

# INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION LEGIONS OF HONOR



July 2023

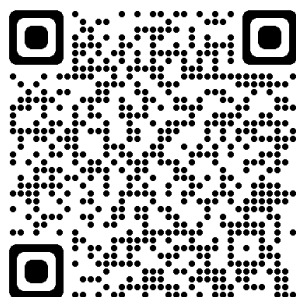
Volume 93, Issue 3

## Arlington 2023

Arlington wreath laying.  
The Crown Plaza  
Crystal River—Washington DC.  
1480 Crystal Dr, Arlington, VA 22202



For information on hotel reservations and registration go to the IALOH website by click the link or the bar code. [Arlington Wreath Laying \(ialoh.org\)](https://www.ialoh.org/ArlingtonWreathLaying)



The Crowne Plaza Crystal City-Washington D.C. is just one mile from Ronald Reagan Washington National Airport. Take advantage of our complimentary shuttle from the airport to the hotel and our location, which is just four miles from the National Mall.

The Crystal City Metro Station provides easy access to Washington D.C. Visit the Lincoln Memorial, the Thomas Jefferson Memorial, the Vietnam Veterans Memorial, the Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial, or one of the Smithsonian Institution Museums, including the National Museum of African American History and Culture.

All of our guest rooms have complimentary WiFi, flat screen TVs, satellite or cable channels, and ergonomic work desks. Take advantage of our well-equipped fitness center or dine in one of our two onsite restaurants. We look forward to welcoming you to the Crowne Plaza during your next stay!

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## Commander's Call

**GRAY AREAS:** Congratulations to Junior Past International Commander Dave Ginapp and his lovely Lady Jan for a successful year and a sensational convention. PIC Dave spent a great deal of time away from home connecting with the LOH nobility around the nation during his tenure. Behind the scenes, he conducted every meeting with the best interests of this organization in mind and the results were noticeable. It was obvious to anyone who attended the convention that Team Ginapp put in the time and effort in to ensure a great time would be had by all. From the bottom of my heart, thank you my friends for a great year and fantastic convention.

Next, I want to congratulate the 2023-2024 IALOH Line Officers and welcome three newcomers: 5<sup>th</sup> Lieutenant Commander Gerry Massey, El Zaribah Shrine, Phoenix, AZ, 6<sup>th</sup> Lieutenant Commander Dean Cook, Abou Ben Adhem Shrine, Springfield, MO and 7<sup>th</sup> Lieutenant Commander Derek McNulty, Remeses Shrine, Toronto, Ontario, Canada. A special thanks to Past International Commander, Illustrious Sir Eddie Daffern for stepping up to fill the 8<sup>th</sup> Lieutenant Commanders position. I wish you all the very best for the upcoming year.

My year got off to a quick start. Two weeks after I was installed as your Commander, the Gray family was off to Kutztown, PA for the annual MASA LOH meetings and Installation of Officers. Thanks to Commander Jim Cocuzza and his team for your warm hospitality and fellowship. Congratulations and best wishes to Commander Tom Kalinowski from Zem Zem Temple, and his line officers. Thanks to MASA President Tony Maxwell and his lady Nancy Hable for representing the Mid-Atlantic Shrine Association. Thanks to Ill Sir Duane Dellecker from Rajah Shrine, for hosting the events in their beautiful facility.

June 1<sup>st</sup> myself and my Chief of Staff Mike Kearns flew of Ottawa, Ontario, Canada for the annual Tunis Shriners Wreath Laying at the National War

Memorial. This was the first opportunity for International Officers to venture across the border since the onset of COVID. I was joined by 2<sup>nd</sup> Lt Commander Wayne Steele and his Lady Vicky and 7<sup>th</sup> Lt Commander Derek McNulty and his Lady Elena. It was an honor to be accompanied by Imperial Sir Kenny Kraven to lay the wreath at the front of the Memorial. I will hold that memory dear to me forever. Tunis LOH Commander Fred Haggart ensured we were kept busy. Following our late arrival Thursday night, Fred picked us up at 9AM on Friday morning and provided us a guided tour of the beautiful city of Ottawa, including a visit to the Canadian War Museum, and the Aviation and Space Museum where we were joined by Fred Haggart's Lady Phyllis.. This was followed by a Meet and Greet in the hospitality room then it was off to dinner with the Tunis LOH folks. Saturday morning Tunis Ceremonial Divan welcomed 15 new nobles after which there was a BBQ luncheon in the garden. We then went to the War Memorial. I should mention that the Royal Canadian Mounted Police Pipe Band (National Division) accompanied us at the memorial. That evening we had a wonderful dinner at the Warant Officers and Sergeants Mess. We meet so many quality folks at this event. Thank you so much to Commander Haggart, the Tunis LOH, Illustrious Sir Adam Thompson, the Divan, and the nobility of Tunis Shrine for rolling out the red carpet, it is sincerely appreciated.

