



ZAMORA

Vol. 74 - No. 8

August, 2016

NEWS

From the Potentate . . .

Tommy McGhee

Well, here we are in the “Dog Days of Summer” and wow is it hot. Several of the Divan have recently returned from the 2016 Imperial Session in Tampa Florida where we got to see our old friend, Chris Smith, from Wahabi Shrine in Jackson, MS. He was sworn in as the Imperial Potentate, and what a fantastic and elegant ceremony Imperial put on for him and Ethel.

On the local level, we have a Road Runner Meeting coming up on August 11. If you are one of our Road Runners, or have thought of becoming one, please try to attend this dinner. This is one part of being in the Shrine that makes all of the hard work seem worthwhile. If you enjoy helping children this is the most rewarding opportunity that may ever come your way. Please take advantage of the opportunity to get to know some of our patients and the hospitals we support.

We have our final Shrine convention of the year coming up on August 17-20 in Warner Robbins, GA. I hope everyone who can will come and enjoy all of the Zamora fellowship. It is a great chance to get together and spent time with our shrine family in a relaxed atmosphere.

Oh yea, just a reminder the Potentate’s Ball and 125 year celebration (really a Temple Ball/Party) is on September 10, 2016. As always this is the party of the year. We expect many guests from our neighboring Shrine Centers and who knows who else might show up for the event. This year we are not going to dress formal, but the attire is dressy casual with a Western theme. So put on your best Western style outfit and come join the party. There will be a \$20.00 charge per person that will include dinner and several trips to the bar along with a few surprises. Please mark your calendars and plan on attending.

Most importantly we have the Sportsman’s Giveaway on September 24, 2016. Please sell lots of tickets to this wonderful fundraiser. This is Zamora’s largest and most successful fundraiser, and together we can make it more successful than ever. Our sponsor, Field and Stream, has agreed to let us set up on the sidewalk in front of the store to sell tickets as often as we like. Please get a group together and set up a date with Terrell Yates. He can let them know when we will be there so they can be ready for us. Working together we can’t help but be successful.

Yours in Faith,

Tommy McGhee, Potentate



Zamora Shrine Center
Invites you to our
125th Anniversary Celebration
and
Temple Ball
Honoring
Illustrious Sir Tommy McGhee
and
Lady Jackie
The Divan and Nobility

Saturday, September 10, 2016
at 6:00 p.m.

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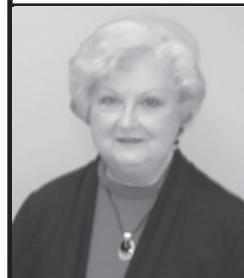


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June 2016 Cold Class

Meet Zamora's 6 Newest Nobles



Ricky Maze II



Larry Underwood



On June 23rd the Zamora Shrine held a cold class to initiate 6 new Nobles. Gadsden Shrine Club was gracious enough to host the event and make sure that everyone was well fed. Above from left to right the new nobles, Rickey Maze II, Larry Underwood, Nicholas Britto, Matthew Roberts, Samuel Roberts, William Mink II.



Nicholas Britto



Matthew Roberts



Samuel Roberts



William Mink II

2016 Imperial Session

Alabama State Grand Master, Greg Durr was initiated as a Zamora Noble at the 2016 Imperial session in Tampa. The Most Worshipful Grand Master was part of a three man initiation ceremony where Imperial invited Shrines throughout the country to send candidates for initiation and to receive their fezzes. Mr Durr's initiation will improve the relationship between the Masonic Blue Lodges and the Shrine making the Fraternal orders stronger. Most Worshipful Grand Master Durr was presented his Fez by Zamora Past Potentate Anthony West who is also a Shrine Imperial Trustee. Most Worshipful Grand Master Durr was given an opportunity to speak on behalf of the class. He mentioned that his own dad who has passed was a Shriner in Louisiana and would be proud of him taking this next step. The Most Worshipful says he has been humbled by the whole process and ceremony. Becoming a Shriner is something he always wanted to do but had never pursued until he had this opportunity. He has always loved the charity of the Shrine and the good work they do. He thanks all the Alabama Shrine Temples that made this happen and now sees first hand what the Shriners do and he is delighted to be a part of it.

The website for the 2017 Imperial Session is already up and running at www.imperial2017.com The Session will run from July 9th - the 13th in Daytona Beach, Florida, For more information visit the website.





The Zamora ladies attend the ladies luncheon at the 142nd Imperial Session. From left to right are Diane Baker, Amy Carr, Pat Gaskins, Jackie McGhee and Tammy Wortham.



For the last couple of years artist Marco Perego creates a Shriner themed drawing for the Rabbans and their ladies to paint. Here Pat Gaskins chooses to paint the child in an orange shirt. She secretly heavily painted a "Z" in the shirt to represent Zamora.

