



# Now Hear This...



VOLUME 85, ISSUE 4

APRIL 2016

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

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

Greetings Legion Nobles & Ladies,

Most people think of Easter Sunday as a time to gather with family and friends; Hope everyone had spectacular weekend during the Happy Easter Hunt 2016 with family and friends.

On March 12, 2016, Commander Peter F. Phillips and the Boumi Temple Legion of Honor held the 68<sup>th</sup> Commander's Ball. International Commander Jim Pulley & Lady Deb and Lady Nelda & I attended the Commander's Ball. We had an enjoyable time, the food was superb and the company fabulous. We, also enjoyed the hospitality room at the hotel. It gave us a chance to meet Legion Nobles from MASA Shrine Legion of Honor. Commander Phillips & Lady Sandi, we appreciated your kindness and our sincere thanks in inviting us out for dinner. Thank you again for your hospitality.

On March 14, 2016, Lady Nelda & I attended the AL AMIN Shrine Legion of Honor monthly meeting at Nomad Shrine Club. In attendance, we had as Special Guests the AL AMIN Potentate Illustrious Sir Sonny Caldwell and members of the Divan. AL AMIN Legion of Honor Commander Arvid Bergman had a special event, The Table Lodge. Legion Nobles and Ladies enjoyed the wonderful food and comradeship among the members. The Potentate Illustrious Sir Sonny Caldwell congratulated the Commander Arvid Bergman for memorable event.

On April 6 – 10, 2016, the International Association Legions of Honor 85<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention is one week away. Everyone is getting ready to get our kicks on Route 66. Commander Jim Pulley & Lady Deb are asking everyone to join them for a trip down memory lane. The Legion Nobles and their Ladies are anxious to attend the Convention held at the Regency Conference Center and Hilton Garden Inn, O'Fallon, Illinois. I am sure its going to be One of the Best Convention ever held by the IALOH.

### VETERANS DAY FACTS:

Veterans Day originated as "Armistice Day"



**Gilbert Medina**

on Nov. 11, 1919, the first anniversary of the end of World War I. Congress passed a resolution in 1926 for an annual observance, and Nov. 11 became a national holiday beginning in 1938. Veterans Day is not to be confused with Memorial Day, a common misunderstanding, according to the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs. Memorial Day (the fourth Monday in May) honors American service members who died in service to their country or as a result of injuries incurred during battle, while Veterans Day pays tribute to all American Veterans—living or dead but especially gives thanks to living Veterans who served their country honorably during war or peacetime.

Fraternally

Gilbert Medina

1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Cmdr., IALOH



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### The Crystal Ball

*Looking at the Future...*

**MASA**  
April 21st—24th 2016

**WSA**  
May 5th - 8th 2016

**SASA**  
May 5th –7th 2016

**Canadian Wreath Laying**  
Saturday June 4th 2016

Check the IALOH web site 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.*

Greetings, Legion of Honor Nobles and Ladies,

This will be my last newsletter column as your commander. What a great ride it has been. Lady Deb and I want to thank everyone for the great honor of serving as your commander this year. We have had a wonderful time, making and spending time with friends across this great country and now in Puerto Rico as well. You are an amazing group of people who having served our great country, now continue to serve the children. We are veterans and we all share that common bond. I also want to thank all the ladies for your support of your nobles—each and every day.

Lady Deb and I are looking forward to seeing all of you at the convention in O'Fallon, Illinois. After that, we plan to continue to attend many events.

Our last quarter has been busy. Our first stop in January was at Abou Ben Adhem in Springfield, Missouri for their installation of officers. We had a great time. Congratulations to Commander Ted Basford and his officers for 2016. Thanks to Shane Wolfe for some great hospitality. Shane and I discovered we are from the same part of Tennessee. Lady Deb speculates that we're probably related somehow. Oh and the grog was something else. Then we traveled to Isis LOH in Salina, Kansas for their installation of officers. It was great to see an old friend from Ainad, Richard Bills.

