



The Legionnaire

Busy Summer!

This spring and summer is just flying by! Our SESA LOH units have been very busy, both locally and Internationally.

We started with the IALOH Cruise and the election of our Past Commander, Wayne Steele as the 2025/6 International Legion of Honor Commander (notice a word is missing– Association). My biggest wish is that more of our Legionaires could have been there. Between the fun of a cruise, port visits and fellowship with the many LOH members from around the country, it was an experience which won't soon be forgotten. Pictures are included later in the newsletter.

In late June/early July, we have the Shriner Imperial Session in Atlanta, Ga. The Legion of Honor will be front and center, presenting colors at the opening and leading the parade down Peach Tree Street. All are encouraged to attend, and wear your uniform– with BLACK PANTS. This will provide some continuity for the 20+ color bearers we need (BRING SLINGS)

The summer SESA conference will be held 6-10 August at the Black Fox Hotel in Pigeon Forge. [Hotels Near Island Pigeon Forge - Black Fox Lodge Pigeon Forge, Tapestry Collection by Hilton](#)

We will have our own (no cost) hospitality room and many (if not all) of the LOH attendees will be on the same floor... if we know you registered! The conference is going to go through Sunday, so if you make your reservations, try to stay from Thursday until Sunday. Our events will be Friday again, with the personnel inspection competition at 0800, followed by the necrology report and annual meeting/elections. Friday night we will have a LOH banquet, like years past. Saturday will include a parade, led by a multi-unit LOH colorguard, and Saturday night will include a filet mignon dinner for all the SESA attendees. Keep your eyes out for registration info for both the SESALOH portion and SESA summer session.

And HEADS UP! Be thinking about some item you can bring for a silent auction to raise money for the LOH Association.



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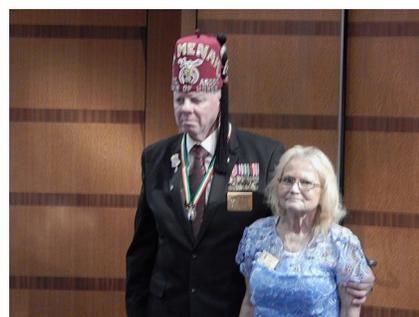
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“When we assumed the soldier, we did not lay aside the citizen”
George Washington

Legion of Honor Accolades

- New ILOH Commander: Noble Wayne Steele (SESALOH CDR 2023)
- ILOH Legionnaire of the Year: Noble Jim Marshall (SESALOH CDR 2020)
- ILOH In-line Inspection 1st place: Al Menah, 2nd place: Egypt

Photos from ILOH 2025, Royal Caribbean Cruise



Message from the Commander

Nobles,

What a whirlwind year. I have enjoyed my time serving as your Commander. My only regret is that I didn't live up to my promise of getting to visit your individual units during the year.

We are at a crossroads for our organization. Many of the units are aging out—dropping off the roles because we can't get younger veterans to join. Oh, they are ready to become Shriners, they just don't want to put on a uniform again.

Nobles, we must do a better job of communicating WHY the Legion of Honor remains a vital unit within the Shrine organization. Use your Potentate and Divan as well as your local Shrine clubs to get the word out—you need help. Create a presentation or pamphlet that explains what the LOH is about (I can send you a copy that you can use as a template).

We are under a double-bond of Brotherhood; both from our military service and through Masonry. Let others know we have something special and continue our service as the patriotic element of the Shrine.

Fraternally,

Steve Singleton
2024/5 Commander



Southeastern Shrine Association Summer Conference

7-10 August 2025
Black Fox Lodge
3171 Parkway
Pigeon Forge, Tn

CALL (865) 286-2243 by
30 June 2024

When calling for reservations, be sure to mention **SESA Legion of Honor**

Southeastern Shrine Association Mid-



HEADS UP!

Winter 2026

4-7 Feb

Savannah, Ga

Message from the 1st Lt Commander

DAD BAD Jokes

In my many years, I have come to the conclusion that one useless man is a shame, two is a law firm, and three or more is a congress.

Q: Why did George Washington have trouble sleeping? A: Because he couldn't lie.

