

The Villages Shrine Club Newsletter

September and October 2020

This newsletter will continue to focus primarily on what is upcoming, if anything, special or not, and include a calendar of events for the period covered above, although it will contain important information and highlights of what has been going on also.

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 Shriner’s Health Care for Children in Tampa, Florida. The newsletter is published on the Villages Shrine Club web page also, www.thevillagesshrineclub.org. Our Secretary, Noble Jim Chaffin, indicates we have only a handful of our members who do not have an email address, while most do. If you are reading this and know of one of the few nobles who do not have email access, please share and remind them of our meetings and events. Also, remember the above web page, www.thevillagesshrineclub.org, and to frequently check for updates and important information that can be, and is published, faster than we could ever possibly do by regular mail in years past. Also, check the Villages Daily Sun Rec News, published the Thursday before our scheduled meeting, which is the second Tuesday of the each month, with a social hour at 6:00 pm and the meeting at 7:00 pm, as to time, place and what is scheduled for food. The Rec News does limit our space to 50 words or less and must edit comments exceeding that. We will try to put the menu in the Rec News announcement, and include what we are asking members to bring, guest speakers, guests, entertainment, and dignitaries scheduled to attend (if any).

We have been dark for July and August, officially, but due to the COVID- 19 VIRUS, much longer. The official guidelines for the Villages Community Development Districts and use of the recreation centers, or park, is reprinted here for all to follow (NOT JUST WHERE WE MEET AT HIBISCUS BUT EVERYWHERE IN THE VILLAGES):

TO RESPONSIBLY VISIT A RECREATION CENTER OR PARK, PLEASE KEEP TO THE FOLLOWING:

1. IF YOU ARE SICK, OR HAVE SYMPTOMS OF FEVER, COUGH, SHORTNESS OF BREATH OR BEEN RECENTLY EXPOSED TO THE COVID-19 VIRUS, PLEASE DO NOT COME TO ANY RECREATION CENTER OR PARK UNTILL YOU HAVE A DOCTOR'S CLEARANCE.
2. STAY AT LEAST 6 FEET AWAY FROM OTHERS (SOCIAL DISTANCING), ALWAYS KEEPING THIS MINIMUM SPACE BETWEEN YOURSELF AND OTHERS.
3. WEARING A MASK IS REQUESTED, (IF CLOSER THAN 6FT, MASK IS REQUIRED) AND APPROPRIATE ATTIRE FOR THE ACTIVITY.
4. WASH YOUR HANDS WITH SOAP AND WATER FREQUENTLY (20 SECONDS OR LONGER).
5. BRING YOUR OWN WATER BOTTLE.
6. BRING HAND SANITIZER AND DISINFECTANT WIPES.
7. COVER COUGHS AND SNEEZES WITH TISSUE THEN THROW TISSUE IN TRASH.
8. AVOID TOUCHING EYES, NOSE AND MOUTH.
9. CLEAN AND DISINFECT FREQUENTLY TOUCHED OBJECTS AND SURFACES.
10. BRING YOUR OWN EQUIPMENT/SUPPLIES CONDUCIVE TO THE ACTIVITY.
11. LIMIT ACTIVITY TO 1 HOUR.

As is the usual custom, and for the benefit of all as well as those who have just relocated to The Villages, and recently affiliated with the Shrine Club, in addition to upcoming events, a brief biography of the President, First and Second Vice Presidents are included at the end of this newsletter.

Calendar of Events Club, are as follows:

The **BIKEFEST** in Leesburg is currently scheduled for 13, 14 and 15 November, but this may require further re-scheduling in the year of the VIRUS. Watch the web page and Noble Ken Norris's input for updates and volunteers.

Bahia Shrine Temple has several events during SEPTEMBER AND OCTOBER. Their website contains many more specifics and you can sign up for email notification of all that is going on. Go to www.bahiaashriners.org, and set up a notification to receive their updates. Also, just so everyone knows as we advised in the previous newsletters, Bahia is not currently sending out a paper Caravan, rather, it is located on their web site also in electronic format. This saves them a ton of money and time to put the Caravan together.

The Villages Masonic Lodge #394 – meetings are held on the second Monday of each month at the Wildwood Masonic Lodge Building, Georgia St., Wildwood, FL. A social lunch is held at 12:30 with the stated communication held at 1:30. In addition to their monthly trestleboard, they have a page dedicated to appendant bodies in the local area, as to time and place of all Masonic meetings in that trestleboard, so there is a time and place for everyone to attend a Masonic function of their choice. You can look at the Villages Lodge website at www.villagesmasoniclodge.com to find out what they have upcoming.