Next up on the agenda are the Imperial Session in Charlotte NC, PNSA, Spokane, WA, GLSA, Springfield, IL, SESA, Pigeon Forge, TN, CSSA, Omaha, NE and SASA, Myrtle Beach, SC. All these Association Meetings are listed on the ialoh.org website. You should try to attend the Association meetings your Shrine is affiliated with when possible. Not only will you enjoy yourself, but it also gives you the opportunity to be a voice in your Association.

Yours in the Faith  
Russell Gray, PC  
IALOH Commander



Russell Gray, PC



"OKAY, SON, WHEN I YELL NOW,  
LIGHT THE FUSE AND WE'LL  
WATCH THIS BABY BLAST OFF!"



Quartermaster  
David Kirschman

David is our new Quartermaster. David's contact information is on page 15.



## 1st Lieutenant Commander



David Hobbs, PC



The new year is underway and it is shaping up to be an exciting one. What an exciting 92nd Annual IALOH Convention at Indian Rocks Beach, Florida. I want to wish outgoing Commander Dave Ginapp and Lady Jan our "Traveling Partners" the very best in the futures with calm winds at your back and smooth seas ahead on your next adventure whatever that brings you. I would like to thank the Brothers for their confidence in me by voting to promote me to 1st Lieutenant Commander for the IALOH. Lady Lisa and I look forward to a great 2023 and the chance to meet many more members of the Legion of Honor and their Ladies.



From April 7th through the 9th I had the honor of presenting colors at the Egypt Shrine Circus with the Egypt Shrine Legion of Honor. Fun and Frivolity was the tone of the week, especially in their hospitality tent.

Looking forward, I will be leaving my home from July 5th through August 19th, as I travel with the Mandarins Drum and Bugle Corps from Sacramento, California as part of their touring staff.

As soon as I get back from tour it will be time to pack for the trip to Myrtle Beach and the SASA Legion of Honor Convention. The rest of the year plans to be exciting for us with the Arlington Pilgrimage, the "Passing of the Gavel" in Buffalo, then off to Austin, TX for the Texas Association Legion of Honor Convention, and finally the IALOH Convention from April 24 - April 28, 2024 in Las Vegas.

All the registration information is for the Arlington Pilgrimage and the IALOH Convention are located on the IALOH website [www.iALOH.org](http://www.iALOH.org) under the events drop down menu. I hope that a lot of you are planning to attend both event.

I would remind everyone to put on their calendars our Annual Arlington Wreath Laying in Arlington.



## Division 4

The dates are November 01 through November 05. The Wreath Laying will be on Saturday, November 4th at 11:15am. It will be exciting with the events that are planned as well as moving to a NEW HOTEL, the Crowne Plaza in Crystal City.

If your unit has any event planned and would like to get the word out, drop a line to the International Adjutant and he will put it in the newsletters. Noble Dave is always looking for pictures from your event to put in the newsletter also.

YITF,

Dave & Lisa Hobbs



Left and Middle: David at the Egypt Shrine Circus and Top David and Lisa at the Annual Convention.

## 2nd Lieutenant Commander

I want to begin this article by congratulating Noble Russel Gray on his assumption of command of the International Association Legion of Honor at the Annual Convention for the year 2023-2024. Lady Vicki and I wish him and lady Virginia a great year and we look forward to working with them during the ensuing year. Next, I want to congratulate Past Commander David Ginapp for the exceptional year he had and the outstanding convention he and Lady Jan hosted in Indian Rock, Florida. Everyone I spoke to indicated they had a great time and were impressed with the event.