A Frenchman walks into a library and asks for a book on warfare. The librarian replies, "You'll only lose it."

Q: If April showers bring May flowers, then what do May flowers bring?
A: Pilgrims.

I attended a KYCH Convention yesterday and was actually disappointed with the attendance this year. We had three candidates, but I guess it is positive growth.

Nobles, my point is, it seems our numbers as well as attendance is slowly decreasing. We have the same problem here at Al Sihah Shrine Temple and our Legion. I hope next year we all can see an increase in members and participation, in our Temples and Legions of Honor.

Nobles, keep the faith and work hard to help with this endeavor. Thanks for all you do and I hope to see a big turn out in August at Pigeon Forge.

Fraternally Grateful .

Tracey LeMasters, 1st LtCdr

The Great Emu War of 1932

This was a nuisance wildlife management military operation undertaken in Australia over the later part of 1932 to address public concern over the number of emus, large flightless birds indigenous to Australia, said to have been destroying crops in the Campion district of Western Australia.

Military involvement was due to begin in October 1932. The "war" was conducted under the command of Major Gwynydd Purves Wynne-Aubrey Meredith of the Royal Australian Artillery's 7th Heavy Artillery, with Meredith commanding soldiers Sergeant S. McMurray and Gunner J. O'Halloran, armed with two Lewis guns and 10,000 rounds of ammunition.

By the fourth day of the campaign, army observers noted that "each pack seems to have its own leader now—a big black-plumed bird which stands fully 1.8 m (6 ft) high and keeps watch while his mates carry out their work of destruction and warns them of our approach".

At one stage, Meredith even went so far as to mount one of the guns on a truck, a move that proved to be ineffective, as the truck was unable to gain on the birds, and the ride was so rough that the gunner was unable to fire any shots.

By 8 November, six days after the first engagement, 2,500 rounds of ammunition had been fired. The number of birds killed is uncertain: one account estimates that it was 50 birds.

Message from the Treasurer

Welcome Nobles and Ladies. The SESA Convention is coming August 7th – 10th in Pidgeon Forge, Tennessee. It is Hosted by Commander Steve Singleton and Al Menah Legion of Honor. The Hotel is the Black Fox Inn. This is a new Hotel and will be a welcome change from where we have been staying. I hope we have a great turnout to support our Commander and his Officers for this year.

I have collected Dues from the following Shrine LOH Units for 2025: Alee, Al Menah, Al Sihah, Azan, Oleika, and \$30 from Yaarab. The following Units still owe \$50 for this year: Al Rai'e Saleh, Hasan, and \$20 from Yaarab. Please send your Dues Payment to: Daniel E. Kitchens, PC SESA LOH, 102 Tidwell Rd., Bonaire, GA. 31005-4181.

Sandra and I look forward to seeing all of you in Pigeon Forge in August. Have a great summer and be safe.

YITF,

Daniel E. Kitchens, PC SESA

Treasurer

The Great Emu War of 1932 (Contd)

Summarising the culls, ornithologist Dominic Serventy commented: "The machine-gunners' dreams of point-blank fire into serried masses of Emus were soon dissipated. The Emu command had evidently ordered guerrilla tactics, and its unwieldy army soon split up into innumerable small units that made use of the military equipment uneconomic. A crestfallen field force therefore withdrew from the combat area after about a month."



After the withdrawal, Major Meredith compared the emus to Zulus and commented on the striking manoeuvrability of the emus, even while badly wounded:

"if we had a military division with the bullet-carrying capacity of these birds it would face any army in the world ... They can face machine guns with the invulnerability of tanks. They are like Zulus whom even dum-dum bullets could not stop."

[Emu War - Wikipedia](#)

Looking for a unit project that will help teach 8th graders about the Constitution?

Here it is!

The 917 Society was created to provide a copy of the Constitution to every 8th grader, as required by federal law (that doesn't mean it is being taught!)

They print and distribute to any school or organization that desires copies.

You can help by determining how many 8th graders are in your local schools and then ordering copies for distribution.

[917 SOCIETY](#)



Get your Legion of Honor AND SESALOH gear here!!