The Valley of Ocala, Orient of Florida, of the Scottish Rite. Meets at the Scottish Rite Masonic Center, 3632 NE 7th St., Ocala, Florida on the first Monday of each month. The Executive Board meets at 5:30pm, dinner is at 6:30 pm and the monthly meeting is at 7:30 pm. The next meeting is 14 September 2020 and the

reunion will be on 24 October 2020 at 0730. Their web page is www.scottishriteocala.org.

From our Secretary:

We currently have 100 or so members. Our new membership committee chairman, Illustrious Sir Clifford (Clippie the Clown) Chapman, Past Potentate of assisted by Illustrious Sir Jeff Kuhn, Past Potentate , and Noble Larry Lace who are working to develop new ways to attract new members to our Club, including those who are already affiliated with a Shrine Temple elsewhere and have recently relocated to the Villages.

If you meet a fellow Shriner, invite him to a meeting, and to bring his spouse, if he has one, and any friends or neighbors. Recruiting those already members of a Shrine Temple, or somebody you know who is interested in the Masonic Fraternity, because in their other life they had to work (and then the Shrine), is something we should be involved in. We need to increase our membership.

A note to the board and all members: If anyone from Bahia shows up at one of our meetings and asks the **Club** to purchase a ticket, or tickets, for one of their events, which this information does not preclude an **individual** Club member from doing so, if a **Club** officer wants to purchase tickets **on behalf** of the **Club**, the number of tickets purchased is to be voted on by the Board of Directors and club officers at their next monthly meeting. Expenditure of **Club funds** in the form of a motion was made, seconded and approved by those duly elected officers and installed board members present (Nobles Jim Chaffin, Larry Lace, Emmett Mills, Gary Gray, David Windmiller, Philip Theim, Bob Moynihan), as well as volunteers and appointed – **not voting** - Nobles Bob Leighton , III. Sir Clifford Chapman, PP of Medina Shrine, to NOT purchase any items until the Board has had a chance to review and approve said purchase.

Notes from the Prez:

I am including several previously published items below. If you do not follow meetings and updates on the web site, the next meeting will be published in the Rec News when an exact date is determined.

We still need a food committee: Nobles – to assist the Second Vice President and Second Vice President in training, we need volunteers to provide for the placement of table clothes, help serve the food and do a quick clean up at the end of the meeting (see the volunteers needed at the end of this newsletter). Many of the Ladies of Al Kora currently assist in cleaning up after the meeting has ended. Seems like that is not their job. This is our meeting, The Villages Shrine Club, and we should be doing all the work, not the Ladies. At least 3 members are needed to ensure that the food is served, and tables set up, and cleaned up after. One more job that volunteers can do, one for those who cannot stand at a door for several hours at the paper drive, that only takes a few minutes to do, but is an especially important part of the meeting. A listing of volunteers needed is attached.

Phil Dirt and Alex Santoriello shows: I have contacted Mark Frye to determine if his group, Phil Dirt and the Dozers, are still going to donate to the Shriners Hospital for Children. Mark indicated they still want to donate to the Shriners Hospitals, but that they did not make anything at their last appearance in the Villages. Mark asked if we would help with the promotion of the show so they can donate to us for the Hospital. Ask as many people as you know to purchase a ticket, or several, to attend both Phil Dirt and Alex Santoriello's performances. They send money to us and we send it to the Hospital. Alex, as is Mark, a member of the Shrine and Masonic Fraternity. This is an opportunity for our members to perhaps, volunteer for – i.e. attend – and show up at Savannah Center to welcome guests, wearing your Shrine Club shirt and Fez. Alex and Phil Dirt are both a tremendous show and worth listening to and seeing, and who knows, we may even get a new member!

Greeting potential new members and visitors at Hibiscus.

A reminder to all, they were once new and did not know anyone. Noble Emmett said we need members of the Club to greet Nobles and Visitors at our monthly meetings. It is essential we make them feel welcome. Noble Bob Leighton and his Lady Clair said they would be pleased to be greeters. Thanks Bob and Clair, and especially Bob for volunteering you both.

More stuff – continued - from the Prez:

Noble Jim Chaffin and his Lady Judy have been spending their time at home for the betterment of the children we serve and the Club by selling masks. As of the last time Noble Jim passed on to me how the sale was going, he and Judy had received hundreds of dollars in donations/sales and when we have one, will present the officers and board of directors with costs involved in shipping masks to the hospital till their needs were met. What would any President of any Club or organization do without a great Secretary and his Lady? A simple thanks seems hardly enough, so I present it to all the membership here, so you know how much work he does and how much he and Judy care about the hospital and Club.

Noble Bob Leighton and his Lady Clair have taken on this important duty of selling our 50/50 when meetings begin and greeting members. Many public thanks again.

Illustrious Sir Mitch Lokken was scheduled to be our guest speaker for the April meeting. He is a Past Potentate of Bahia in 2017. Illustrious Sir Mitch is a member of Imperial Marketing and Public Relations Board for Shriners International.