During this year's annual convention, the Distinguished Service Award was awarded to Noble Steve Singleton of Al Menah Shrine in Nashville, Tennessee. Congratulations to him for earning this prestigious award. His many years of service to the Legion of honor and his dedicated work for Veterans, both with VA Hospitals and the Tennessee State Legislature on Veteran Affairs has been impressive. Lady Vicki and I traveled to Ottawa, Canada the first of June to participate in the Canadian Wreath Laying at their tomb of the Unknown Soldier. We had a great time interacting with our Canadian brethren.

We are looking forward to next year's IALOH Convention in North Las Vegas. If you haven't started making plans to attend that event I encour-

age you to do so. Information can be found on the IALOH web page.

We will be missing the Imperial Session this year because my son is getting married on the 4<sup>th</sup> of July, but we will be attending the SESA Convention in Pigeon Forge during August where I will turn over my command to Jami Munoz. In addition, I will be attending the SASA in Myrtle Beach in September.

Many of the points of contact for unit within Division Six have changed over the past couple of months. Please send me an update of your leadership and dates of events you have scheduled. Lady Vicki and I would love to attend as many events as possible. My email address is [wayne.r.steele.usmc@gmail.com](mailto:wayne.r.steele.usmc@gmail.com).

Fraternally,  
Wayne Steele



Learn what is happening in the VA by going to the VA News website. specific veteran. Click on the link or scan the QR code or information.

[VA News and Information](#)



## Division 6



Wayne Steele, PC



**Patriotism Chairman**  
**Mike Kearns**

Legionaries if your Unit performs Patriotic act(s) such as carrying the flags in a parade, posting the colors for events please let me know. I report these activities at the convention and it is a great way to get your Unit recognized. My contact information is on page 15 of this news letter.

## Arlington Tomb Shirt



If you are interested in ordering an Arlington Tomb shirt you can order the button down or polo; men's and ladies. The order form is on-line. Just follow these steps: Go to the **IALOH website** [www.ialoh.org](http://www.ialoh.org). **Select the "Event" menu tab then select "Arlington Wreath Laying Ceremony" then select "Order Your Tomb Shirt"**.

**If you have any questions please contact:**

**Charles McIntosh**, 2310 Skipcha Dr.

Harker Heights, TX 76548

HP: 254-245-8930, CP: 254-368-1542, Email: [charlesmci@hotmail.com](mailto:charlesmci@hotmail.com)



Charles McIntosh, PC





## 3rd Lieutenant Commander

Greetings. I would like to start by congratulating Commander Russell Gray on being elected and installed as our International Commander for the coming year! I know that he and Lady Virginia are going to do a great job. Thank you for electing me and allowing me to advance in the IALOH line. Welcome to new Lt. Commanders Gerry Massey, Dean Cook and Derek McNulty.

I would like to thank Cmdr. Ginapp and Lady Jan for their extraordinary service and for completing a fine year and topping it off with a great convention and Installation.

The 92<sup>nd</sup> IALOH Convention held on April 26-29 in Indian Rocks Beach, FL was one of the best we have ever had. The Welcome Party with the fun theme "Under the Sea" was a good time. There were more Hawaiian shirts than I have seen in one room in a long time and also some fun surprises including a visit by King Neptune....

On Saturday night Nobles and guests enjoyed a lavish banquet with some great food and inspiring speakers. Anyone could tell that Cmdr Ginapp's attention to detail was meticulous in all matters. Thank you, Cmdr Ginapp and Lady Jan.

On March 12, the Kena LOH and I, attended the Ladies of the Oriental Shrine (LOS), Al Manarah Ct. No. 50 Installation of Officers in Alexandria, VA. Many Grand Officers, Potentates, Past Potentates Nobles and Ladies came out to see Lady Theresa sworn in as the High Priestess of this well-known Court in Alexandria,

Virginia. I am confident that the special relationship that exists between the Shriners and the LOSNA is alive and well. We wish Lady Theresa and all of her officers the best of luck in the coming year.

On April 1, we attended the Kena Potentate's "Fools Ball." Our Potentate, who is also an LOH member, rose out of the Clown Unit! A masquerade ball is a great way to have fun and spice up your Shrine schedule. I enjoyed my role as the Mad Hatter who escorted the Queen of Hearts (Lady Theresa). I'm lucky I kept my head, during this event.