A store has been created where you can order Legion of Honor shirts, hats, etc OR... SESALOH logo gear as well. Take a look at the site and show your Legion pride by wearing this gear.

<https://almenahlegion-ofhonor.qbstores.com/home>



George Washington's Assassination Attempt

In 1776, as Washington and his troops prepared for battle in New York, a plot on his life by the Loyalists — American colonists who remained loyal to the British crown — was uncovered. The conspiracy involved members of his own Life Guard, an elite security detail, and was allegedly orchestrated by New York's Loyalist governor, William Tryon. But the plot was exposed before it could happen: One of the conspirators, Washington's security guard Thomas Hickey, had been jailed for suspected money counterfeiting and leaked the details to fellow inmates while behind bars.

Ironically, Washington himself wasn't above similar schemes — he later approved a plan to kidnap Prince William, the son of King George III, as leverage for prisoner exchanges. (The prince remained out of reach and the kidnapping plan fell through.)

Hickey, though he pleaded innocent, was found guilty for his role in the plot to assassinate Washington and was executed for treason.

Do you recognize this flag?



Our nation's 250th anniversary is already upon us. The battles of Lexington and Concord have already been fought by this time 250 years ago. Be prepared to seek out 250th anniversary celebrations in your community– PARTICIPATE PATRIOTS !!

SESA/SESALOH Summer meeting 2025

Wednesday 8/6/25

12:00 - 4:30 Registration – Information – Black Fox Convention Center Lobby

6:30 - 9:30 President's Reception – SESA Hospitality Suite Hosted by Yaarab Shrine

Thursday 8/7/25

9:00 - 5:00 Registration – Information – Black Fox Convention Center Lobby

9:00 - 11:00 SESA Opening Session & Presentations – Black Fox Convention Center (**LOH Color guard**)

11:00 - 1:00 Nobles Lunch Break

11:00 – 2:00 First Lady's Luncheon – Black Fox Convention Center

1:00 - 4:00 SESA Business Meeting – Black Fox Convention Center

4:00 - 5:00 Southeastern Shrine Clown Association Business Meeting – Black Fox Convention Center

7:30 Water Buffalo Degree – Black Fox Convention Center

Friday 8/8/25

7:00 - 9:00 Southeastern Shrine Clown Association "SESCA" Registration – Black Fox Convention Center Lobby

8:00 - 2:00 Motor Corp Competition – TBA

8:00 -11:00 Southeastern Shrine Hillbilly Association Competition – Back Parking Lot of Convention Center with Business

Meeting to follow - Hillbilly & Master Hillbilly Degrees will be conferred 5:30pm to 9pm – Black Fox Conv. Center

8:00 Southeastern Shrine Legion of Honor Association In-Line Competition

9:30 -11:30 Southeastern Shrine Legion of Honor Association Necrology Service – Black Fox Convention Center

Southeastern Shrine Legion of Honor Association Business Meeting – Black Fox Conv. Center

9:00 - 1:00 Registration – Information – Black Fox Convention Center Lobby

9:00 - 10:00 Southeastern Shrine Provost Guard Association Uniform Inspection - TBA

9:00 - 2:00 Southeastern Shrine Clown Association "SESCA" Competition – Black Fox Conv. Center

10:00 - 10:00 Southeastern Shrine Provost Guard Association Business Meeting - TBA

11:30 - 12:00 Parade Marshal's Meeting – Black Fox Convention Center

** All Temples that are planning on parading are required to have a Representative at this meeting. **

** All Temples must have submitted a Certificate of Insurance "COI" to the SESA Secretary/Treasurer to validate Parade Insurance *

5:30 to 9pm Hillbilly Association Banquet – Black Fox Convention center

5:30 Motor Corp Association Banquet – Location TBA

6:00 Clown Association Banquet – Location TBA

6:00 Legion of Honor Association Commander's Banquet – Location TBA

6:00 Provost Guard Association Banquet – Park Grove Inn (7th Floor)

Saturday 8/9/25

8:00 Parade Line-up – Location map given at Parade Marshal's Meeting

9:00 Parade Step-off

6:00 - 10:30 Nobility & Awards Night - Ukelele, Harp & Dobro Rooms, Music Road Convention Center Dinner Buffet, Cash Bar, Joint Installation of Board of Directors & Unit Associations, Karaoke and Awards

"Man's greatest concern is to know how he shall properly fill his place in the universe and correctly understand what he must be in order to be a man."

