

Villages Shrine Club Newsletter

November and December 2016

The newsletter will continue to focus primarily on what is upcoming, if anything, and include a calendar of events for the period covered, although it will contain important information and highlights of what has been going on.

Lastly, this, and all future newsletters, will be sent electronically to all our members to save our very limited dollars and apply them to the most important funding we do – The Shriners Hospital for Children in Tampa. Our Secretary, Noble Jim Chaffin, indicates that we have only about 10 of our 125 plus members who do not have an e-mail address. All others do. If you are reading this and know of one of the few nobles who do not have e-mail access, share and remind them of our meetings and events. Remember our web page, www.thevillagesshrineclub.org and to check frequently for updates and important information than can be, and is, published faster than we could ever possibly mail information to you in years past. Also, check the Villages Daily Sun Rec News, published each Thursday (the Thursday before our scheduled meeting, a reminder of the meeting, time, place and what is scheduled will be in that rec news), for a reminder on what will be taking place at the monthly meeting at the Orchid Room, Hibiscus Rec Center, especially the Social Hour menus, plans, changes, guest speaker, or entertainment. Also, remember that the Rec News may have to edit our articles to meet space requirements, so always check the web page for the latest information on what is happening.

As is the usual custom, and for the benefit of all as well as those who may have just relocated to The Villages and recently affiliated with the Club, the following is a brief biography of the President, First Vice President and Second Vice President:

President Noble Bob Collins:

What an honor you have bestowed on our officers by allowing us to serve the Villages Shrine Club this year. We have a strong leadership team and I know with your support we're going to have a great year.

One of our Past Presidents suggested the officers provide a biography in addition to comments, to be published in the newsletter, as some of you don't know who we are. So – here goes –

I am a native Floridian, having been born in Jacksonville and raised in the panhandle. I served 31 years in the United States Air Force before returning home. My Lady, Donna and I have a daughter who lives in Northern Virginia and a son who lives in Fruitland Park. They have blessed us with seven wonderful grandchildren.

I became a Mason in 1974, and a Scottish Rite Mason and Shrine Mason in 1976, all in Honolulu. I've had the distinct pleasure of serving as the Master of Bethlehem Lodge No. 56 in Belen, New Mexico, and as District Deputy Grand Master of the 5th Masonic District in New Mexico. I served six years as the Director of Development for the Orient of New Mexico and was coroneted a 33rd Degree Mason. I am a life member of the National Sojourners and the Heroes of '76. Lastly, I served in several capacities in Ballut Abyad Shrine Center Albuquerque, including Long Range Planning Committee, Chaplain, Lieutenant in the Patrol, and two years as Wagon Master of the Nomads.

I know I speak for all our officers and members of the Board of Directors when I say we know we can only lead you where you are willing to go. So please, let us know your concerns and share your ideas. Together, we can build on previous successes by growing our membership, increasing our funding to the hospital in Tampa, supporting Bahia and enjoying each other's company.

First Vice President Noble Bill Tanner:

Nobles and Ladies – I am looking forward to the upcoming year, especially the Veterans Remembrance Day Party at the American Legion. Bob Collins and his Lady Donna set the bar high by hosting last year's part at the American Legion. Remember, this annual party is the only time we raise money to support The Villages Shrine Club, so it needs to be a success and, more importantly, honor our brothers and sisters who have served our great nation.

Bill and Lady Jackie are from Bloomington, Ill. We moved to the Village of Duval in 2012. I retired from the Illinois State University. My Masonic career, includes being Past Master of Bloomington Lodge #43 and Wade Barney Lodge #512, membership in the Valley of Bloomington, Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite, where I received, among other awards, the Meritorious Service Award of the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction (Red Hat), affiliated with the Valley of Ocala, Orient of Florida, Southern Masonic Jurisdiction, where I work with the stage committee and prepare sound systems for meetings and reunions, Bahia Shrine in Orlando, Tyler of The Villages Lodge #394. In addition to Masonic membership, I am working with the Rotary of the Villages Noon Club.

"I like long walks and holding hands at midnight – lol"

Second Vice President Noble Bill Boulden:

This is just a short story of my life. I was born in Southeastern Pennsylvania the first of June 1950. We lived in Pennel, which was in Bucks County, Pa. I can remember my Dad having a small boat that the family would trailer to the Delaware River. What fun we had. When I was nine, we moved to Churchville, Bucks County, Pa. My fond memories here were Little League Baseball and going fishing at a huge lake with my Grandfather at my side. I graduated in 1968 from Council Rock High School. After High School, I served in the Army, for not quite three years – one tour in Vietnam and one in Germany.