Congratulations to Isis Commander Tim Fowler and his officers for 2016.



Jim Pulley

Thanks to Commander Tim for some great Isis hospitality. The grog bowl was a highlight there too. At the end of January we traveled to Jericho Shrine in Kingsport, Tennessee. We dodged some snowstorms to get there. Past Int'l Commander Bill Glenn and Lady Shirley did not have the same luck and were trapped by closed highways on their way up. Had a wonderful time with new friends and old. Congratulations to Commander Norman Scott and his officers.

We started off February with a trip to Addison, Illinois. We met up with 6<sup>th</sup> Lt. Mike Murray and visited with members of Medinah Shrine to consider forming a new unit. The visit was positive; they were very interested.

After a brief break, we headed to Helen, Georgia at the end of February for the SESA Midwinter. We had a wonderful time and enjoyed great hospitality and visiting the German town of Helen. Thanks to SESA Commander John Robert Smith and Lady Anita for a wonderful time. From there we headed over to Fredricksburg, Texas for the TALOH Midwinter and installation of officers. We had a great time. They had German band perform that was excellent and we had a lot of fun. Many thanks to outgoing Commander Bill Chicky and Lady Jeanette for a wonderful time and some extra entertainment. Congratulations to Commander Michael Dosier and his officers for 2016.

Lady Deb and I will miss our time as your Commander and Commander's Lady. Thank you for making it special. We will see you down the road.

"Precious moments and precious friends—they are the treasures to hoard and cherish. We find ourselves wealthy in both and are thankful that you are part of that treasure."

It's truly an honor to be a member of the Legion of Honor.

Yours in the faith,

Jim Pulley

Junior Past Commander 2015-16

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

Well! The first three months of 2016 are already over as I submit this quarterly newsletter. By the time the International Adjutant has it printed and put on the **IALOH.ORG** website for you to read, the 85<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention will be over. This year Commander James Pulley's theme in O'Fallon, Illinois is *"Join us for a trip down memory lane as we get our kicks on Route 66."* Therefore, I am going to assume that the following installations have happened. Congratulations to Commander Gilbert Median 2016—17 and to all the Lt. Commanders on your move up one step, and to the new 8<sup>th</sup> Lt. Commander John Robert Smith. He is the only one that was to run for the first step of the International Association Legions of Honor line.

Back to January in this quarter. I never miss the Arab Temple New Year's Annual Breakfast. My how things change within annual events! Arab Shriners used to have a Tea Dance from 10 a.m. to 12 noon, which was a unique tradition.

We old timers have deferred to the young Shriners on not

having the dance because our young Shriners deserve a chance to make their own traditions. The Temple elected Jim Whitehead as Potentate and held the reception for him and the Divan on Sunday the 17<sup>th</sup>. This is one event when we see all the Shrine Units, and all their members, from new to old. After that it was time to make my first trip of 2016 which was to Jericho LOH Change of Command in Kingsport, TN on the 22<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> of January. James Norman Scott was installed as Commander by International Commander James A. Pulley, who was the installing Commander. The Jericho Ladies put on a great hospitality room both Friday and Saturday. Jericho Divan always helps make it a very large and successful event. Next, it was way up north but not to Alaska. It was to Buffalo, NY, where they are well known for SNOW but not this year.

## Division One



Morris Sykes

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

The Ismailia LOH Change of Command was on February 6. There was a fantastic dinner on Friday night at a local Italian restaurant which is known for great food and it did not disappoint. Ismailia is also known for their great hors d'oeuvres and dinner before the installation. Outgoing Commander was Noble John J. Skyler. Then I installed Past Potentate Illustrious Michael J Swayne as the 2016 Ismailia Commander with the assistance of Illustrious E. Daniel Walther IV as Marshall.

It was then time to travel up the Missouri River to Omaha, NE. to attend the Tangier Fez Ball. This is Eddie Daffern's Division this year. He was the installing Commander for the installation of Dale W. Nelson as Commander. I assisted him as Marshall. Also attending from Arab Shriners was my COS Steve Suchsland and 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Commander Larry Lehman both from Arab LOH.

