Membership totals for November 2017
Total members 1058
NPD’s 63
Non-payment of dues
RICH ALLEE AWARDED MSA SERVICE AWARD – What a great honor!!

The Minnesota Sheriff’s Association Awards Committee voted to award Retired Sergeant Rich Allee (Osman’s own Kopper the Clown) with the MSA Service Award. This award is presented each year to one Sheriff’s Deputy in the state who has gone above and beyond to provide services well beyond their normal duties - positively representing the field of law enforcement, their county, and the MSA.

Mr. Alvin’s Industrial Technology classes at McGuire Middle School, Lakeville. The classes again completed pencil manufacturing project and proceeds from the sale of their product were given to the Shrine Hospital. Jim Moore, Neil Clymer & Jerry Johnson were present in the presentation.
Hello Nobles, Ladies and Friends,

Thank You Nobles! When the men you hold in the highest regard place their trust in you, it is a humbling and amazing honor. I will do my best to serve you. I am excited for 2018!

I learned something at summer camp many decades ago, a philosophy if you will. “Leave it better than you found it.” That is no easy task with the caliber of men I have had the pleasure to serve with, their predecessors and those on the line now. Osman is in great financial shape because of their decisions and direction.

Membership is our greatest challenge and our legacy. It is up to us to keep Osman thriving. We are the World’s Greatest Philanthropy and I am honored to be a part of it. I know you are as well. Growing membership may not be easy, but I know we can do it. We are “Going For Gold!”

Our membership team is in place and will be working very hard to keep Osman growing. Thank you Nobles! Your hard work and dedication is greatly appreciated! Nobles and Ladies please keep in mind, we are all on the Membership Team! Someone many years ago shared the concept of Just One. It really made sense to me then and has stuck with me to this day. It is beautiful in its simplicity. If every Noble in Osman asked Just One friend, Just One co-worker or Just One family member to join, Osman would double in size. We would go from 1000 members to 2000. This is possible, we just have to identify men of good character and then ask them to join. You may have noticed the number on the cover of the Osman. This is our current membership number. It will be on the cover each month to remind us of where we are at. I hope it will inspire you to make sure that number is higher in December, then it was in January.

2018 will be an exciting year. Our theme is live entertainment. We hope to have a well-rounded sampling of most music genres. Some events will be held at the Lost Spur, others we will travel to. For some of these concerts we will use the email Blasts to communicate information. If you are not receiving the email Blasts please contact Doreen or Tom in the Osman office. It is an amazing tool started by Gary Hoven. Thank You Gary! Don’t miss out on the fun.

The last nine years have gone by in the blink of an eye. It was a huge honor when Jim Berg (my Shrine Father and now Past Potentate) asked me to be his Outer Guard. I had no idea what a gift this would be! Thank You Jim! It was my goal then and still is now, to make you proud. I am grateful for your counsel and advice. That goes for you too Uncle P.P. Roger Robinson!

The gift is getting to know all of you! We are so thankful for the friendships that we have made! The good men and women of Osman, the Auxiliary, the MSA and Shriners all around the world have enriched our lives forever! What a blessing it is to be a Shriner!

Thank You Jim Kalfas! Jim is Sandy’s Uncle and Godfather. Jim is retired Navy and a Shriner. Jim is responsible for Frank Bild, my awesome Father-in-Law, becoming a Shriner. And you can guess the rest. These two Nobles are the reason we are here today. If neither of these men had made the decision to join, our lives would not be the same. We are forever grateful! Thank You!

I am also thankful for the Nobles and Ladies of the Director’s Staff. You were the first Unit I joined. That was a blessing then and remains to be now. I cannot say enough good things about these people!

I will forever be in debt to Illustrious Sir Rich Purcell and Lady Sharon. Rich what a blessing it was to serve alongside of you these last nine years. You both are so generous, caring and kind. You are what people should strive to be! I am thankful for your leadership.

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Pote’s Notes
and mostly for our friendship. Go Gophers!

Sandy, my Lady and much better half, Thank You! I congratulate you on being the First Lady of Osman! We have spent the last nine years serving Osman together. Without you I doubt I would have ever been exposed to Shriners. What a ride it has been. I look forward to whatever life brings, as long as we are together I know it will be amazing! Thank You Love!

The theme this year is “Lift Somebody Up”. It fits perfectly with the Silent Messenger, a Shriner helping a child. It also has masonic meaning to me. Masons take good men and make them better men. They lift them up. The idea came to me from one of our favorite musicians, Paul Thorn. He has a song titled “What Have You Done To Lift Somebody Up.” I think it describes what we as Masons and Shriners do every day.

I am very proud to announce your new Outer Guard, Wiley Davis! Wiley is extremely talented, he is a great husband and father. Wiley is a Veteran! He is a proud member of the Legion of Honor! I am proud to call him my friend and now I get to call him Son. We are equally excited about his Lady Shelly! Wiley is blessed! They will both serve Osman to the highest degree. Congratulations Wiley and Shelly! We know you will enjoy the ride!

Let’s All Lift Somebody Up!
Mike Nehm Osman Potentate 2018

Welcome to the New Outer Guard

Like so many of us, I was introduced to Masonry by a trusted friend. Though we had discussed the opportunity many times prior, in 2009, Sean Gardiner convinced me that becoming a Mason would be a great adventure. I joined our beloved Fraternity with eyes wide open and was Raised a Master Mason in November that year in Dakota Lodge #7 of Hastings, MN. I had no idea what lay ahead and could never have predicted what a blessing this journey would become to me personally as well as my immediate and extended family.

Shortly afterward, I joined the Scottish Rite, Valley of St. Paul, in May of 2010. I soon became involved as a participant in several degrees, most notably, the 18th. Since becoming a member I’ve had the opportunity to join the Rose Croix line and been granted the privilege of serving as the Chairman of the Investments Committee.

In December of 2011, I joined Osman Shrine as a member of the Legion of Honor. I’m proud to have served my country as a member of the United States Army during the first Gulf War and even prouder now as a Veteran, to have the opportunity to carry the Colors of our nation during various parades and at Temple events. All Osman Shrine clubs and units offer the opportunity for comradery and fellowship but for me, the Legion of Honor holds a special place in my heart as the organization whose devotion to each other and sense of family is the closest I have experienced since my time serving in the military. One need not be a Veteran to join but once you’ve joined, you are one of us and regardless of any future endeavor, you will remain one of us for life.