We had a great time at the annual Mid-Atlantic Shrine Association (MASA) LOH Spring Meeting held May 12-13 at the beautiful Rajah Temple in Reading, PA. A packed room was on hand to Install the new Officers in the Rajah Ballroom. Noble Fred Roland of Nur Temple received the Distinguished Service Award for 20 years of service. We wish Cmdr Tom Kalinowski and Lady Jane of Zem Zem a great year. They are currently planning next year's MASA LOH in Erie, PA.

On May 31st, I was invited to participate in the Warrenton Memorial Day Parade. It is a very nice little town in northern Virginia, with that special small-town charm. It's my adopted home-town and I have owned a home there for 20 years. On the horizon....

I am looking forward to the annual South-East Shrine Association (SESA)-LOH Convention to be held on August 10-13, in Pigeon Forge, TN. If you have never been to

## Division 7



**Geoffrey Lyster, PP, PC, PMC** 

SESA, and/or Pigeon Forge, you should check it out.

We are anxiously looking forward to the MASA Fall Meeting. To be held September 8-9 in Virginia Beach.

We are looking forward to the Kena Oktoberfest, sponsored by the Legion of Honor to be held September 16th.

We just sent our registration in for the South Atlantic Shrine Association (SASA) Fall Meeting to be held on September 22-23 in beautiful Myrtle Beach, SC.

It has been a busy spring for the LOH units and we are looking forward to a great summer. We'll see you soon at a Shrine Center near you!

YITF Geoffrey D. Lyster, PC, PP, PMASAC



**Fred Roland accepts DSA at MASA LOH; May 13 Reading, PA**



**Kena Fools Ball on Apr 1; Manassas, VA**



**Kena LOH at Al Manarah Install; Mar 12 in Alexandria, VA**

## 4th Lieutenant Commander

## Division 2

### Temples With Units

Abdallah	Overland Park, KS
Al Azhar	Calgary, Canada
Al Bedoo	Billings, MT
Al Kaly	Pueblo, CO
Algeria	Helena, MT
Arab	Topeka, KS
Bagdad	Butte, MT
El Jebel	Denver, CO
El Riad	Sioux Falls, SD
India	Oklahoma City, OK
Isis	Salina, KS
Korein	Rawlins, WY
Midian	Wichita, KS
Sesostris	Roca, NE
Tangier	Omaha, NE
Wa Wa	Regina, Canada

### Temples Without LOH Units

Al Shamal	Edmonton, Canada
El Zagal	Fargo, ND
Kalif	Sheridan, WY
Kem	Grand Forks, ND
Khartum	Winnipeg, Canada
Mirza	Pittsburg, KS
Naja	Deadwood, SD
Tehama	Hastings, NE
Yelduz	Aberdeen, SD

I have been appointed the Lt. Commander representative for Division 2. If I can be of any assistance please let me know. My contact information is on page 15.

YITF  
Doug Tayrien, 4th Lt. Commander



Doug Tayrien, PC



## 5th Lieutenant Commander

## Division 5

First, I would like to thank the Nobles in attendance at the IALOH Annual Session who elected me to serve as the 5th LT.CMDR. It is such an honor to represent this amazing organization. I have been assigned to Division 5 and plan on being as actively involved as possible. We currently only have 5 Shrines without a LOH representation in Division 5. I am hoping to rectify this and bring these Shrines into the fold. If you are a Commander or an Adjutant you will most likely be hearing from me soon (if you haven't already). Please do not hesitate to reach out to me if I can be of any assistance

to you or your unit. I will also ask that you add me to your newsletter distribution list. The rest of my contact info is on the Roster, but my email is gbmasey25@yahoo.com.

My Lady Connie and I look forward to meeting and working with each of you and your ladies. We will be at Imperial Sessions in Charlotte and Arlington. If you see us, be sure to say hi and introduce yourself.