Remember that we need volunteers to help with the club. The needs are attached to this newsletter.

Stuff from the 1st Vice (Larry Lace):

Pick something you want to do and volunteer for it from the attached list. We have but a handful of folks who volunteer for everything, and without the ladies of our Nobles who do so much, we would be even worse off. They are all so very appreciated, the few kind words in this newsletter are hardly enough to express our sincere appreciation.

Noble Jim Chaffin, our secretary, is keeping Attendance and Volunteer Records, which will be used in the future to make the Club run more smoothly and with greater efficiency, as well as provide our leadership with a list of workers.

As a reminder, and note of what we plan on having for meals at our stated meetings, please watch the Villages Recreation News, published each Thursday morning and provided to those who subscribe to the newspaper, and this newsletter, to keep up to date.

The latest on the use of Hibiscus Rec Center is: I have a call in and am waiting for somebody who can give me guidance as to what they expect at Hibiscus in the next few months. Whatever we tell our members, it will have to be updated monthly. We currently are not meeting on 8 September 2020, so the next possible meeting date of 13 October is still unknown. Currently, in our room at Hibiscus, we have only 14 tables, and only 1 person per table is allowed. Even if there is a lifting of the number of people who can come to a meeting, I am quite sure they will not allow food for a few months.

Watch the web site for updates of meetings, times, place, and food (if any) and your emails from the Secretary.

Remember - July and August – (per bylaws) Dark No meetings at Hibiscus for the Shrine Club even if they open! And they are not open to accommodate us.

The 2nd Vice (David Windmiller) says:

The next garage sale will be in February 2021. (Now is the time (Fall) to start looking for gently used items you no longer want.) The exact date is to be determined. We did well at the last garage sale at his house, selling about \$2600.00 in gently used items. The Prez and all present say: A big thanks to David and Madelyne for the use of their house and garage and all their work from everyone in the Club. Most especially, the children at the hospital who are the recipients of their generosity, are the ones who appreciate everything we all try to do.

Remember our sick and distressed folks:

Noble George and Lady Renee Edwards – Noble George is still working on his recovery.

Lady Susan O’Dell, wife of Noble Erwin “Doc” O’Dell, has had medical issues.

Lady Gayle Mills, wife of Noble Emmett Mills, has had medical issues.

Lady Judy Chaffin, wife of Noble James “Jim” Chaffin, has had medical issues

Cards on behalf of the Club have been sent to all. Send me a note if anyone is missed.

From me:

Duties: We still need a backup for our officers and workers. Just because one person does a task, that does not mean nobody else needs to know how he conducts that task. Ours is not a guessing game where we may think we have answers. We must know what to pass on to the next person who assumes our duties. For Example: Who do you call for food? Where do you go for the paper drive? Who is the paper drive coordinator? Who are the store managers and their phone numbers, are but a few items to write down and share with another worker. This club does well in having a 2nd Vice and a 2nd Vice in training, and 1st Vice so things go well year after year. We just need to have folks lined up to take those and other positions, such as Committees and know what their duties entail. The primary question is: “How do you do what you do”? We need to have an orderly relief of every person who has stepped up to any volunteer position by

providing them with sufficient information to enable them to do that job. Perhaps the Club needs a book of some sort to pass on to each officer in the line, or other worker who does a specific task. One of the most important lessons of Scottish Rite Masonry, Southern Masonic Jurisdiction, taught in the various Degrees is: "That which a man knows dies with him, therefore – transmit your knowledge." This clearly demonstrates the need for backups at all positions. I always think about Scottish Rite in Ocala where out last 2 treasurers died in office. Sad that they left us, but sadder that nobody knew what or how they did their job. Ocala was only able to carry on because of the General Secretary, who could do so much of the accounting data.

Some more things to think about. This is your club, the Villages Shrine Club. What convinced you to join the Shrine, after becoming a Master Mason? Was it purely a philanthropic decision or did you want to have a social gathering with like-minded Masons who supported the hospitals, clinics or burns centers? Do you think we, as a club, do too many things that would require you to volunteer to work, and not enough fun things? Are we just a group, or are we a group that works for the Children at Tampa and around the Country? What about the meetings: Too long, too short, not enough guest speakers of interest, too formatted, not formatted enough? We are always looking for input from you, the membership, as to how to make the Club better. Our collections for Tampa are not a competition. We do not try to do better each year than the previous year. All we, as a Shrine organization, try to do is collect what we can. After all, this is a Shrine Club. Send me a note on your thoughts or call me if you can. You can use the contact information at the web site, where you are reading this.