In 2013, I had the distinct honor and privilege of serving as Master of Dakota Lodge #7, an experience I will forever cherish as equally challenging and rewarding. If you haven’t had the treat of enjoying a deep-fried corn dog from Dakota Lodge during Hasting’s Rivertown Days, you haven’t lived. Add this immediately to your bucket list.

As I mentioned earlier, my Masonic journey has been a blessing in some quite unexpected ways. Even before joining Osman Shrine, I was blessed to have the opportunity to support Cotton Candy at the greatest of all events, the Osman Shrine Circus. I could never have anticipated that participating in “the hardest fun you’ll ever have”, would have such an impact on so many that I hold dear. Shelly (Toots) and I have had the opportunity to include our extended family in the fine art of Candy Floss manufacturing, and every year now, they come to us and ask for the opportunity to help. To date, I can count 12 members of our extended family and friends who return on a regular basis to assist. (The qualifying male members of this group have been approached to join, feel free to offer encouragement as appropriate and necessary). We look forward to the Circus every year and if you haven’t had the privilege yet, stop by the Cotton Candy booth and we’ll teach you how to make and sell the best spun sugar treat you’ll ever have.

For those of you I’ve met, you may have noticed that I don’t “talk like I’m from ‘round here”. That’s because I was born and raised in Southwest Virginia. Though I’ve lived in many places, I’m

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happy to have called Minnesota home since 1992 and specifically Plymouth since 1999. Shelly and I are the proud parents of four children. Tommy (26), Amanda (24), Dalton (13) and Nora (11). As any parent will tell you, each of our children is a unique blessing in our lives and though I am happy to expound for hours on end about how they each are “above average” I will spare you the experience here. I will say that Dalton is an active member of Robbinsdale Chapter DeMolay and reminds me at least weekly how anxious he is to turn 18 and become a Master Mason.

Growing up in a humble and loving home taught me many things but doing so in the beautiful Appalachian Mountains instilled in me a love of Bluegrass music. Though no budding musician ever has enough time to practice, I do still enjoy picking up a guitar and “hittin’ a few licks” from time to time and I’m proud to say that when we have occasion to visit my folks, I can still mostly keep up on rhythm guitar with my Dad’s banjo. Toots will tell you, this is her favorite time to nap. I’m not sure of the message that sends, but I generally assume the melodic musings of my father and I lull her into a peaceful slumber.

I’m employed by Optum Technology, as an IT leader. Optum is a division of UnitedHealth Group where I’ve been for nearly 12 years. Shelly also works for Optum Technology, and we have both have the privilege of working from home. While some might question how she does it, being with me 24 hours per day, she seems to cope well. When not heads down in front of a computer screen, we can be found taxying our kids to various activities. In the summer, we enjoy first and foremost, parading with the Legion of Honor or most recently the Mankato T-birds, camping (more like “glamping” in our motorhome) and spending time with family and friends at the family cabin in Elysian, MN.

Speaking of the Mankato T-birds, they are another Osman Shrine unit that has welcomed my entire family with open arms. From my first year as a member when we only made it to the 4th of July parade in Elysian to last year when we participated in over 10 parades, the T-Birds have made us feel welcome as though we were life-long friends.

I’ve mentioned a number of times the unexpected ways my family and I have been blessed by our Masonic family. I could never have predicted the joy that my wife and mother-in-law would have as members of the Osman Women’s Auxiliary. I had no way of knowing how my children would be so warmly welcomed into this family and treated as one of their own. I could never have imagined the friendships I would develop along the way or what a rare privilege it would be to serve alongside such a generous and talented group. Though I should have, I never expected the level of support and commitment Shelly has shown each step along the way. I’m most proud to be her husband and to call her my best friend.

Thus far in my Masonic journey I’ve had the experience of being humbled in so many ways. None more so than when, now Illustrious Sir, Mike Nehm asked me to accept the privilege of being his appointment as Outer Guard. As has been said before, I accept this honor with some trepidation, but mostly with a sense of excitement and energy for what the future holds for our beloved Fraternity.
Meeting Opened:
Chief Rabban Mike Nehm called the Stated Meeting to order at 6:30 PM. All present were Nobles.

The Pledge was recited, and Chaplin Dan Skoog led us in prayer.

Introduction of Past Potentates:

Introduction of Nobles attending their first meeting:
Nobles Jason and John Barron

Gesta:
No guests.

Recorder: Tom West
A motion was made to accept the minutes from the Stated Meeting held September 12, 2017, as published in the Osman. The motion was seconded and passed.

Treasurer’s Report:
Recorder Tom West gave the Treasurer’s report. A motion was made to accept the report as given. The motion was seconded and passed.

Trustee’s Report:
Trustee Rich Johnson gave the report.

Oriental Guide:

Chief Rabban:
2nd Ceremonial Master Jim Gratias reported for Chief Rabban Mike Nehm that there were 0 associations, 2 affiliations, 1 restorations, 12 new creations who had already been voted on and 0 new candidates. The 2 affiliations were Keith Reierson & Emilio Munoz, 1 restoration was Riley Brolsma, a motion was made to vote on the affiliations and restorations for the Nobles as reported above, they were voted on and accepted.

Black Camel Report:
Assistant Rabban Anders Haugen read the names of the Nobles who have passed since our last meeting. A moment of silence followed the reading of their names, Lyle Dixon 9/12/17 and Thomas Ireland 10/29/17.

Good Cheer Report:
Noble Norm Hodge gave the report that the following Nobles are on the Good Cheer Report: Robert Pavek, Larry Lauber, PP Frank Spevak, Wayne Streiff, Mikkkel Haugen, Bill Henry, Chris Zack, Tim Bass, Dave Gagnon, Jerry Pulver, and Bert Aikens.

Hospital Report: PP Roger Robinson
Roger reminded the Nobility that they can donate directly to the Hospital at the Parade to Glory if they choose to do so. There are also several projects currently underway at the Hospital including remodeling of the reception area in the lobby, new furniture in several areas. The Hospital needs to replace the old x-ray machine and they
need to purchase a new treadmill. There is also a need to raise $25,000 for camps, specifically for our Shrine Kids. Roger also stated that we have growth in several areas. We have had a 14% growth in fracture/injury services, 22% growth in new patient referrals, 24% growth in physical/occupational therapy treatments and a 45% growth in screening clinic recruits. Currently there are 17,888 followers on our Hospital Facebook site. Twin Cities Hospital Facebook page has the highest number of followers of the Shrine Hospitals for Children.

