

Hot Sands



50 years of service to the mentally challenged
Home of the Supreme Director for Region X - SD Gerald Forster

Our website: www.algarva168.org

Our email: algarva168@execulink.com

Volume 51 No. 5

April 2018

Grand Commander Speaks:

The cool weather seems to drag on, but rest assured the warm weather will come!

At our last meeting, we donated money to 'Summer Employment Transitions', 'London Downs Syndrome', and 'Alhambra House' in Forest. The meeting was held one week early, so as not to interfere with Holy Thursday. I was fortunate to have the opportunity to have my feet washed as part of the Holy Thursday Mass, and found it to be a moving experience.

The Hay Ride, organized by Jack VanHaastert, was a great success. Many clients were able to come out for the tractor and horse drawn wagon rides. It was sunny, a bit chilly, but still a good time. Thanks Jack.



Ken Mommersteeg and Pete DeVet bartended for Simon VanRiel's 60th Birthday Party. Again thanks for a great job. Coming up this Friday, will be our card social, April 6th, 7pm, at the Alhambra Hall.

The Cash Draw Dance will be held in Thedford this year, on Nov. 16th.

Our Golf Tournament will be held July 14th at Sand Hills. Frank DeVet will have tickets at our next meeting.

Bernice Cadman's name was drawn for the 'Good of the Order', last meeting, but unfortunately she was not in attendance to claim the \$51.50, and so, 'the pot thickens'!

We will be selling daffodils at Grand Bend LCBO on Friday, April 13th. Still looking for one more volunteer for the 2 - 4 shift. Give me a call if you are available.

Our Founder's Day Mass, is still scheduled for Sunday April 22nd, 11:00am Mass in Grand Bend. Please contact me if you plan on attending, so we can have #'s.

Our next meeting will be held on April 26th at 8pm.

In closing, I would appreciate some extra prayers for a good friend of mine, who found out, a week ago, that he has cancer. It could be a long road ahead for him, and his family.

Thanks all, and Happy Easter!

Grand Commander Doug Willsie



NEXT MEETING: APRIL 26TH AT 8:00PM

Calendar of Events:

- April:
April 6 Card Social, Alhambra Hall
Register – 6:30pm
Start 7:00pm
- April 22 Founder's Day Mass
Grand Bend – Lunch to follow
11:00am
- April 26 Regular Meeting, Alcazar
8:00pm
- May:
May 31 Regular Meeting, Alcazar
8:00pm
- June:
June 28 Regular Meeting, Alcazar
8:00pm
- July:
July 14 Alhambra Golf Tournament
July 26 Regular Meeting, Alcazar
8:00pm

The Hay Ride was a big success, thanks to our members and volunteers who came out to help. A great time was had by all. Special thanks to Jack and Jose VanHaastert for organizing this event.



From the Chaplaincy:



Easter brings new life, but only after death comes new life of resurrection. Jesus lives in love, and on Good Friday He also died in love for love. For us to share in the love of the resurrected Christ, we are invited to follow his example. This consists of more than just knowing or even worshipping, but actually having a relationship or friendship through prayer with Jesus the risen Christ. Then we too may experience that heavenly love first hand, here on Earth, which prepares us to die in love as Jesus did.

May you and your family have a Blessed Easter that strengthens your Love of Christ.

Brother in Christ,
John Lammers,
Deacon

For the Good of the Order:
Bernice Cadman's name was drawn but since I was not in attendance, I did not win the \$45 prize. You could be the next luck winner but you must be at the meeting to collect. GOOD LUCK!

Card social - Friday, April 6. Tell your friends and family. Let's make this one a big success. Further emails about this event will be sent out at a later date.



Order of the Alhambra has a Facebook page.
Visit us at
[@alhambragrandbend](https://www.facebook.com/alhambragrandbend)

NEXT MEETING: APRIL 26TH AT 8:00PM

APRIL 2018-NEWSLETTER
FROM: DENISE BLAKELY, denise@orderofalhambra.org
MEMBERSHIP

I was listening to a radio show that was talking about kids playing tag. Remember when we were younger and we would try to run from the person chasing us; all along trying so hard not to be "It". "It" made me think about life. So many times I catch myself still running, not wanting to be "It". However, God put us on earth to be tagged. He wants us to be "It". People of this world are trying to change what God's word is saying. However God wants us to go out and tag others to share **HIS** word and not the world's interpretation. As members searching for new members, we can share the true gospel. Alhambra is unique in that way. As a Catholic organization when we find new members we are not just inviting them into the Order to serve God's special people, we are also sharing the gospel with our works and with words when needed. I challenge each of us to keep running and tagging new members and guide them to become the next participant of, "Tag, You're it".

APPLICATIONS

I am receiving applications that are not 100% completed. These applications will be returned back to the sender. This includes membership, transfer, reinstatement, scholarships, new membership grant, matching grant and any other applications that are sent in.

SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

A big "THANK YOU" to our Scholarship Committee, they reviewed the applications and awarded 11 scholarships. The Supreme Directors received the checks and will present them to the recipients. Congratulations to everyone!

GENERAL RAFFLE AND ANOTHER WAY FOR CARAVANS TO EARN MONEY

Two packs of ten tickets have been mailed to each member. We are asking to sell these tickets to relatives, friends, and neighbors. The cost of the tickets has remained at \$5. The draw date will be May 22nd 2018 at our corporate office. To be in the draw, ticket stubs must be received by Denise no later than May 15th.

A 5% commission will be paid to the Caravan of the selling member and the top 3 sellers will receive an award. So sell, sell, and sell. You get a chance to win money/prizes and help your caravan get 5% back of what you sell. That is \$5 back for every \$100 you sell. The money can add up, so have every member in your caravan participate! It is a win, win!

AL SUNNA-RULES POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

This year, we have the Al Sunna and Rules combined together as one book. Each GC should have received 2 of these books, one for the GC and the other for the Scribe of Exchequer.

SOCIAL MEDIA

Social Media is up and running. The Order needs its Sir Nobles, Lady Nobles, Sultanas, family members and friends to "Like us" on Face Book and share our message on Twitter. Visit our Facebook page: <http://bit.ly/orderofalhambra> and follow us on Twitter @Orderofalhambra. The more people, who are aware of our charitable work, will improve our position in recruiting new members. Please, all suggestions are welcome to help us in ascending the Order of Alhambra up the social media ladder.

CONVENTION 2019

It may seem early to think about next year's vacation, but I want to allow time for each member to consider having a family vacation in Baltimore, MD next July. The Convention will be July 28th, 29th and 30th. The hotel, (Doubletree by Hilton in Linthicum, MD), is located on the outskirts of Baltimore. This is a convention which will welcome your entire family so you can make a vacation and visit the many attractions in close proximity. **In Washington, DC you can visit the John Paul 11 Cultural Center in Washington that the Order helped to build and is; recognized at the center,** Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception which is the largest Roman Catholic Church in North America. You can visit our national monuments and government buildings and many other tourist attractions in our Nation's Capital. In Baltimore you can visit the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary which is the first cathedral built in America. You also have the Baltimore Inner Harbor, and the National Aquarium, Oriole Park at Camden Yards. Also, the Maryland State Capital located in historic Annapolis is only 15 minutes away. There are also golf courses located within 15 minutes of the hotel. As you can see, this convention has much to offer. There are many educational things to see and do and let's not forget about the swimming in the hotel pool. Consider vacationing here and the hotel will allow you the same great price discount of \$99 per night, 2 days before and 2 days after the convention. Did I mention the hotel offers free parking and shuttle service to and from the airport that is located 5 minutes away?

MEMBERSHIP SUCCESS BEGINS WITH THE NEXT NEW MEMBER

NEXT MEETING: APRIL 26TH AT 8:00PM

Membership dues:

Only 16 members have outstanding membership fees. Please get your memberships in. If you don't regularly attend a meeting they can be mailed to:

Order of the Alhambra
c/o 8778 Townsend Line
Arkona, ON
N0M 1B0

Cash Draw Dance will be held at the Legacy Centre in Thedford, November 16.



The Last Word

By Bernice Cadman

As I am sitting at my computer, finally, on Easter Saturday, I feel like I am at a loss for words, when I started thinking about how small our world is.

On Friday morning I was walking with some dear friends when Annie, who just recently returned from vacation in the sunny south, says to me, "I saw pictures of your daughter's wedding." It's amazing to think she travelled about 24 hours away and met my daughters mother-in-law, that lives in Mount Brydges, who was also vacationing.

My daughter Kelsey, who is schooling in New Zealand for 1 year, was walking down the street when a "stranger" came up to her and asked her if she knew Traves Atchison. Traves is my nephew that we lost suddenly in August. The person that stopped her is also in New Zealand and one year ago these two girls lived about 15 km from each other and did not know each other but had Traves as their connection.

It amazes me to think that we meet people we are somehow connected to in many places that we go. So yes, it is a small world and this makes me think when we are to love our neighbours it is not just the people in our community, but also the people around the world. We are all connected.

Bernice Cadman,
Master of Communications



Daffodil Pins

We are looking for 2 volunteers to sell pins for The Canadian Cancer Society.

Date: April 13th

Location: LCBO

Time: 10-4 – 2hr time slot.

There are still 2 volunteers needed.

Contact Doug Willsie

at dougwillsie@hotmail.com



Canadian
Cancer
Society

"Start by doing what is necessary, then what is possible, and suddenly you are doing the impossible."

St. Francis of Assisi

NEXT MEETING: APRIL 26TH AT 8:00PM

NEXT MEETING: APRIL 26TH AT 8:00PM