Yours in the Faith,  
Gerry Massey, PP/PC  
5th Lt.CMDR  
El Zaribah Shriners



Gerry Massey, PP, PC



Imperial Session  
July 2 - 6, 2023  
Charlotte  
North Carolina

International Association Legions of Honor  
Annual Meeting  
Monday July 3 - 10:00 am  
Meeting Location Sharon Room  
Convention Center



## 6th Lieutenant Commander

### Temples With LOH Units

Aleppo Wilmington, MA Cairo Rutland, VT Damascus Webster, NY Ismailia Buffalo, NY Kora Lewiston, ME Melha Springfield, MA Philae Halifax, Canada Pyramid Milford, CT Rhode Island Cranston, RI Sphinx Newington, CT, Ziyara Utica, NY

### Temples Without LOH Units

Anah Bangor, ME Bektash Concord, NH Cyprus Albany, NY Kalurah Endicott, NY Karnak Dollard des Ormeaux, Canada Kismet New Hyde Park, NY Luxor Saint John, Canada Mazol Saint John's, Canada Mecca New York, NY Media Watertown, NY Mount Sinai Montpelier, VT Oriental Troy, NY Tigris Syracuse, NY

Nobles I have been elected as your 6th Lt. Commander and will be representing Division 8. My Chief of Staff is Derreck Sander, we are both from Abou Ben Adhem Temple in Springfield, MO. I look forward to working with all the Units in Division 8 and if we can be of any assistance, please let me know. My contact information is below. I want to congratulate Rus-

sell Gray for being elected as our new International Commander and all the elected officers.

### 6th Lt Commander Dean Cook 2023 Travel Schedule:

Jul 03 - 06: Imperial Session/IALOH Business Meeting Charlotte, NC Aug 02 - 06 Great Lakes Shrine Association Springfield, IL Aug 30 - Sept 2 Central States Shrine Association Omaha, NE Jul 22 Scottish Rite 100 year Celebration/Parade (ABA LOH Leading Parade) Joplin, MO Sept 14 - 16 IALOH Commanders Meeting Las Vegas, NV Oct 09 - 15 Shriners Golf Tournament Las Vegas, NV Oct 21 Abou Ben Adhem Temple 100 year Celebration/Parade (ABA LOH Leading Parade) Springfield, MO Nov 01 - 05 Arlington Pilgrimage Arlington, VA Feb 29 - Mar 03 2024 Texas Association Legions of Honor Austin, TX TBD March 2024 CSSA Mid-Winter April 23 - 28 2024 IALOH Convention Las Vegas, NV

If I have missed your meeting in my schedule, please contact me at 417-664-9350

Until next time!  
Dean Cook, PC



Dean Cook, PC



## 7th Lieutenant Commander

### Unites With Temples

Ainad	East Saint Louis, IL
Ansar	Springfield, IL
Elf Khurafah	Saginaw, MI
Hadi	Evansville, IN
Kaaba	Davenport, IA
Medinah	Chicago, IL
Mizpah	Fort Wayne, IN
Mocha	London, Canada
Mohammed	Bartonville, IL
Moila	Saint Joseph, MO
Moolah	Saint Louis, MO
Moslem	Southfield, MI
Murat	Indianapolis, IN
Orak	Michigan City, IN
Rameses	Toronto, Canada
Saladin	Grand Rapids, MI
Tripoli	Milwaukee, WI
Tunis	Ottawa, Canada
Za-Ga-Zig	Altoona, IA
Zuhrah	Minneapolis, M

### Temples Without LOH Units

Aad	Duluth, MN
Abu Bekr	Sioux City, IA
Ahmed	Marquette, MI
Ararat	Kansas City, MO
Beja	Green Bay, WI
El Kahir	Cedar Rapids, IA
Kaaba	Davenport, IA
Osman	Saint Paul, MN
Tebala	Rockford, IL
Zor	Madison, WI
Zorah	Terra Haute, IN

I have been appointed the Lt. Commander representative for Division 3. If I can be of any assistance please let me know. My contact information is on page 15.

YITF  
Derek McNulty 7th Lt. Commander

## Division 3



Derek McNulty, Cmdr.



## 8th Lieutenant Commander

Greetings from Texas....

Hello Legion Nobles,

Thanks to Past Commander David Ginapp, his Lady Jan and his entire staff for a great Convention in Indian Rocks Beach, FL. this past April. What a great time!