■ Membership:

Noble Jerry Johnson stated that we had 36 creations this year. He spoke about the new members who just became Shriners. Several of them are joining units right away. There will be a membership team in 2018, and we will have at least 5 prospect nights.

■ Chief of Staff Report:

Neil Clymer gave a brief report that we have been accepted for the Winter Carnival Parade in St. Paul and the St. Patrick’s Day Parade in St. Paul in 2018.

■ Circus Report: Assistant Rabban Anders Haugen

Anders stated there is a real need for Nobles to get out and sell ads. Anders stated that the kick off meeting was a success, and that information is available on the table outside the door. Please look at the information and take whatever you need.

■ New and Old Business:

Chief Rabban Mike Nehm introduced the 2018 operating budget which was voted on and passed.

Chief Rabban also asked for a vote on Expenditure from the Pilgrimage Fund for 2018 Mid-Winter Session. There shall be appropriated from the Pilgrimage Fund the sum of $5,000 or as much thereof as is necessary for the Divan, the Nobility, and the seven elected Midwest Representatives to attend the Midwest Winter Session in Deadwood, SD, February 2-3, 2018. Vote was taken and passed.

Chief Rabban Mike presented his plans for 2018, and the Nobility voted on them in the affirmative.

Chief Rabban Mike reminded us of important upcoming dates:

Dec. 12 – Club and Unit Holiday Party with Parade to Glory
Jan. 1 - New Year’s Brunch
Jan. 9 - Annual Meeting
Jan. 14 – Potentate’s Reception

■ Good of the Order:

Noble Mark Hughes stated that he is working with the Timberwolves and the Vikings to see if he can get them to do a Hospital visit for the children.

Chief Rabban Mike Nehm recessed the Stated Meeting at 7:27 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Tom West, Recorder

ICE FISHING
Osman Sportsman’s Club
Will be hosting an ice fishing event
Sunday February 11th, 2018

White Bear Lake at 10:00 am
Please watch the email blasts for more details.
Any questions call Ill Sir Mike Nehm at 651-269-2826
Hello and Happy New Year! I hope everyone who attended the December events and the New Year’s brunch had a great time. Your Divan and Potentate worked very hard to make events like those happen for your enjoyment. I hope our 2018 year, including our parade season events, are as successful as they have been in the past, as I’m sure they will be.

The St Paul Winter Carnival Parade is Jan 27th. The parade steps off at 2pm, parade line up is 1 PM... We are working on the details for the Oasis. We are also signed up for the Torchlight parade on Feb 4th. The lineup is 4:30 PM. Step off is 5:30 PM. Due to the many high visibility events going on in the Minneapolis and St Paul area during that time, this looks to be one of the biggest and most important events to showcase our Temple in years!

On February 10th we will be holding the Club and Unit Seminar, and this is the time for all the Clubs and Units to come and hear what has changed for the coming year!

2018 parade schedules, dates and plans are in discussion, so your unit can plan for your busy parade season. Please be sure and have an Officer or several Officers, of your Club and/or Unit attend.

IF YOU ARE A NEW NOBLE WITHOUT A UNIT, THIS IS A GREAT TIME TO SEE WHAT UNITS YOU MIGHT FIND INTERESTING! There have been bidding wars on new Nobles between units, just saying!

Osman will be signing up for the St Paul St Patrick day parade. It will be on March 17th, a Saturday, in downtown St Paul. Step off is at noon, line up is 11am. Details and maps will be available soon. Again, this is a walking parade, so no need to bring your motorized vehicles. We will carry the Osman Circus banner and if we can have some LOH Nobles with colors, that would be great.

The Circus is April 5 – 8, and then the parade season starts in June. I am looking forward to working with all of you this year.

There are many, many, activities planned by your Ill Sir, each year and in order to get the most out of your Shrine life you have to put the most in!

Neil Clymer
2018 Osman Chief of Staff

Our December 6th gathering for the Legion of Honor, Nobles, wives and significant other, was again enjoyed at Mancini’s Char House. Good fellowship and an excellent meal was our goal, and it was achieved. Masonic commitments kept some Nobles from attending, but we still had a nice turnout of our group. Our tradition for the December dinner meeting is the installation of officers for the coming year. Having re-elected our 2017 officers for 2018 at our November meeting -- our Divan Rep, Jim Gratias, 2nd Ceremonial Master, installed the following: Dave Hellstern – Commander, Nick Casci – Adjutant, and Jim Smeby – Financial Officer. Wiley Davis – Vice Commander, will be installed at a future meeting. We look forward to serving with continued dedication to our purpose. Special thanks was extended to Noble Jim Gratias for his exceptional contributions to our unit as our 2017 Divan Representative. We enjoyed and valued his updates and advice, and consistent attendance at our monthly meetings!

Nobles were updated on important upcoming events by Noble Gratias, including the December Parade of Glory, and January events: New Year’s Brunch, Annual Meeting, Potentates Reception and St. Paul Winter Carnival Parade. Our January 18th meeting will be at the Mendota VFW. Here’s to a fun and very successful year of service to Osman in 2018!

As always, the Legion of Honor is always looking for new members. If you are new to Osman, we would enjoy talking with you. Feel free to contact any member of the Legion of Honor. You need not to have served in the armed services to join the Osman Legion of Honor.

Dave Hellstern
Commander,
It seems that November and December become busier each year. We were fortunate in November to have three of our Lodge Brothers take part in the Big Tent Event and become members of the Mystic Shrine. They are: Jimmie Claspell, Jr., Chris Brekke, and Derek Hall.

We welcome them into our group and are hopeful that their work schedules will allow them to become part of the Oriental Band.

December was “kicked off” with members of the Shrine and help from our Ladies and friends in ringing bells for the Salvation Army on Friday, December 1st. This is a tradition that started in the 1950’s and even with a smaller group that they had over 60 years ago, we are able to keep it going.

This year we were able to collect $6,243.00 for the Area Food Shelf, and a grant request was submitted to MMC with hopes that it will be matched at $5,000.00. A very LARGE THANK YOU to the members and friends who helped with this project.