There comes a time to do some work to raise money for the Shrine Hospitals for Children. Almost all Shriners raise money by having an annual circus event. It is a four day event for Arab Shriners in Topeka, KS. The Arab LOH where I have my membership, worked all day on Saturday for the three events. I am amazed by the number of people that are using credit cards to purchase toys for the children at the circus. Many use the swipe of an iPhone app. We took in over \$2,000 on credit card sales during the afternoon show plus the cash sales.

The first weekend in March was the TALOH Annual Meeting in Fredericksburg Texas. Outgoing TALOH Commander Bill Chicky had a great banquet at the **Inn on Barons Creek**. The Necrology Service was held in the Admiral Nimitz Museum. Attending this service should be on every Navy sailor's bucket list as it is dedicated to the men who served for Admiral Bull Nimitz. There are plaques honoring these men on the wall around three sides of the city lot where the museum is. It is next door to the National Museum of the Pacific War. It requires over four hours to take it all in. In Texas, these two museums, three Presidential Libraries, and two Shrine Hospitals for Children have been on my bucket list. President Lyndon B. Johnson's boyhood home and Texas White House were on my way home. I took in the LBJ Texas White House and the ranch where his little Air Force One plane is also available for tour. I tried to make it over to Austin for his library however I arrived just five minutes before closing time. I will have to arrange time to see the two Bush libraries next year while at the TALOH Convention. It will be in Fredericksburg again.

Kansas Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons was held on March 17 through 19 at the Capitol Plaza Hotel in Topeka just five blocks south of the Capital. There were several items of Bylaws changes to be taken up. The one that caught everyone's eye is an increase of per capita dues which was voted down. On the program was former Senator Bob Dole who is a masonic member of the Russell, Kansas Lodge. He was unable to make it; however he sent a \$500,000 check for the Kansas Masonic Foundation, a 501c3 nonprofit organization that was started 50 years ago in the 1966 annual communication. Among its accomplishments are the **SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM**, with over 300 annual scholarships; **MATCHING FUNDS PROGRAM**, which supports community programs; **FREEMASON ENDOWMENT**, to help Masons and families in need; **KANSAS UNIVERSITY CANCER RESEARCH**, which to date has raised more than \$25 million for KU Cancer Research; **YOUTH PROGRAMS**, which funds strategic youth groups such as Rainbow Girls, Job's Daughters and DeMolay to enable them to launch programs that further their missions.

I have had the pleasure of being assigned the last two years to **DIVISION THREE / TWO** and getting acquainted with their Legion of Honor members, Shriners and the Northeast Shrine Association. This area starts at the west side of New York and all states east of NY to the Atlantic Ocean. It also includes Quebec, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, and Newfoundland in Canada. Thanks to the five LOH Units who worked with me to get their Annual Reports up to date and turned into the International Adjutant Kevin Fox.

Yours in the Faith,

Morris W. Sykes

1st Lt. Commander

[mwsykes33@gmail.com](mailto:mwsykes33@gmail.com)

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

### Division Two

January started off slow for us as probably for everyone else. What a wonderful year 2015 was with a lot of traveling for the Combs's. Well January 10<sup>th</sup> took us to Rizpah Legion of Honor, Change of Command Ceremonies, where I was the Installing Officer. Big congratulations to Commander Gillespie and his officers for the ensuing year. I was honored to perform the installation and look forward to visiting Rizpah LOH in the future.