Immanuel Kant

Why 2 Registrations?

Some of you may be wondering why we have to register twice for SESA events; once for SESA and again for SESA-LOH.

The reasoning is, SESA leadership need to know how many are attending. They ask for a registration fee, which is required to attend SESA Saturday night banquet, parade and SESA-sponsored events.

The second registration is specific to LOH. We have to know how many are coming to plan for numbers for our Friday night banquet & allow menu selection.



Looking Ahead– Plan to be there!

June 29-3 July— First up will be the *Shriners Imperial Session* held in Atlanta, Ga. Great hotels have been lined up and since parking is so expensive, they have arranged for a three acre lot for Shriner parking and shuttles to the hotels. The Legions have been asked to present colors at the opening ceremony and to lead the Imperial Session parade in Atlanta. A photo of our units doing this during the Nashville parade is at the right side of page. There will be bands and entertainment every night of the event, concluding with the Beatles tribute band Fab 4. Opening will be Sunday at 2:00, Shrine parade that night down Peachtree Street.

<https://www.shrinersinternational.org/en/news-and-events/events/2025/151st-imperial-session>

7-10 Aug— *SESA Summer Session*, to be held at the new Black Fox Lodge in Pigeon Forge. We will be asked to provide a color guard for the opening around noon on Thurs, so please try to have one of your members in uniform available. We will also lead the parade as previous years on Saturday. Have someone available to march about a half mile, with a van following if replacements are needed. The more units participating, the better. As previously stated, our events will all be held from Friday morning until the banquet Friday night.

<https://seshrine.org/annual-meeting-2025>

28 Oct-2 Nov—*Arlington Wreath-laying ceremony*. This is a must-attend event if you have never been, Our Commander and the Imperial Potentate will lay a wreath at a ceremony. There is a full schedule of events planned.

<http://www.ialoh.org/arlington-wreath-laying.html>

SESALOH Personnel Inspection Competition

The first item on the schedule for our summer session on Friday is the unit personnel inspection. We each have our unique unit uniforms and understand the basics of uniform inspection.

As you prepare for this competition, remember that the presentation of the unit, alignment and reporting of the unit Commander are graded as well.

ILOH provides a drill manual with inspection criteria and sample grading sheets. Look them over before you get there.

[Competition Drill Manual](#)

Got Questions? ASK !! 2024/5 SESA LOH Contact List

Commander—Steve Singleton	steve.singleton76@gmail.com
1st Lt Commander— Tracy LeMasters	wrmasons@outlook.com
2nd Lt Commander— Ken Dougherty	krdougherty@bdcpa.net
Treasurer - Dan Kitchens	ret1stsgt@aol.com
Adjutant - Jim Marshall	426Marshall@gmail.com
Chaplain - Terry Wires	tjwires05@bellsouth.net



**GET YOUR IMPERIAL SESSION AND SUMMER SESA
CONFERENCE RESERVATIONS IN
NOW !!!**

Don't forget your
Certificate of In-
surance if you
plan on partici-
pating in the
SESA parade !!



**ALL MILITARY VETERANS
Contact Your Local
Legion of Honor Unit**



HELP WANTED: We will need as many LOH members as we can get to carry numerous colors during Atlanta Imperial Session. If you are coming, please bring:

- flag slings
- black slacks to wear with your summer uniform top

What's that flag?

This was the command flag of General Washington (also known as the Commander-in-Chief standard) that marked General George Washington's presence on the battlefield during the Revolutionary War.

It may have been the source for the blue field of the nation's early and current flags and is rumored to have Masonic implications ("the ceiling represents the firmament of a starry vault.")

Legion of Honor Objectives

- To perpetuate the memory of those who made the supreme sacrifice in the service of their country.
- To foster a spirit of patriotism and love of country and its flag.
- To cultivate a spirit of comradeship among all Shrine organizations.
- To promote fellowship and unite more closely in the con-



LEGION OF HONOR