Another highlight of the year is our All Masonic Dinner that is held on the first Sunday of December. This year we just missed having 50 attend this event and enjoy the music of the Austin High School AustinAires. This is a select group of singers who perform for many community groups and then put on a special concert in the spring. We are so fortunate that we have them, and enjoy performing for us.

Then we closed the year with our annual Shrine Holiday Dinner held at the Austin Country Club on December 14th. We’ll try and have a few photos for our February news article. We were fortunate to have several Osman Divan members with us including: Sir Richard Purcell & Lady Sharon; Chief Rabban Mike Nehm & Lady Sandy; High Priest & Prophet Larry Norte & Lady Audrey Ill; Assistant Rabban, Anders Haugen; 1st Ceremonial Master & Divan Representative, Mark Galloway and Lady Lori; 2nd Ceremonial Master Jim Gratias & Lady Connie; and Past Potentates Frank Peterson and Bruce Thomas. In addition, several of our widows attended and we appreciate their attendance and support.

Officers elected and installed for 2018 are: Gary Brolsma, President; Mathew Woodworth, Vice President; Norman Hecimovich, Treasurer; Neil Hanson, Secretary; and Brad Stout, Business Mgr.-Band.

The January 11th meeting will be at a site to be determined. The calling committees will provide the necessary information.

Neil Hanson  
Business Manager

WOW! What a fast year: 2017 is behind us and a new 2018 is already here. Big thanks to all of the members of Zagalas for all of the parades, bell ringing, fund raising, and everything else that each of you do to help make this a better world to live in. A special thanks to Rahn Lund foragreeing to stay on as President, and Tim Bass for stepping forward to be the VP, and Bob Gregor acting as our Treasurer and Secretary, and of course our new parade chair. LOL

My Masonic New Year’s Resolution:

This is the time of year that we set different goals and do our own New Year’s Resolutions. Lose weight, work out more, give up chocolate, maybe even reading a book on Masonry. We all choose our resolutions based on where we are at in life at this particular time. What should our Masonic New Year’s Resolutions be? I cannot set your goals any more than you can set mine. We can however ask ourselves, what have I done and what have I failed to do? Did I help a brother in need? Did I listen to my brother when he was speaking to me and trying to help me walk the walk and talk the talk? Did I hold true to our values?

Of course most people don’t follow through on their resolutions, I mean giving up chocolate come on. Usually within a couple weeks most have forgotten that they even had resolution. Don’t set your goals to high, make them achievable. My goal this year is to try to be a better Mason, Shriner, Husband, Father, Grandfather and a much stronger Brother.

Happy New Year’s to each of you and your families, and again a big thanks to all members of Zagalas.
Greetings Nobles and Ladies. News from the Alexandria Shrine Club & Calliope & 4-Wheelers:

November saw us winterizing our parade units and putting them away for the season.

Our November meeting was held at Knights in Osakis, MN. After our regular business, elections were held choosing officers for 2018. Noble Mike Denke takes the lead as President.

We acknowledged Noble Frank Peterson and Lady Marlys on their 66th wedding anniversary and Lady Barb Tvrdik on her 65th birthday.

Our December meeting took place on Dec. 19th at Nelson Gables in Alexandria.

Installation of our 2018 officers took place, and a complete listing of elected officers will be in the February issue.

With 2017 and the holiday season behind us, we at Alexandria Shriners would like to thank everyone who has worked hard to raise money and make our Twin Cities hospital one of the BEST!!

New Year’s Greetings from The Alexandria Shrine Club & Calliope & 4 Wheelers and Best Wishes for a great 2018!!

Ralph Tvrdik

Albert Lea Shrine Club and Albert Lea Cars

Finding Purpose Through Service
We achieve greatness through service to others.

And every single day of your life, including this one, your Higher Power will give you opportunities to serve. Welcome those opportunities with open arms. Always be willing to pitch in and make the world a better place. After all we are Shriners aren’t we.

Service is a character building experience. The more you serve, the more you grow. This business of service is one of the main building blocks of Free Masonry. And the neat thing about all this service stuff it makes YOU feel good.

Special Note: Noble Jack Brown and his lady Pearl have collected more toys, pull tabs, quilts, etc. than you can imagine. They keep going after it, just like the energizer bunny.

We are not the only organization that thinks SERVICE is TOPS!

Greg Morfitt, Secretary/Treasurer

Osman

Alexandria Shrine Club and 4 Wheelers

Noble Jack Brown performing service work for the Shrine Club

Albert Lea Shrine Club Noble “Jake” Loper and Noble Bob Hahn deliver another van full of toys to the Shriner’s Children’s Hospital.
The beginning of December was a busy time for the Nobles of the Provost. We started off on Dec 2nd at the Twin Cities Shrine Hospital filling in for the Zurah Shrine Guard unit with parking control for the Pancake Breakfast with Santa. Sleigh rides with real reindeer and a delicious pancake breakfast were enjoyed by children and parents alike.

The following day was parking control at the Osman Children’s Christmas party. We even had our picture taken with Santa and Mrs. Claus.

We are looking forward to the new year with our newly elected Officers as we ramp up for our preparations for the Shrine Circus.

Upcoming meetings:
- Provost Monthly Meeting, Monday, January 15th, 2018, Social 6:00PM, Dinner 6:30 PM, Meeting 7:00 PM, Cherokee Tavern, 886 Smith ave, West St Paul, MN 55118
- Provost Valentine’s Party Monday February 19, 2018, Social 6:00PM, Dinner 6:30PM, tentatively scheduled at Mancini’s on west 7th. Details to follow.

Events
- Osman New Years Day Brunch, Jan1st.
- Osman Annual Meeting Jan 9th.
- One Day to Masonry Jan 20th.
  Details on all of the above will be forthcoming.
  We continue to frequently post information on the Osman Provost Facebook page. Take a look at the page, and “Like” and “Share” the postings with your Facebook friends.

Fraternally submitted,
Ken Arehart, 2ndLt. - Secretary
Email: kenarehart@comcast.net
Greetings fellow Nobles!
I am very honored and proud to be serving the Rochester Area Shrine Club this coming year as your President. I hope to help YOU make this a very successful year.