Ray Combs

I had the pleasure of spending some time with my blue lodge this month and took part in some of the ceremonies'. I had the honor of presenting the Apron to my twin brothers step son and Jason was totally surprised to see me there. What an honor and I was proud in performing this duty and to stand up for my departed brother Roy. The Worshipful Master allowed me to take part in the E.A. Degree and I thank his so much for letting me do this. April I will again take part in Raising Brother Jason to the Master Mason Degree. I am so looking forward in raising Josh in becoming a Master Mason

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Jan 16 took Lady Pat and I traveled to Hadi Temple LOH where I installed the new officers for 2016. Congratulations to Commander Wellmeier and his officers. Past Commander and 6<sup>th</sup> Lt Cmdr IALOH, Doctor Mike Murray, was the Master of Ceremonies and he did an excellent job. Congratulations Mike for a fine job. Lt Cmdr Mike Murray is presently the Commander of the Great Lakes Shrine, Legion of Honor as well. What a busy man Mike is in supporting the Legion of Honor in numerous positions and being very proactive in the Boy Scouts of America as well.

The later part of January we spent at the East/West game where I, Lt Cmdr Coughlin, Commander Pulley and Past Commander Henderson were allowed to take part in posting the Colors for the game. Always an honor to present the colors for me and was honored to be allowed on the field to do so.

On 30 January I had the honor of Installing my own Antioch Legion of Honor as the Installing Officer. Congratulations to Commander Robert Sakal and his line officers and I wish them all a successful and enjoyable year.

February we had so much fun in working the events for our Annual Fundraiser and that is the Circus. Lady Pat and I put our clown outfits on and did we ever have fun!!!! 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 6 shows and each one was just as enjoyable as the last one with so many smiles and hugs from the children.

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

Hi everyone! This year started out with Lady Shari and me going to the Jericho LOH Ball in Kingsport, TN on January 22<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup>. Although it was cold and snowy, we had a great time. The Ladies and Nobles had a wonderful hospitality room at the hotel with lots of food and drinks. The Ball itself was outstanding at their beautiful Shrine Temple. IALOH Commander Jim Pulley installed the new officers and presented the Potentate, Illustrious Sir Pete Rambo with a certificate. Congratulations to the new officers; Commander James Scott, 1<sup>st</sup> LtCmdr Kenny Collier, 2<sup>nd</sup> LtCmdr Bobby Smith, 3<sup>rd</sup> LtCmdr J. C. Jones and Adjutant Paul Street.

On Thursday, January 28<sup>th</sup>, we visited with and installed the new officers of Ben Hur LOH in Austin, TX. The meeting was held at the Temple and we had a wonderful catered meal. The Potentate, Illustrious Sir Earl Robertson, assisted me as the Installing Marshal. The new officers are Commander, John Blair, 1<sup>st</sup> LtCmdr Michael Dosier, 2<sup>nd</sup> LtCmdr Jim Hollis and Adjutant/Finance Officer Fred Maynard.

February 13<sup>th</sup>, I was pleased to be invited to Alzar Shrine in San Antonio for their 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Potentate's Ball honoring Illustrious Sir John Dunn and his Divan. I joined with Pipers from Karem Shrine in Waco, TX, Ben Hur in Austin, TX and Alzar in San Antonio in a joint Highlanders Concert during the Ball. It was really a great, wonderful night. Lady Shari and I then attended the Tangier Shrine Legion of Honor 2016 Fez Ball at Johnny's Café in Omaha, Nebraska.

March we took a cruise with the Antioch Shrine Temple leaving out of Port Canaveral for an 8 day cruise to the Southern Caribbean to ARUBA and our last stop prior to returning was Grand Turk. We had a grand time touring and snorkeling and maybe a few cool ones. Maybe! A much needed vacation with our Divan and fellow Nobles and ladies.

Lady Pat and I attended a very special ceremony. It was held at the Dayton VA Medical Center and it was for the Commemoration of the 50<sup>th</sup> Vietnam Commemoration and Pinning Ceremony. All veterans serving during this time period of Nov. 1, 1955-May 15 1975, and were present at the ceremony received a 50 year lapel pin recognizing them for their service during the Vietnam War.

Keep em Flying

Ray Combs, P.P.