Prior to the Army, I was working at a company called the Rodon Group. When I got out of the Army, I went back to the same company, served an apprenticeship to become a toolmaker in injection molding. I retired in 2010 after almost 42 years with the company. In the mid 1970's, I had a small landscaping business, which I sold, as the family uprooted to Bedminster, Bucks County, Pa. We had a small farm with Angus cattle, chickens, ducks, pigs and horses. It was like Green Acres on TV – what fun in the country. I lived in Bucks County, Pa. all my life until retiring and moving to The Villages in late 2010.

I joined the Masonic Fraternity in 1991, was raised to a Master Mason in March of 1992 in MacCalla Lodge #596, Souderton, Pa. In January of 2015, our lodge had to merge with another lodge. I was Worshipful Master in 1999, the year my father passed away. After getting out of the hot seat, I served in many other positions in the lodge. Shortly after I was raised as a Master Mason, I joined the Scottish Rite in Allentown, Pa., where I became a 32nd Degree Mason. I also Joined Rajah Shrine Temple in Reading, Pa. I am also a member of Eastern Star in Pa. My wife, Judy, participated in my initiation as Worthy Matron. I have enjoyed travelling with my wife and other ladies to the different chapters in Eastern Star and have met a lot of very nice people. I would not be where I am today if it was not for my wonderful wife, Judy. Judy and I were married on 15 October 1989. And here we are today – living the good life in The Villages – golfing, motorcycle riding, working on my ancestry, and just taking it one day at a time.

NOTE:

We will leave these biographies and comments in the newsletter for the entire time the officer is serving, with additional and new comments provided as submitted.

My contact point is indicated in the beginning of the newsletter section of the web page. If you have something that is important to the members that should be published, that I missed, please send it to me. If you have any ideas on how to make the newsletter more informative, send me that. Just click on my name (Bob Moynihan) and an e-mail will open for you.

NOTES FROM THE PREZ: Nobles –

Reminder for all. You can purchase the Villages Shrine Club wine glasses and Masonic coins at our monthly meeting. Glasses are \$8.00 each (or a box of 6 for \$48.00) and coins are \$5.00. The sale of these commemorative items help us pay our bills, provide programs and food at the meetings, and **NOT** increase our dues. If you don't have either, think about it.

As always, a special thank you to all our Ladies of Al-Kora for all their hard work in raising monies for the hospital. Your attendance and company at our monthly meetings and other events is what makes this Club a special organization, and contributes so much to making it a success. Leadership is a great part of every organization, and Al Kora has been more than fortunate to have such a dedicated President, Lady Judy Chaffin, for the past 2 years. As this year comes to an end, my sincere and personal thanks for all you have done.

The nomination committee submitted the names of following nobles to be officers of the Club for the year 2017 and they were:

President – Noble Bill Tanner
1st Vice President – Noble Bill Boulden
2nd Vice President – Noble Gary Gray
Treasurer – Noble Cliff Wiener
Secretary – Noble Jim Chaffin

The membership approved, by unanimous vote, the entire nominated slate of officers.

Calendar of Events and information:

Next regular stated Meeting of The Villages Shrine Club: 13 December 2016, 6:00 pm at the Orchid Room, Hibiscus Rec Center, The Villages. At the normal start of our social hour of 6:00, we will be providing Heavy Hors D'oeuvres, (and for all of us old enlisted and former enlisted guys) that is officer talk for finger food/snacks/munchies. The meeting, as always, will begin promptly at 7:00 pm. Mark your calendar and plan on attending.

10 January 2017: Social Hour begins at 6:00 pm and the food/social hour/ and more details will be provided later. This meeting, which will as always, begin promptly at 7:00 pm, will be for installation of officers for 2017.

Noble Bill Boulden has begun working on the Spring Paper Drive, which will probably take place the 3rd or 4th week in March. Keep your calendar open for March and plan to be a worker.

Yellow Jackets Scooter Club:

President, Noble Larry Kent, advised that the Yellow Jackets had participated in the Oktoberfest Parade in Leesburg, and is scheduled to perform in the upcoming parades (exact dates to be provided later):

- a. The Villages Christmas Paraded
- b. The Leesburg Christmas Parade
- c. The Tavares Christmas Parade
- d. The Citrus Bowl Parade

The next club meeting will be at the Perkins Restaurant on US27/441 at 5:00 pm, 17 November 2016.

The Villages Shrine Club Golf League:

The Villages Shrine Golf League will have their next outing on **Wednesday, 16 November 2016**. Shotgun start at 1:00 pm. Dinner and awards after golf at the club house (the best part no doubt). If you are interested in the Club's golf outings, contact Noble John, and everyone was happy to see him attendance and recovering from serious surgery, at: golfleague@thevillagesshrineclub.org. Ladies, as in Club meetings, are always invited to play.

General information:

At Bahia's Fall Ceremonial in Daytona Beach, there were four Master Masons from the Villages Masonic Lodge who attended and became Nobles of the Mystic Shrine. We have several who have already petitioned the VSC for membership and been voted in by the nobles present at the November meeting.