I will be “attempting” to write the monthly Rochester Area Shrine Club column beginning this month, so I’m hoping to get plenty of ideas, suggestions, and items of interest from my fellow Nobles. My goal will be to simply keep you abreast of what is going on with the RASC and its members…As well as what is going to happen in the following months ahead.

If any Nobles have something for me to include relating to the RASC, or for the good of the order, that they’d like to submit for this space, my email addresses are wheraldeditor@gmdmedia.net or msmith0755@gmail.com. My phone number if you need to call me, is 651-564-0257. Please help me out! Feel free to submit notes about events, your involvement with the club, and/or notes regarding fellow Nobles, including those who are Sick and Distressed. I will remind you of this again next month!

Most of you know that I am a member of Dragon Patrol, as well as the Zagalas, but I have paraded most frequently with Dragon Patrol. It’s been a great experience, as have all RASC and Osman events I have participated in.

I know the Dragon Patrol, whom I’ve been writing about the past couple of years, is looking forward to their annual Christmas Party, which is set for Friday, January 19th (my half-birthday!), at Willow Creek Country Club on 48th Street SW in Rochester. It should be another memorable and fun evening, with much good food and camaraderie with our fellow nobles and our ladies.

The Dragon Patrol is, as are the Cycle Patrol, the Merry Medics, the Zagalas and the Daddy O’s, looking forward to a fun and very exciting year and will continue to work very hard and will keep doing what we all do best: supporting our Twin Cities Area Shrine Children’s Hospital!

I can’t begin to tell you what the past few years have meant to me as a Shriner: the great feeling I have each time I put on my fez, walk in a parade, or visit the hospital. Or any of the other numerous other things we do to benefit our Shrine kids. I hope that will continue as we share in the 2018 Shrine experience.

RASC 2018
CALENDAR OF EVENTS
January 3 - Meeting, Eagles Club
February 7 - Sweetheart Dinner, Hosted by Merry Medics
March 1-3 - Herberger Days
March 7 - Meeting, Eagles Club
April 4 - Father/Daughter/Son Banquet, Hosted by Daddy O’s
May 2 - Meeting, Eagles Club
June 8 - Cookout Friday. Hosted by Dragon Patrol
July - No Meeting/Event
August - No Meeting/Event
September 5 - Wine Tasting, hosted by Zagalas
October 3 - Meeting, Eagles Club
November 5 - Hufli
November 7 - Annual Meeting & Election
November 7-10 - Herberger Days
December 21 - Christmas Ball

Note: Shrine Club meetings are at 7:00 p.m. the first Wednesday of each month.

Respectfully,
Mike Smith

Jerry Plachecki
Jim Kuhlman

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Holcomb ~ Henry ~ Boom ~ Purcell
Funeral Homes and Cremation Services

Burial, Cremation, Memorial and Pre-Planning Services

Osman Potentate 2017, Richard Purcell and Lady Sharon
www.holcombhenryboom.com
Dear Nobles,

We are very excited to announce that Hall of Fame quarterback and East-West Shrine Game® alumnus, Brett Favre, will be lending his support of the 2018 East-West Shrine Game. We wanted you to be the first to see a special message from Brett and Shriners Hospitals for Children patient Alec.

The 93rd East-West Shrine Game will be held January 20, 2018 in St. Petersburg, Florida. Visit shrinegame.com/tickets to purchase your tickets today. If you can’t make it to the game, you can watch it live on NFL Network at 3 p.m. EST. We hope to see you there!

Yours in faith,

Gary J. Bergenske
Imperial Potentate

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Greetings from your Osman Shrine Highland Pipes and Drums Band. This is the Band’s first article. We are proud to report that the band is growing very well, and that our Band is projected to be completely ready for the Osman 2018 Parade Season. Osman Pipes and Drums Band, hereinafter OP&DB, has been blessed by a Cadre of dedicated Brothers who have contributed much to formulate this new band. Starting two years ago with just two instructors and combined with strong support from within the general Masonic Family and US Military supporting associations. At this time, there is no doubt that Pipe Major Jim Smith’s dream to make OP&DB a reality, is in fact “the Reality.”

On Friday December 15, 2017, OP&DB proved up an additional Two Bagpipers during the Band’s Christmas Dinner and Celebration. Our Illustrious Potentate Sir Rich Purcell and WB Noble Tom Hoemke are the two candidates to fulfill this old-time tradition. Installation of Officers was also held during this Dinner. A complete list of newly elected and appointed officers will be provided in our February issue.

For those that may not have heard, Drum Sgt Dave Gagnon recently spent some time in the hospital for intestinal complications. Dave is now doing well and must follow up with suggestions from his doctors. Thank you all for your thoughts and prayers for him. Dave keeps saying that this was no big thing to the average Marine.

OP&DB wants to extend a profound “Thank You” for the assistance rendered, in the form of a Fund Raiser and well wishes to our Brother, Noble Pipe Corporal Chris Zack. Chris is another Marine who thought he could fly down a couple or so stories from a deck. Fortunately, Chris is doing remarkably well in his recovery and healing process. He has worn several body casts and is actually back to playing again. Chris was given specific flight instructions to leave the flying to Marine Aviator Jim Smith or the USAF.

We can still use more Pipes and Drums! If you have a sincere yearning to learn either, Please call

Jim Smith - 651-3572149
Emilio Munoz - 612-865-4957
Chris Zack - 651-329-2342

El Presidente,
Emilio Munoz
GOING FOR THE GOLD 2018
I AM RU Prospect Referral Program

Nobles, over these past months we have extended significant effort towards expanding Osman’s membership rolls. We thank those Nobles who have brought in new members and assisted in retaining and restoring members. Now we must continue that work in 2018. You will recall that at the September 12, 2017 Osman Stated Meeting we discussed setting a goal for achieving Gold Membership Status. Going for the Gold is our target membership goal in 2018! In simple terms, this means Osman Shrine needs to end the 2018 calendar year with a net membership increase over the beginning of the year.

Imperial Sir Bergenske has established the new I AM – RU Referral program to make it easier than ever to refer a good man. The simple beauty of this program is that any Noble has the ability to recommend a good man, known to him, that he will then mentor. In under a minute, you can have a new prospect listed in Osman Shrine’s database on the path to becoming our newest member. Your help is needed to implement this program so we may achieve Gold Membership Status.