2nd Lt Cmdr, IALOH

### Division Three



Eddie Daffern

Again, we had great food and hospitality. I was honored to install their new officers and 2nd LtCmdr Morris Sykes of IALOH assisted as the Installing Marshal. The Potentate, Illustrious Sir Charles Marchand and his Lady Connie were in attendance, and as we were invited to sit at their table, they proved to be quite charming and interesting. Congratulations to the new Commander Dale Nelson and his officers. The Texas Association Legions of Honor had their Mid-Winter Meeting in February from the 29<sup>th</sup> through March 3<sup>rd</sup> in Fredericksburg, Texas. Commander Bill Chicky and his Lady Jeannett did

an outstanding job organizing everything including a great hospitality room, a fun German Night and the Formal Banquet. Bill has worked tirelessly this past year recruiting new units to TALOH and IALOH. He singlehandedly helped Sharon LOH in Tyler, TX to get re-formed and helped with Alzar in San Antonio. He is talking with a couple other temples that I think will come aboard sometime this year. This was the first time TALOH has had their Mid-Winter during the week instead of the weekend. It was a rousing success! Congratulations to the new TALOH officers; Commander Michael Dosier from Ben Hur, 1<sup>st</sup> LtCmdr Arvid Bergman from Al Amin, 2<sup>nd</sup> LtCmdr Ill. Sir Don Young from Hella, 3<sup>rd</sup> LtCmdr Rick Villarreal from Arabia, Adjutant John Blair from Ben Hur, Finance Officer Fred Maynard from Ben Hur and Chief of Staff Bill Chicky from Karem. It's a great group of Nobles and they are all committed to growing the membership

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in TALOH and IALOH. They have already started working with temples who want to start a new LOH unit. Bill Chicky also built and has kept the website updated. It is [www.TALOH.org](http://www.TALOH.org). Go there if you want to know anything about TALOH.

That's all of the relevant information concerning my travels so far this year. Just a couple of reminders; if you know of a temple who would like to start a LOH, please contact one of the International Lt. Commanders, also, if your unit is having a special event and would like for some of the International Officers to attend, please send an invitation. We can't be at everything, but we will try to have some representation..

Hope you are all able to attend the IALOH Convention in O'Fallon, IL. Commander Pulley has done an outstanding job this year and has represented us all very well.

Semper Fi,  
Eddie Daffern, PP  
3rd Lt Commander, IALOH

Please support the  
2016-2017 Yearbook  
by sponsoring a  
unit or personal ad.

*You can use the form on page 9.*

## From the Adjutant/Editor

Well, the 2016 Annual Convention is over and the business concluded. Some results from the Association business meeting: The proposed bylaws amendments reached a vote and were passed

Our new 8th Lieutenant Commander is Noble John Robert Smith of Yaarab Legion of Honor and, of course, our new Commander is Noble I.S. Gilbert Medina. One other position was filled and that was for the Finance Officer. Yes Pete, you have it three more years. He does a great job and we are looking forward him to fulfill this position again..

One poignant moment of the Convention was when CDR Pulley announced the Legion Noble of the Year award. This year it was presented to Noble Jim Lare of Ainad Legion of Honor. Also congratulations to Scimitar and Orak LOH for receiving their new charter.

Work has begun on putting the 2016/2017 yearbook together and once again we are asking all of our members, units, and associations to show their support by having an ad this year. The announced deadline is 15 May. Please keep the ads coming. I have finally made the move to Florida and my new address is 546 Biscayne Dr Indian Harbor Beach FL, 32937.

Thank you again for your continued faith.

Kindest Regards,  
Kevin



Kevin Fox

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

### Division Four

2016-January was a very busy month. It started at Abou Ben Adhem Shrine LOH Change of Command. We spent a couple of pleasant days beforehand at the home of my Chief of Staff, Bill Allen and his lovely Lady Barbara. It was truly memorable in the country with all the Christmas decorations still up it was like a winter wonderland. Abou Ben Adhem is the home of many active LOH members. We were joined by the IALOH Cdr. Jim Pulley and Lady Deb, PIC Butch Arnold and Lady Debbie, Bill Allen and Lady Barbara, Darold Farless Past TALOH & CSSA Cdr., and Shane Wolfe the outgoing Cdr. Congratulations to the new LOH Cdr. Ted Basford and the other Officers. We had a great time. Upon our return, we attended the Arab LOH dinner meeting and LOH Installation of Steve Suchsland. Many Arab Members along with Morris Sykes, IALOH 2nd Lt. Cdr. and I were present.