First, I would like to congratulate Noble Russell Gray on being elected as our new Commander and his Lady Virginia for keeping him on the straight and narrow. I know they will do a great job for all of us this year. I also want to congratulate Nobles David Hobbs, 1stLtCmdr; Wayne Steele, 2ndLtCmdr; Geoffrey Lyster, PP, 3rdLtCmdr; and Doug Tayrien, 4<sup>th</sup> LtCmdr for all moving up one position. We also had some great new additions to the line including Gerry Massy, PP, 5<sup>th</sup>LtCmdr; Dean Cook, 6<sup>th</sup>LtCmdr; and Derek McNulty, 7thLtCmdr. As many of you know, LtCmdr Charles McIntosh felt like he needed to step down from the line due to his health. We all know and love Charles, and I know I speak for the majority when I say we wish him the very best and hope his health improves. He has been a great, active member of IALOH long before he was elected to the line. This brings us to the 8thLtCmdr, which is now me, by appointment, from Commander

Gray. Many of you know Eugene Peters, who was the 8thLtCmdr last year, decided to also step down. Gene is a great guy and we wish him the very best in his future plans.

Since I am now the appointed 8<sup>th</sup>LtCmdr, FOR ONE YEAR, I have been given Division 1. This Division includes Texas, Oklahoma, New Mexico, Arkansas, Louisiana and Mexico. I just attended the Texas Shrine Association Convention in Fort Worth, TX where we had two Legion of Honor Units competing, Ben Hur and Arabia. Hella was also in the parade, but didn't compete this year but will next year. Ben Hur took 1<sup>st</sup> place in Color Guard Competition and In-Line Inspection and Arabia took 2<sup>nd</sup> place in In-Line Inspection. Both Hella and Arabia are growing and next year may very well be a different result. Temples in Division 1 with a Legion of Honor Unit are: Acacia, Akdar, Al Amin, Anezeh, Arabia, Barak, Ben Hur, Hella, India, Kareem, Khiva, Maskat, Moslah and Sahara. If any of these unit Commanders would like me to attend any of their events, all you have to do is to ask. Temples without LOH Units are Abou Saad, Ballut Abyad, Bedouin, El Karubah, El Maida, El Mina, Habibi, Jerusalem, Scimitar, Sharon and Suez. We would like to get these Nobles on board and I will be contacting them, but if you happen to

## Division 1



Eddie Daffern, PP, PIC



know anyone in these units, I could use your help.

Our next stop this summer will be the Central States Shrine Association Meeting in Omaha, NE from August 31<sup>st</sup> thru September 2<sup>nd</sup>. We hope to see everyone from CSSA at that meeting!

Semper Fi,  
Eddie Daffern, PP, PIC, 8<sup>th</sup>LtCmdr  
(Appointed)

## ASSOCIATION MEETINGS

**CSSA**  
August 31, 2023  
Regency Marriott  
10220 Regency Cir  
Omaha, NE 68114

**WSA**  
February 29th - March 3rd, 2024  
Hotel the Orleans  
Meeting Place  
Masonic Memorial Temple

**PNSA**  
Summer Meeting  
July 26 - 30, 2023  
Spokane, WA  
Hotel Information  
will be posted at a later date.

**SASA Fall Meeting**  
September 22, 2023  
Landmark Resort  
1501 S Ocean Blvd.  
Myrtle Beach, SC 29577

**For more information about  
the meetings scan the QR  
Code or click on the link.**

<http://www.ialoh.org/associations.html>



**SESA Summer Conference**  
August 10th - August 13th, 2023  
Music Road Resort Inn  
303 Henderson Chapel Road  
Pigeon Forge, TN



## From the International Adjutant/Editor

Hi Everyone,

The annual convention in April was fantastic. Commander David and Jan put on a great convention. I want to congratulate Commander Russell Gray and Lady Ginny and the new elected officers Lt. Commanders Gerry Massey and Lady Connie, Dean Cook and Lady Susanne and Derek McNulty and Lady Elina.

I am working on the yearbook for 2023-2024 and hope to have it to the printers around the first of July. If by August you have not received a yearbook and think you should have received one please let me know.

The Arlington Wreath Laying is fast approaching. 2nd Lt. Cmdr. David Hobbs arranged for a tomb guard guest speaker to tell us about their experience as a tomb guard. Their speech was very informative. We have a new hotel this year and the all the information in on the website.

Hope to see you their.

If I can be of any assistance to your Unit please let me know. Also, please keep me informed of any changes to your Unit's contact information. This is very important so I can keep you informed of any IALOH information.

If your Unit or Association would like to include any information in the newsletter, yearbook or on the on the website please let me know. My contact information is on page 15. Please submit information in a word or PDF document.