The process is shown in the graphic and it is very simple:

1. Go to beashrinernow.com/referral
2. Click on the button to refer a good man
3. Complete and confirm your noble membership information
4. Fill out the form
5. Click the submit button

To complete the form, the referring noble will need their member number as well as the prospect’s first name, email address, whether or not he is a Freemason and his country, state, city, and/or postal code.

Your enthusiasm, hard work and dedication to our fraternity is highly valued and appreciated. Thank you!

I AM committed to membership, R U?

Fraternally and on behalf of the Osman Membership Team
Jerry J. Johnson
DUES CLASS - CLASSIFICATION MEANINGS

Total Life – your Temple, Per Capita, & Hospital are paid off = $0.00

Life – your Temple dues are paid, but you owe the Per Capita & Hospital = $35.00

Regular – you owe Temple dues $65.00 + Per Capita $30.00 + Hospital $5.00 = $100.00

Permanent Contributing Member – you owe Temple dues = $65.00 + Per Capita $30.00 = $90.00

Life Permanent Contributing Member – your Temple dues are paid and your Hospital is paid and you only own Per Capita = $30.00

Per Capita Member – you owe Temple Dues $65.00 + Hospital $5.00 = $70.00

Per Capital Life Member – your Temple & Per Capita are paid off and you only owe the Hospital = $5.00

Perm Contributing Per Capita Member – you only owe your Temple Dues = $65.00

St Paul Winter Carnival Parades

King Boreas Grand Day Parade
Saturday, Jan 27, 2018 @ 2:00 pm – 4:00 pm
Parade line up is at 1:00 pm
Oasis is at 10:00 am at Plato Masonic Center
200 E Plato Blvd
St Paul, MN

Vulcan Victory Torchlight Parade
Saturday, Feb 10, 2018 @ 5:30 pm – 7:30 pm
Parade line up is at 4:30 pm
2017 Osman Paper Supporters

**MEMORIALS**

- Warren & Doreen Lynch
  In Memory of P.P. Mike Hildebrand, Dick McNary, P.P. Tom Huppert, Doris Plachecki, Nancy Fish, Jerry Payne, & P.P. Al Koenig

- Charlton Bietz
  In Memory of Bob Tucker & Irv Hansen

- Russ, Ralph, & Alan Christofk
  In Memory of Joe Christofk, Father & Grandfather

- Shirley McNary
  In Memory of Richard McNary

- Michael Meyer
  In Memory of Erv Kooistra

- LuWana (Lu) Gerads
  In Memory of Husband Edward (Ed) Gerads, Daughter-in-law Charlene Gerads

**SUPPORTERS**

- P.P. Charles & Judee Ferguson
  In Memory of P.P. Robert Ferguson

- Dennis & Elaine Boom
- Stephen Oian & Lady Carolyn
- Peter & Elizabeth Ekholm
- P.P. Jerry Plachecki
- Russ & Pauline Christofk
- P.P. Larry & Julianne
- Riemenschneider - Zor
- Austin Oriental Band
- Austin SC
- St Croix Valley SC – Zor
- Bob & Amy Hering – Zor
- P.P. Charles & Judee Ferguson
- Heather Krastins Lambert, PQ
- Albert Lea SC
- Provost

**SUPPORT YOUR OSMAN PAPER**

Honoraria & Memorials are $35.00 and a Supporter is $25.00.

Send to:
Osman Shrine Paper
2750 Sibley Memorial Hwy.
St. Paul, MN 55121

Your name as you want it listed:

- In honor of:
- In memory of:

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Jackie: (651) 379-2823
Brian: (651) 379-2822
Fax: (651) 379-2821

email: beermannpartners@kw.com
www.beermannpartners.com
Attention Club & Units: Make sure you have a person appointed to make a monthly report to The Osman. Return your report by the deadline (usually around the 15th of the month) to doreen@osmanshrine.org or mail to 2750 Sibley Memorial Highway, St. Paul 55121

651-452-0475

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Mendota Heights, MN 55120-1198
651-452-1555
acaciapark@aol.com • Fax (651) 452-2986

January 2018
What’s Up With Our Circus Mommy’s and Daddy’s?

Following last month’s article, I learned that many people did not fully understand the Circus Mommy and Daddy program. In our large organization, it is easy for the details of long-running programs to get lost, or assume that everyone has had it explained to them. So, here is the big reason why we become Circus Mommy’s and Daddy’s.

The purpose of the Circus Mommy and Daddy program is to enable deserving kids to come to our Circus at no charge.

But, nothing is free, and those seats need to be paid for, and that’s where hundreds of Shriner’s, Ladies, and Friends help out. These are the folks who become Circus Mommy’s and Daddy’s. These people purchase special discounted tickets for $5 each and then distribute them to deserving people they know, or they pay for the tickets and return them to the office to us to distribute.

From the office, our largest recipient of our tickets is the Shriners Hospital For Children – Twin Cities Unit. The Hospital distribute them to our Shrine kids as they visit the hospital. We also mail out tickets to Shrine Kids as requested. Other tickets go to community and faith based groups for them to distribute. A few that you may recognize are Hope Kids, Early Childhood Family Education Centers, and Courage Center. We also respond to individual requests, and pay special attention to serve as many areas and demographics as possible with the tickets we have available. We also monitor the tickets redeemed at the circus to be sure that as many as possible are being used.

Please understand that although Mommy and Daddy is not a free ticket give-away to Shriner’s, it IS perfectly alright that many Shriner’s do pay for the tickets and give them to their friends and family, and even purchase additional tickets for this purpose. We are happy to send more… as long as they get paid for.

So, whether you give them out yourself or have us do it, the important part is they are getting where they will do the most good.

Many of the kids send us notes of thanks. We display many of them on the reception table at the after-circus party and often hang them in the office. A quick glance through some of them will convince you that you HAVE made a big difference in many lives.

So please respond to your Mommy Daddy mailing when it arrives later this month, and proudly wear your 2018 Circus Mommy and Daddy pins to show that you have done so much for others.

Only three months to showtime!

John Davenport
john@osmancircus.com
651-452-5662
You're invited to the East-West Shrine Game®

WATCH PARTY!

As Shriners, this is our time to cheer, have fun and invite local football fans to join our team of Nobles! We are hosting a membership recruitment WATCH PARTY for one of the nation’s top college all-star and NFL Draft recruitment games, the East-West Shrine Game benefiting Shriners Hospitals for Children®. Created by the Shriners in 1925, this classic football tradition is a one-of-a-kind legacy for our new members.