Off to Salina KS to Isis Shrine to attend Tim Fowler's Installation on the Divan as Chief Rabban and the next day, Tim was installed as LOH Cdr. Joining us was IALOH Cdr. Jim Pulley and Lady Deb, Steve Suchsland Arab LOH Cdr. and Larry Lehman, 1st Lt. Cdr. Arab Temple.



Al Gonzalez

We narrowly missed a gigantic snow storm, fully equipped with tornados and flooding all in the areas we usually travel in. We had to leave to get to Kingsport TN-Jericho Shrine for their LOH Change of Command. Nervously, we headed out one day early, drove 12 hrs. At 3:00 am we stopped to sleep and was back on the road by 7:00 am. We missed all the weather by leaving a day before. Bill & Shirley Glenn were forced off the highway due to it closing. Unfortunately, they never made it to Kingsport. As always Jericho had had a great reception and program to install Norm Scott as LOH

Cdr. Norm is one of my Assistant Chiefs of Staff. From TN we headed to Raleigh NC to attend the Amran LOH Change of Command where Jim Cone would be installed as Cdr. Congratulations to Jim and his Officers. Jim is one other of my Assistant Chiefs of Staff. While in Raleigh, we were able to stay with Jim & Carmen at their home in Durham.

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The trip from Jericho to Jim Cone's home was an easy 4 hours till the GPS took us down an unforgiving highway where the storm we missed caught up with us.

The Amran LOH installation was well attended. There were many old friends present; David Conley with Lady Karen, Butch & Barbara Fussell, and the new Potentate Harvey Ellis and Lady Sharrell, as well as several Divan members. Carmen & Jim were very gracious hosts and I thank them again for their hospitality.

In February, Helen GA was the next destination. SESA was held in an Alpine Village up in the mountains. Beautiful place as you can tell by all the Facebook posts. We had great German food at a couple of the local restaurants there and great food in their Hospitality room overseen by Jim Marshall of Yaarab in Atlanta GA. By the way, PIC Bill Glenn and Lady Shirley caught up with everyone in Helen.

7th Lt. Cdr. Tracy Coughlin donned his shimmering green cape and installed 13 new Turtles of which I and Lady Laurie were one. YBYSAIAM!

Oddly enough, we left the Alpine village of Helen GA and headed for the Bavarian town of Fredericksburg TX for TALOH. Bill Chicky, who is the new Housing Chairman for the IALOH Arlington Wreath Laying Ceremony, went out as Cdr. and Michael Dosier was installed as the new Cdr.

I met up with my Chief of Staff, Bill Allen and Darold Farless, past TALOH and CSSA Cdr. and made Darold my Chief Personal Aide. Darold's son Jim, who lives in San Antonio TX was able to join us for the rest of the meeting.

TALOH is always well attended and well done. Two PIC's were there, Bill Glenn and Butch Arnold. The International Officers present were myself, Eddie Daffern, Morris Sykes, and IALOH Cdr. Jim Pulley with their Ladies, and the Imperial Photographer Bill Dunham and Lady Ruthie. We were all glad to see you Ruthie.

My home Association CSSA, made their presence known in force. Back in Topeka, Arab Stated Meeting and LOH were attended.

I've attended a lot of Grand Lodge meetings between Topeka and Salina KS, and I've known many Grand Lodge Officers on line but I really enjoyed this one. It was the 160th Communication and a rededication of the Masonic laying of the cornerstone at the Kansas Capital Building. Many old friends like Tim Fowler, Jerry Rodman, not present due to health, Charles "Smokie" Siechrist with Lady Virginia, Joan Hale Lady of deceased LOH Cdr. Walter Hale along with many Coffey Co KS friends, and Masonic brothers that are not part of LOH were there.

