ladies have contributed in so many ways to turn this event into a smoothly running Convention. Thank you for all your excellent work!!

I would like to thank our co-organizers, Master of Ceremonies Howie Wynia, Registration Chairman David Smith, Bill Chicky & Lady Jeannette, Paul Sawyer & Lady Edith, Ladies' Luncheon Master of Ceremonies Lady Debbie Arnold, Arch of Steel Coordinator Don Gibson, Hospitality Chairman Ginny Fox & Cheri Fox Messick and TALOH 3<sup>rd</sup> Lt Cmdr. Charles McIntosh and Bar Chairman Marcelo & Roy Cantu & Lady Sharon. Thanks, AL AMIN Shrine Temple for lending us the Margarita Machine.

The Piano & Music was wonderful. I express my personal gratitude to the 6<sup>th</sup> Lt. Commander's Lady Leighanne Walker for sharing her talent and inspiring us with the beautiful music she enhanced and enriched each session of the Convention.

We greatly appreciate the time of our Guest Speakers took out of their busy schedule to speak at the Formal Opening. To AL AMIN Potentate Illustrious Sir Vince Muscarello, Texas Grand Junior Warden Right Worshipful Paul Underwood PP, Nueces County Sheriff Jim Kaelin PP, Holiday Inn General Manager Phillip Lawson, and Corpus Christi Convention Visitors & Bureau (CCVB) Manager Erica Lozano.

I want to thank IALOH Lt. Commanders, Adjutant Kevin Fox, Finance Officer Pete Phillips, the Chaplains Paul Sawyer & John Welch, Sergeant of Arms Guy Ferrelli, Past Int'l Commanders and Chief of Staffs for their assistance and support they provided me thought-out the year.

The Convention becomes a success only if our guests arrive. They are the Life of a Convention. Thus, we do express our sincere thanks to all of you who have come from Puerto Rico, Lake Chapala, Mexico, and all over the United States.

In closing, It's Honor & Proud to be a member of the "LEGIONS OF HONOR" and I was proud and honored to welcome everyone to the IALOH 86<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention in Corpus Christi, Texas. The IALOH have brought us all closer together, and I am thankful to have friends like you all over the USA, Canada, Mexico and Puerto Rico. Please remember that you are always welcome when your travels bring you to **South Texas**.

#### "Good Friends, are HARD to find, HARDER to leave, and IMPOSSIBLE to forget".

Fraternally Gilbert Medina Past Int'l Cmdr IALOH



This Pictured here was taken of Past International Commander III Gilbert Medina, his COS Jim Fox, assist COS Arvid Bergman, 2nd International LT Cmdr III Eddie Daffern, and 3rd International Lt Cmdr Al Gonzalez along with Anezah Legion of Honor while the International Officers were visiting the Shriners Hospital in Mexico City. Anezah Legion of Honor welcomed our International officers with open arms. Past Commander Medina was interviewed by a reporter while in Mexico City where he discussed the efforts in ref to transporting, housing and assisting the children coming from Mexico for treatment at thr Shriners Hospital in Houston and Galveston, Texas.



This picture was taken during the Annual Convention in Corpus Christi, Tx. These are four nobles who are WWII veterans that were honored on the USS Lexington . They are from left to right.

1. Ralph Bass from Jericho Shrine WWII, Korea, Vietnam, 2. George Barber from Al Bahr Shrine WWII 3. Dale McMillian from Al Amin Shrine WWII 4. Charles Masterson from Abdallah Shrine WWII.

### Adjutant's Message

Well the Annual Convention has come and gone, and now it's time to continue to work on the yearbook. Congratulations to our new Commander, Morris Sykes, all of the elevated Lieutenant Commanders and to our new 8th Intl. Lieutenant Commander, David Gnapp.

I want to thank all of the nobles who have sent me their articles in the past few weeks. I hadn't received to many up to the time of the Annual Convention. I have added a yearbook application in this newsletter for those who have not submitted one. The yearbook is a one of our biggest money makers we have to help support the International Legions of Honor. So your support is greatly appreciated. Plus the information you send in gets put in the data base. This helps with information that goes into the yearbook as well.

I would also like to take this time to thank noble David Smith from Arab Temple for putting those long hours at the registration booth during the Annual Convention. You really make it manageable for me to update the Emeritus list and keep track of who attended the Annual Convention. Your help is appreciated and does not go without merit. Once again thank you to our Emeritus Adjutant Ron Lee for being there when I have a question, no matter how small it is, he is always there to assist.

There are still many legion units who have not paid their dues for 2017. Please get those to me as soon as you can so I can update the database. The forms can be found on the website at www.ialoh.org. Go to the forms tab and you can find them there, or you can send me an email to adjutant@ialoh.org and I will send the forms to you if you need them.

Kindest Regards, Kevin



**Kevin Fox** 

Deadline for the	
July	
Newsletter	
is	
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Opinions expressed in individual articles are the opinions of the authors and not necessarily those of the Editor or Officers of the International Association Legions of Honor. Articles may be edited for size constraints but editorial content will be maintained.

The IALOH newsletter is to be published periodically as a way to "pass the word" and get applications/forms to the membership. Distribution is to all Legion of Honor Units and to individual subscribers at the rate of \$10.00 per year. A free, on-line version is available for download from the IALOH web site, **http:://www.ialoh.org.** If you would like to receive a printed edition of the newsletter, please contact the International Adjutant.



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15 May 2017 IS THE DEADLINE FOR ADS.

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The objectives of the International Association Legions of Honor are: To foster a Spirit of Patriotism and Love of Country and Flag; *To perpetuate the memory* of our Comrades in Arms who made the Supreme Sacrifice by giving their lives for their country while members of the Armed Forces; To devote our efforts as individuals and Legion of Honor Units to strive for an increase in Friendship and Cooperation between our Legion of Honor Units and other Units of Shriners International

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