DATE: SATURDAY, JANUARY 20
TIME: 1:30 - 5:00 pm
LOCATION: The Exchange Food & Drink
500 5th Ave NW
New Brighton, MN 55112

DETAILS:
RSVP required. Your Check is your reservation.
$10.00 per person – RSVP by January 15th
Fun and Prizes will be had.

Share your favorite Watch Party moments with fellow Nobles from across the world! Send your Watch Party success stories and photos to the temple recorder, or Tweet #Shrinegame

“One event, one football game, endless opportunities to excite potential members about our fraternity and our mission.”
Greetings and a Happy New Year! I hope everyone enjoyed the holidays with your family and friends. The Osman Womens Auxiliary had a very successful 2017, because of the generosity of all of you. Thank you so very much!!

Our last event for 2017 was our Annual Holiday Party on December 9th held at the Mendakota Country Club. It was a fabulous event. We enjoyed a delicious lunch, and we were royally entertained by the Minnesota Boy Choir under the direction of Mark Johnson, accompanied by Todd Price. The 54 young boys were phenomenal!! One of the highlights was that one of the boys is a patient at our Shriners Hospital. The MN Boy Choir sang many inspirational and holiday songs. They then treated us to a holiday sing-along, singing many wonderful family favorite carols. The sing-along was even more special because the boys came out into the audience and sang alongside us. It was a very moving experience. Our members and their guests truly enjoyed the event. Following the performance, Illustrious Sir Rich Purcell and Lady Sharon were presented with a Gophers’ blanket. Audrey Norte was the lucky winner of the raffle for the beautiful quilt. A special thank you to Elizabeth Ekholm, Kathy Flicek and Diane Johnson for planning and hosting this festive event. Thank you also to those who brought toys for the Children at our Hospital.

We received a generous donation of wonderful toys from the Albert Lea Shrine Club delivered by Jake Loper and Bob Hahn. We also received a very large donation of toys from Jenny Hill and Julie Wexler. Jenny has given us numerous toys throughout the year. Thank you all for these wonderful toys.

We attended the Osman Parade to Glory on December 12th and the Rochester Area Shrine Club Holiday party on December 16th. Once again, the Osman Nobles have been extremely generous with their donations to the Osman Womens Auxiliary. We sincerely appreciate the generosity of the Clubs and Units during the Parade to Glory. The Clubs and Units donated approximately $20,944.20 to the Osman Womans Auxiliary. Thank you so much. We could never do what we do for the children at Shriners Hospital without your kind generosity and support. This will really help us with our mission to provide wheelchairs and other mobility equipment for our children at Shriners Hospital for Children – Twin Cities.

Again, we had the opportunity to distribute over 500 stockings filled with toys to the patients at Shriners Hospital for Children – Twin Cities. Each child also received a blanket. You can’t imagine the excitement and joy that these children expressed when they received their stocking and blanket. If the child had a sibling with them, the sibling also received a stocking and blanket. It is because of all your hard work and continued support that we are able to do this for the children. Not only were the children excited, but the parents, grandparents and other relatives that accompanied the children were very thankful for the wonderful gifts given to the children. Thank you to everyone who came and helped fill and distribute the stockings.

A very special thank you to all of you for all of your very generous donations throughout 2017. You have given us gifts of money, pop tabs, toys, quilts and more. Your ongoing support is very much appreciated.

Membership packets will be sent out this month or early in February. We appreciate our current members and hope you will all renew your membership. In addition, we would love to increase our membership. Please invite any of your friends, relatives or neighbors who would be interested in joining us as we help the children at our Shriners Hospital. Membership is open to all men, women and young adults. You do not need a Shrine affiliation to be a member. You can be involved as much or as little as you like. Membership is only $15.00 per year. If you are not a current member and would like join the Osman Womens Auxiliary, please call Kathy Flicek, Membership Chair at 651-454-7868.

The Osman Womens Auxiliary Board is busy planning the calendar of events for 2017. The schedule will be included in your membership packets and published in the Feb. issue of the Osman.

Again, it is a pleasure and honor to serve as your Chairman, and thank you for all of your continued support. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me.

Rose West, Chairman
rwest330@hotmail.com
651-459-3813
Minnesota BoyChoir performing at the Auxiliary Holiday Party

Jenny Hill and Julie Wexler with some of the toys they delivered to the hospital

Minnesota BoyChoir singing Christmas Carols with Auxiliary members and guests

Mae receiving her Christmas stocking at Shriners Hospital from the Women’s Auxiliary

Gifts • Memorials • Honoraria

Please print

☐ In Memory of: ____________________________

☐ In Honor of: ____________________________

☐ Gift

Made By: ____________________________________________

Send acknowledgment to: ____________________________

Name: ____________________________________________

Address: __________________________________________

Make checks payable to: Osman Women’s Auxiliary

Send check along with this form to:
Elizabeth Ekholm
Gifts/Memorials/Honoraria Chairman
1703 Lilac Lane
Mendota Heights, MN 55118

One – Day – to – Masonry

The annual One-Day-to-Masonry presents some of the finest degree work to our new candidates and to the Brothers on the sidelines. If you have not yet seen the new Minnesota Masonic Heritage Center, you will want to take this opportunity to do so.

To participate as a Candidate, please contact the Grand Secretary at GrandSecretaryMinnesota@gmail.com

For lunch reservations or further details, please contact the Grand Lodge office at 952-948-6700 or 1-800-245-6050.

Date: Saturday
January 20th, 2018
8:00 am – 4:00 pm

Minnesota Masonic Heritage Center
11501 Masonic Home Dr
Bloomington, MN
**Parade to Glory 2017**

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<td>St Cloud Go-Karts</td>
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<th>DAUGHTERS OF THE NILE</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Albert Lea SC</td>
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**Total**: $100.00

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SHRINE CIRCUS BIKES</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Rochester Dragon Patrol</td>
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<tr>
<td>Alexandria SC &amp; Calliope &amp; 4-Wheelers</td>
<td>100.00</td>
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<td>Albert Lea SC</td>
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<tr>
<td>Provost</td>
<td>125.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Clowns</td>
<td>100.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sheiks</td>
<td>100.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Legion of Honor</td>
<td>100.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Osman Cycle Corp</td>
<td>100.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rochester Zagalas</td>
<td>100.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mighty Mites</td>
<td>100.00</td>
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**Total**: $1,025.00

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<tr>
<th>SHRINE CIRCUS COLORING BOOK</th>
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<tr>
<td>Legion of Honor</td>
<td>175.00</td>
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**Total**: $175.00

**Grand Total**: $66,233.20
Ill Sir Rich Purcell, Elizabeth Ekholm, Rose West, PP Roger Robinson waiting in line to congratulate the Groups on their donations.