They are: Noble Bob Gargano and Noble Richard Koenig.

Also, accepted as a new member of the Villages Shrine Club at the November meeting was Noble and Illustrious Brother Erwin (Doc) W. O'Dell, 33rd Deg. He has had a most distinguished Masonic career, having been the Deputy for Michigan (an Active Member of the Supreme Council, Northern Masonic Jurisdiction) and is now a member of our Club. In addition, he is the only other Coast Guard member of the club that I am aware of. It is an honor to have him as a member and in attendance.

Noble Bill Tanner is working on next year's Veterans Remembrance Day Party. It will be held at the Seabreeze Recreation Center on 1 April 2017, from 5:30 to 8:30 pm. Menu and pricing will be announced when available. Note that date!

Noble Bill Tanner is also looking for volunteers to work at Christmas in the Villages in the Polo Field on 19 November. This involves set up of tables, beginning at 0630, and take down for either the same group or others at 4:30 pm. Call Bill if you can help.

Noble Bill Tanner is also working on a Victory Cruise Line trip in January. Cost would be \$49.00 each with \$10.00 being returned to the club. Rocky and the Rollers would be on the bus. We could see a \$500.00 return for a fun outing. Details, if there is enough interest, will be published.

Noble Bill also said he, as the incoming President, is thinking of a Dinner/Dance in February (and YES, you can invite your friends and neighbors) at the Seabreeze Recreation Center, with a DJ and a small meal. He is looking at paper drive participants and Past Potentates attending as a recognition of their service gratis, with others being charged a nominal \$5.00 fee. Let Noble Bill know of your interest. Time is needed to coordinate such an event.

And just when you thought Noble Tanner was the only who had stuff in mind, Noble President Bob advised that he is setting up a bus trip for the "Giving Dolls" ladies to tour the Hospital in Tampa. A bus will be provided by Talon Wealth Management, as they did previously at no cost to us. Anyone interested will be also be able to come along if there any empty seats. Times and date will be provided

when all is known. Not only does Talon Wealth Management sponsor us in the Golf Tournament, this is their second bus trip to Tampa and the Hospital. They are a great group and many thanks to all of them.

Lastly, look at the attachments/announcements on the web page for pictures and the results of The Villages Shrine Club's yearlong fund raising efforts, which were presented to Illustrious Sir J. T. Gumina, Potentate of Bahia Shrine Temple for 2016, at our November meeting. Illustrious Sir Gumina commented that he was wondering where the time has gone, having visited The Villages 9 years ago when he was here seeking support as he sought the position of Oriental Guide, and how quickly all the years have passed. He also advised that Bahia had purchased their new home and the location should be available in July or August 2017 and information may be found on the Bahia web page to keep all up to date as the building is completed to our needs. Bahia's Christmas Party will be held at the Sanford Civic Center on 11 December 2017 – Lady Kathy Gumina asked everyone to support the party and help the kids. Noble President Bob announced that he was fortunate to meet a first-time visitor, Noble Rusty Booth, who visited the Club, and then Noble Rusty helped at our Fall Paper Drive before his limited time in the Villages was over and he returned to the northern climes. He was an excellent example of what Masonry and Shrinedom are all about.

AL-KORA SHRINE LADIES

The Al Kora Shrine Ladies of the Villages have had, once again, a very successful year. After several fundraisers, the Ladies presented a check for \$8,000.00 to Illustrious Sir Gumina at the November meeting, for the EOS X-Ray system at the Shriners Children's Hospital in Tampa. The ladies also presented a check for \$180.00, also to the Hospital for their X-ray machine, from Chili's for Al Kora's Charity Give Back Event at the Chili's in the Villages.

Our last fun social of the year will be a Wine and Design event on Sunday, 27 November from 2:00 pm to 4:00 pm. If anyone is interested in painting a Christmas design, please contact Lady Judy Chaffin at 352 751 5126 for a reservation and the latest information.

The ladies are already planning a busy 2017 with the Melon Patch Presentation of "A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum" on 25 March. More information will follow. Tickets can be purchased from Janine Woodsford.

Dues for 2017 are now due – see Judy Clevenger or mail a check to her for \$15.00 at: 1793 Poppy Circle, The Villages, FL 32162.

Judy Chaffin, President

Sue Shipow – Name Tag Orders

Sharon Wiener – to Change or Cancel your lunch reservation

Carolyn Moynihan – Sickness and Distress

Doris Simmons – to request a home or hospital visit

The next Al Kora meeting will be 22 November at the Cottage Inn. We gather around 10:00 am and begin the meeting at 10:30, followed by lunch.

I could probably put in some more, but no doubt anyone who is still sitting and reading this is numb. Everyone have a happy holiday season – A Merry Christmas or Happy Hanukah and a Great New Year, especially The Villages Shrine Club and all our Masonic organizations, and their charities.