After a stellar Easter dinner with local LOH friends we began packing for our trip to O'Fallon IL to attend the Annual IALOH Convention. April is stacked up to be as busy as January..but more about that later.

Be well...be safe

Hopefully, we will see you at Arlington.

4th Lt. Cdr.

Al

**Deadline for the  
July  
Newsletter  
Is  
25 June 2016**

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

Greetings from Evansville, Indiana and the home of the Hadi Legion of Honor:

Spring seems to be upon us, the April showers have started early and it's rather wet down here in southern Indiana.

This has been another great quarter for the International Association - Legions of Honor. A warm welcome is due to Mediah Shriners in Addison (Chicago), Illinois, as they join the International Association of Legions of Honor as a new unit. International Commander Jim Pulley and I went to Mediah Shriners and had a lovely evening with a distinguished group of gentlemen. We look forward to seeing Mediah at Legion of Honor events in the future.

Also a warm welcome to Al Koran Shriners in Cleveland, Ohio. After a lapsed period, they are back with us.

Special thanks to International Lt. Commander and PP Ray Combs for his assistance in the Cleveland area. We look forward to seeing Al Koran at both the International and Great Lakes conventions this year. We at Hadi Legion of Honor are working hard to firm up all the plans for the 2016 Great Lakes Shrine Association - Legions of Honor convention in August. The convention staff is working diligently to ensure you have a great time in Evansville. We are bringing some unique features to the convention, which include: a trip to the LST docked in Evansville, a night at the riverboat and a humorist Friday evening banquet planned to amuse your funny bone. Those of you who are also clowns might want to wear your costume Friday night or other appropriate wear.

Legion of Honor membership is increasing and more interest is being developed. Best wishes to all LOH units and clubs and don't hesitate to contact us if you need assistance.

## Division Five

We are in office to serve you.



**Mike Murray**

Army Strong

Mike "Doc" Murray  
5th Lt. Commander, IALOH



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

## Division Six

Well as I write this, my first year of terror has come to an end. I've enjoyed traveling throughout my assigned division, meeting everyone at association meetings, and trying out some great food at unit meetings. I want to thank everyone that have welcomed my lady and me into your world, and we will continue to expand our ring of friends at every opportunity going forward. That is, if I can get enough super-delegate votes to be elected again for another year of terror!

I also want to thank my unit, Bahia LOH, for their support and understanding this past year. And especially Karl "Short Round" Stimson, my Chief of Staff, as we traveled around town. Without the unit and Karl, my job would be much more difficult. Since my last article, I was given orders to travel to Egypt LOH for the installation of Noble Tom "Scooter" Bishop to yet another year as Commander. It says a lot about the character of nobles who accept the reigns of command time and time again.

It doesn't say much about their sanity, but it does say a lot about their character. Scooter has done some great things for Egypt LOH, and the Legion in general, to include organizing the colors presentation at the East-West Shrine game for the last few years. . Because of his dedication, I nominated him for the IALOH



**Tracy Coughlin**

He was unable to attend the Annual Convention to receive it in person, so a special trip is planned to present it. I think receiving it in front of his unit will mean a lot to Scooter and congratulate him when you see him.

My orders also included a trip to Helen, Georgia, for the Southeast Shrine Association mid-winter meeting. Commander Jim "Hill Billy" Pulley and Lt Commander Al "Great Gonzo" Gonzales also made the trip and a great time was had by all. If you've never been to Helen, you need to spend some time there. It's a quaint little town modeled in a Bavarian theme, with shops and restaurants that will keep you busy and they're easy to assault. The scenery was fantastic, and SESA Commander John Robert "Pudding" Smith even arranged to have it snow for me while I was there. Something we Florida folk don't get too often. And when you see Pudding, ask him about the "Adventures of Pudding and the little red weeny". The Helen event was so great that an Imperial Turtle appeared and conferred Turtle degree's on several in attendance. Are You A Turtle?