Osman Cycle Corp members listen as Steve Ingram mentions the donations.

Entertainment provided by Jon Duvall.

2018 officers of Clubs & Units Chris Johnson President, Wiley Davis VP, and Wade Harvey Secy/Treas.

Kim Tsoukalas, Tracy Gardiner, & Audrey Norte entertained the group.

Nobles listening as Tim Gagnon mentioned the donations from the Sheiks & Mighty Mites.

Kim Tsoukalas signing to Ill Sir Rich Purcell.

Robert Campbell, Tom Schultz, Mark & Lori Galloway.

Tim Gagnon talking with ladies Sandy Nehm & Sharon Purcell.
Attention All Osman Shrine Club and Unit Officers!!!

It is time for the:

2018 Osman Shrine Club & Units Officers Seminar

February 10th, 2018
9:00 a.m. – 1:45 p.m.
(time correction due to more topics needing to be covered)

Osman Shrine Event Center
2750 Sibley Memorial Hwy, Eagan, MN

Many topics will be discussed including:
• Shriners Hospital
• Circus
• By-Laws
• Insurance
• Imperial Session
• Midwest Session
• Parades/Temple Events
• Legal Issues
• Membership
• Shrine Protocol
• Club/Unit Requests

We are requesting you send someone to this important event, and bring your questions and concerns. We are also requesting to please bring a copy of your December bank statements.

This is one of the most important events of the year for club and unit officers. Whether you are new officer or have held an office for years you will not want to miss the information covered in this year’s seminar. Members of your Divan as well as other key Osman personnel will be there too assist you with your questions.

Rolls and coffee will be served at 8:30 and the seminar will start promptly at 9:00.
Lunch will be served at 12:30.
Club and Unit Officers Seminar  
Saturday February 10, 2018  
Osman Shrine Center  
**Agenda**

8:30 – 9:00  Registration, coffee and rolls  
9:00 – 9:10  Pledge – Prayer – Opening Remarks - C&U President Chris Johnson  
9:10 – 9:20  Etiquette – Assistant Rabban Larry Norte  
9:20 – 9:50  Membership – Co-Chairman Jerry Johnson and Tim Bass  
9:50 – 10:00  Osman Women’s Auxiliary – Chairman Rose West  
10:00 – 10:25  Hospital Information and Patients – Dr. Mielke and Patient  
10:25 – 10:35  How to propose patients and hospital clinics – III Sir Roger Robinson  
10:35 – 11:00  2018 Circus – Director John Davenport and Chief Rabban Anders Haugen  
11:00 – 11:15  2018 Midwest and Temple Parades – Chief of Staff Neil Clymer  
11:15 – 11:30  Newspaper – 1st Ceremonial Master Jim Gratias and 2nd Ceremonial Master Michael Meyer  
11:30 – 11:40  Safety – Assistant Chief Rabban Larry Norte  
11:40 – 11:50  Insurance Info. and C&U responsibility – High Priest and Profit Sean Gardner & Brett Boelter  
11:50 – 12:00  Club and Unit Annual Reports – Recorder Tom west  
12:00 – 12:10  Club and Unit Divan Representatives – Oriental Guide Mark Galloway  
12:10 – 12:30  Bylaws, Balloting and SOP’s  
12:30  Lunch to be served  
12:45 – 1:15  Club and Unit attendance, C&U Descriptions, Social Media, Warehouse  
          C&U President Chris Johnson  
1:15 – 1:45  State of Osman and Ceremonials – Potentate Mike Nehm
## JANUARY 2018

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sunday</th>
<th>Monday</th>
<th>Tuesday</th>
<th>Wednesday</th>
<th>Thursday</th>
<th>Friday</th>
<th>Saturday</th>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>New Year’s Brunch</td>
<td>St Cloud SC</td>
<td>Rochester SC</td>
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<td>Annual Meeting</td>
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<td>Austin SC &amp; Austin Oriental Band</td>
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<td>14</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Potentates reception</td>
<td>Provost</td>
<td>Alexandria SC &amp; 4-wheelers</td>
<td>Legion of Honor, East Central SC, Sheiks, Friendly Valley SC</td>
<td>Rochester Dragon Patrol Holiday party</td>
<td>One Day to Masonry, East/West Shrine game</td>
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<td>21</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Rochester Merry Medic &amp; Cannon Valley Clowns Holiday party</td>
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<td>St Paul Winter Carnival Parade</td>
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<td>29</td>
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If your Club or Unit would like your activities listed on the calendar please contact the Osman Shrine office 651-452-5660, Doreen@OsmanShrine.org

To access the online Osman Shrine calendar please go to www.osmanshrine.org/node/3. If you want to add the calendar to your personal Gmail account simply click on the Google Calendar button in the lower right and follow the instructions.

### Upcoming Events

#### February 2018
- MSA Winter Session 1st – 3rd
- Club & Unit Seminar – 10th

#### March 2018
- Stated Meeting – 13th

#### April 2018
- Circus 5th – 8th
Children’s Holiday Party

Bob Boesen painting faces

Luis Harvey up as a pirate

Izzy Behr got her face done up as one of Santa’s reindeer

Nora Davis & Jalynn Colligan

Rookie and two of his fans

Rookie with Santa and Mrs. Claus

Nobles getting family pictures with Santa

Ill Sir Rich Purcell calling out names for the winners of prizes

Cathy Sportelli & Kathy Flice helping at one of the games
Children’s Holiday Party

Adam & Clara Wychor and their son Cooper

Everyone enjoying the Children’s holiday party

Santa and his reindeer Ill Sir Rich Purcell, Russ Christofk, Tom West, Sean Gardiner, Larry Norte, Ryan Colligan, Mark Galloway and Jim Gratias

Nora and Dalton Davis with Santa

Bob Boesen painting faces

Ill Sir Rich Purcell

Family size candy land game