Al Kora Events

Even though this is a Villages Shrine Club newsletter, the ladies of Al Kora, which are such an important part of the Shrine organization here in The Villages, their meetings are included in this newsletter so that everyone reading this can ensure their wives, and widows also, that they are welcome at all Al Kora and Villages

Shrine Club events and they know when they are held. Ladies, a public thank you for all you do for both the Club and the Shrine.

For the Information of All regarding Al Kora events:

Al Kora Board meetings are on the 3rd Tuesday of the month at the current President's house

Al Kora Club meetings and lunch are on the 4th Tuesday of the month at the Cottage Inn, Lady Lake. Meetings for lunch and the board are currently being held. Watch for notifications from the Al Kora Club for changes and for a phone call from the luncheon committee.

Note all from Janine Woodsford, 2020 President of Al Kora

Hello Al Kora ladies and I am hoping all are healthy and well. Relieved to be going into another month, and we may have some relief soon from the Covid-19. Notice I said, "may have!" Remember, we are a strong group and we are an incredibly supportive group. We are all in this together and we will all come through this together.

Stay home, stay healthy, stay positive.

When we can meet, we will send a note, to all, about when and where we will be having both board meetings and general luncheon meetings.

Janine

In addition to the above, other day trips will be offered to Al Kora members, including husbands, friends and family, that they will be able to select, sign up for and attend, at their meetings, meaning this listing is not all-inclusive.

Officer Biographies for The Villages Shrine Club for the year 2020:

President Emmett Mills

Beginning with High School, I attended Shrine High School in Royal Oak, Michigan and graduated in 1965. After High School, I attended the University of Georgia Tech, where I was also a student athlete, and received a BS in electrical engineering and later, a Master's Degree at Oakland University.

I entered the U.S. Navy in 1967 and served until September 1972. During my time in the Navy, I served with Seal Team #2 and specialized in underwater demolition, as well as satellite communication. Injured in 1972, while serving in the Vietnam Campaign, I was medically retired the same year.

My Masonic career began in 1992, and I was Master of my home lodge in 1996. I joined the Valley of Detroit, Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite in 1993, and was coroneted a 33rd Degree Mason in August 2008, and am no affiliated with the Valley of Ocala. My Shrine affiliation began in 1993 in Detroit, where I am also a member of Court No. 28, Royal Order of Jesters, and upon moving to the Villages, affiliated with Bahia Shrine. I have been High Priest of my Royal Arch Chapter, Thrice Illustrious Master of the Council of Royal and Select Masons, and am a member of Priory No. 22, and a KYCH. I have been privileged to serve as Commander of Detroit Commandry No. 1, Knight Templar, and have been awarded the Grand Commander's Service Award and shoulder cordon for first line signing of over 35 members. I served as Right Eminent Grand Commander, Knights Templar of Michigan, 2006/2007 and was awarded the Knight Commander of the Temple from the Grand Encampment of the United States.

Additionally, I am currently serving as the Secretary of the Villages Masonic Lodge #394, and as Chairman of the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the United States of America as the Chairman of the Holy Land Pilgrimage Committee,

sending ordained ministers to the Holy Land as one of the Knight Templar philanthropies.

Also, when not doing something of a Masonic relation, I attempt to enjoy retirement in The Villages and play 72 holes of golf per week.

First Vice President Larry Lace:

A brief Personal history: I was born in Cleveland, Ohio in 1948, moved to Southern California in 1962 and then to the Villages in 2012. I currently reside in the Villages of Pennecamp. My Masonic affiliation is as follows:

I am a member of the Villages Masonic Lodge #394, Bahia Shrine Temple, Orlando, Florida, The Villages Shrine Club and the Scottish Rite Bodies of Ocala, Ocala, Florida.

I am not married.

I attended the following schools, receiving degrees as indicated: BS in Physics/Mathematics – University of California at Berkeley and an MS in Mechanical Engineering from the University of Utah and an ME in Engineering Management from UCLA.

I served in the Air Force Reserve, attaining the ranks of Captain, from 1970 to 1977.

Second Vice President David Windmiller (bio to be published in future editions of the newsletter)

Note to all from me, Bob Moynihan:

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

My contact point is indicated in 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, especially information regarding those who are ill and unable to attend meetings. It is important that everyone know that we, as an organization, think of them, and not just when they can work, but when they are unable to work also. As members of the Masonic Fraternity, we care about you and your lady. If you have any ideas of how to make the newsletter more informative, send me that also. Just click on my name (Bob Moynihan) and an e-mail will open for you. Look at the web page (www.thevillagesshrineclub.org) for pictures, information and updates of what is going on and in the Recreation News published by The Villages on the Thursday before our monthly meeting so you know what we are having for dinner and what to bring to share.

Lastly, to all our sick and distressed members or their ladies – everyone is thinking of you and sends their best wishes for a speedy recovery. If I left anything or anyone out, it is not intentional. Send me a note about what is not included.