Finally, I established a bridgehead to Azan LOH in Melbourne, FL where I watched our own IALOH Adjutant Kevin "Paper Cut" Fox get indoctrinated as the units newest member. The boys at Azan welcomed us for a great evening of fellowship and as WWII General "Dugout Doug" MacArthur said, "I shall return". And here's a bit of trivia. Do you know how Azan got it's name? It's NASA backwards, which is fitting as the Kennedy Space Center is located within their oasis.

On a more serious note, in my travels I've noticed a decline in participation at association meetings. I know this is most likely tied to the declining membership at the unit level, but there are whole units dropping out of associations. I've heard from a couple nobles and units that one of the reasons is they're not having any fun. ARE YOU KIDDING ME?! How can Shriners not be having fun? Isn't it in our middle name, in our blood? Association officers, it's time to reflect on what you're doing to make sure the nobility enjoys coming to your events. This problem is even festering at the unit level. How many nobles belong to units that have a meeting where everyone shows up, maybe eat a meal, have a boring meeting, listen to the "OAFicers" pontificate, and then go home? Sometimes I think people are in a bigger hurry to leave than they are to get there. I know my lady and I love getting together with our LOH family and hate when the night is over. That should be the attitude of all the members!

In the military, there were many activities to boost the morale of the troops. And one of the biggest impacts on a unit is morale. Commanders and officers, what are you doing to keep things fun? How about a fun activity, like a Turtle or Chairborne degree. (If you don't know what a Chairborne degree is, ask me.) How about a unit meeting outside of the Temple? Maybe meet at a restaurant, bowling alley, or maybe a go-kart track? (Yeah, there it is, guys wearing funny looking hats and driving little cars.) And if word gets out that your LOH unit is having fun, recruitment will be so much easier.

Well my lady Janet "What the hell did he do now" and I are just about ready to drive to O'Fallon, IL for the annual convention and hope to see many of you there. Convention is always a great time, especially since we get to kick another commander off the line. If you get a chance to attend an annual convention, I encourage you to join us for a wonderful and fun time. It truly has become something we look forward to each year, along with the Arlington Pilgrimage.

Until next time, AIM HIGH and let the next year of terror begin!!

**To all Unit Heads and Officers receiving this newsletter –**

This quarterly International Association newsletter is a big part of the official correspondence between the International Association office and your Unit. The information presented should be passed to all of your members as soon as possible after receipt of the newsletter. There are a couple of reasons for this, 1) So your membership knows that there is an International Association and 2) So they are aware of any upcoming events that might be of interest to them.

Further, copies of the included forms should be made available to all of your members early enough that they can participate in any upcoming event in which they might be interested. It would also be a great help if you could include these forms in any communication with your members

We know that regular mail is becoming increasingly expensive and electronic communication is becoming the norm but many of our/your members have no desire to join the computer world and prefer to receive their information on paper. To that end, we must make every effort to ensure that these members “get the word” so they are aware of and included in your specific Unit and Association

“Remember, if you ever need a helping hand, you'll find one at the end of your arm... As you grow older you will discover that you have two hands. One for helping yourself, the other for helping others.”

*Audrey Hepburn*



## IMPERIAL SESSION IALOH MEETING

The IALOH meeting during the Imperial session will be held on Sunday, 3 July 2016 at 0900 hours.

IALOH will have a booth in the Market located at fraternal area #106. All Legion Nobles attending the Imperial Session are invited and encouraged to attend.



International Association Legions of Honor  
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2016-2017

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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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*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*



2nd Lt. Cdr I.S. Ray Combs at the commemoration of the 50th anniversary of the Vietnam war and pinning ceremony. It was conducted at the Dayton VA Center. His picture also made the local Dayton Daily Newspaper.