That is all for now. Until next time, aim high.

YITF,  
David Smith, PC



David Smith, PC



October 2023 newsletter

September 15, 2023

## Ottawa Wreath Laying Ceremony

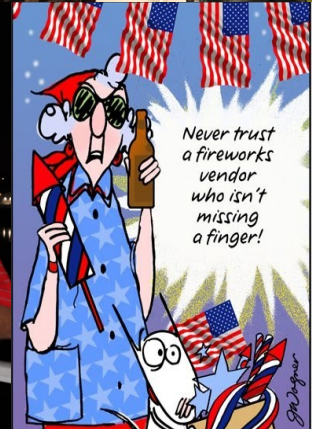
Tunis Shriners LOH held their 2023 Wreath Laying Ceremony at the National War Memorial Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. We were honoured to have Imperial Potentate Kenneth G. Craven and IALOH International Commander Russ Gray lay the wreath on behalf of those present. The organizing committee has heard from many people that this was the best Ottawa Wreath Laying Ceremony. We look forward to seeing you on the weekend of May 31 and June 1, 2024.



Top Left (L-R): Tunis LOH Cmdr. Fred Haggart, Tunis Pote, III Sir Adam Thompson, Imp. Sir Kenny Kraven, IALOH Cmdr. Russ Gray, Mocha Pote III Sir Jim Thomsen, IALOH 2<sup>nd</sup> LT Cmdr. Wayne Steele.  
Bottom Left (L-R): Tunis LOH Cmdr. Fred Haggart, Tunis Pote, III Sir Adam Thompson, Imp. Sir Kenny Kraven, IALOH Cmdr. Russ Gray



# Annual Convention





# Annual Convention





# Annual Convention





# Annual Convention





# Happy Fourth of July

Since it is the Fourth of July Independence Day I thought the explanation of the words to the Pledge of Allegiance would be appropriate. This was first presented by Red Skelton on the Red Skelton Show on January 14, 1969.

I remember this one teacher. To me, he was the greatest teacher, a real sage of my time. He had such wisdom. We were all reciting the Pledge of Allegiance, and he walked over. Mr. Lasswell was his name. He said: "I've been listening to you boys and girls recite the Pledge of Allegiance all semester and it seems as though it is becoming monotonous to you. If I may, may I recite it and try to explain to you the meaning of each word:

**I** - Me, and individual, a committee of one.

**Pledge** - dedicate all of my worldly goods to give without self-pity.

**Allegiance** - my love and my devotion.

**To the Flag** - our standard, Old Glory, a symbol of freedom. Wherever she waves, there is respect because your loyalty has given her a dignity that shouts freedom is everybody's job.

**Of the United** - that means that we have all come together.

**States** - individual communities that have united into 48 great states, 48 individual communities with pride and dignity and purpose, all divided with imaginary boundaries, yet united of a common purpose, and that's love for country.

**Of America And to the Republic** - a state in which sovereign power is invested in representatives chosen by the people to the leaders, not from the leaders to the people.

**For which it stands. One Nation** - meaning, so blessed by God.

**Indivisible** - incapable of being divided.

**With liberty** - which is freedom and the right power to live one's own life with threats of fear or some sort of retaliation.

**And justice** - the principle or quality of dealing fairly with others.

**For all** - which means it's as much your country as it is mine.

Since I was a small boy, two states have been added to our country and two words have been added to the Pledge of Allegiance - "under God". Wouldn't be a pity if someone said, "That's a prayer" and that would be eliminated from schools, too?

## The Current Pledge of Allegiance

"I pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America; and to the Republic for which it stands, one Nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all."

## The Shrine Pledge of Allegiance

"I pledge allegiance to my flag, and to the country for which it stands; one nation under God; indivisible; with liberty and justice for all."

Please be safe this fourth of July. Enjoy the back yard cook outs, baseball, swimming, fireworks and boating. Please remember the ones that gave us or freedom.





**Commander**

Russell A. Gray, PC, PCCSSA  
10447 Mount Mitchell Court  
Las Vegas, NV 89149  
HP: 702-483-5121  
CP: 303-901-7044  
E-Mail: a320fti@msn.com

**1st Intl. Lt. Commander**

David A. Hobbs, PC  
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Plant City, FL 33563  
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by giving their lives for their Country  
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