Imperial Potentate Sir Chris L Smith & First Lady Ethel present their Imperial Cruise in 2017 – ‘Fun in the Sun’

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Travelling



Members of Zamora were Invited to attend the Abba Potentates Ball. The theme of this years ball was "All together we can". In attendance were Zamora Chief Rabban Tom Gaskins with Lady Pat and Treasurer Brian Fason with Lady Julie. The festivities started in the Abba Red Fez Club, their hospitality room. According to Pat, everyone sat around telling stories and getting to know each other. The Abba family she said were some of the most hospitable and gracious hosts they had ever met. In a short while they felt like part of the family. During the pre ball festivities they made Abba's Potentate, Herman Smith, an honorary Zamora Shriner. A check was then presented to his Lady, Virginia Ollhoft, for the Abba transportation fund. Pat said that it was "a beautiful ball" and that she was "looking forward to doing it again".

Road Runners



In the Month of June the Zamora Roadrunners changed the lives of 14 children.

In June Zamora provided 11 van trips
1 trip was made to the Cincinnati Hospital
10 trips were made to the Greenville Hospital

Zamora furnished 3 rooms for families that provided their own transportation to the Greenville Hospital.

The Transportation Fund received donations from
Whorton-Dykes Post 2760 Gadsden

Shrine Tag Sales

Paul and Patty Vaughn in memory of Elwell Thomas

Louis and Ellen Wood in memory of Elwell Thomas

The "Q" in memory of Wayne Dunaway's brother

Kids Day at the park

Glen Wellborn and the Blind Man Store

Goodyear Tire and Rubber out of Gadsden Alabama
donated a set of four tires for one of our hospital vans.

Special reminder Thursday August, 11th will be the drivers' safety meeting. Sgt. John Pennington will be our special guest speaker from the Sheriff's Department.

November 5th - 6th is the 29th annual Clay County Car Show and Swap Meet.





Dr. Harry Wallace, Jr., age 90, died on July 16, 2016. He was born and raised in Gadsden, Alabama. He attended the University of Alabama and served as a radio operator in the Aleutian Islands in World War II. He received his Doctor of Optometry degree in 1952 and began practicing in Bessemer. He served on the adjunct faculty of the UAB School of Optometry, and was president of the Alabama Optometric Association. He was named Alabama Optometrist of the Year in 1975. Active in the Masons and Shrine, he served as Potentate of Zamora Shrine Temple in 1993.

He was preceded in death by his wife of 50 years, Frances Wallace, and is survived by his son, Dr. Fred Wallace (Janet) and grandchildren Eric Wallace and Suzanne Wallace of Birmingham, nieces Judy Ann Fowler (Phillip) of Hokes Bluff and Nedra Watson of Sardis.

In lieu of flowers, the family asks that memorial donations be made to Optometry Cares (AOA Foundation) or the Zamora Temple Childrens Transportation Fund.

The family will receive friends from 5-7 PM, Tuesday, July 19, 2016, at Currie-Jefferson Funeral Home, Hwy 150 in Hoover. Funeral will be 10 AM, Wednesday, July 20, 2016, in the funeral home chapel. Interment will be in Jefferson Memorial Gardens, South.

Z Lounge

The Z Lounge is a place where shriners and their ladies can come to socialize. However, did you know know that the Z Lounge is open to the public and has regular times when it is open? Did you know that the Z lounge staff regularly volunteers their help during most major events hosted at the Shrine Center? Or even that the Z lounge has its own budget and does not take any money from the shrine general fund? In essence the Z Lounge is a self sustained hospitality room that regularly contributes to the growth of the Zamora Shrine.

Just walking in the front of the Shrine Center during most major events like Roller Derby, you can hear the music, laughter and good times being had. The Z Lounge is a place where everyone is equal and it is easy to just sit back and relax with your favorite drink. Prices for drinks are cheaper than anywhere else you can find and as a bonus the socializing is free.



The current version of the Z Lounge has been going strong for about five years now. It was during Illustrious Sir Greg Gregerson's year as Potentate that the Z Lounge was re opened. Al Wortham was given the helm of the Z Lounge and the mandate to get it back up and running. Greg believed in the lounge enough that he loaned the Z Lounge \$2500 as seed money to get the process started. The Lounge was so successful thanks to fundraising and sales that that original loan was paid back during the first year making the Lounge independent from having to take Temple funds. The Z Lounge did not stop there and each year new events and fundraisers have been added including fish fries, bike nights and a Valentines party. Each not only are the events great entertainment but they also have the added benefit of donating money back into the Shrine on a regular basis.



We eagerly welcome hosting your private birthday parties, baby showers, wedding receptions, etc. If you haven't been to our Alabama football parties you need to check them out—guaranteed you will have fun. The Z Lounge is open for every football game and we always have a large crowd that brings dishes so there is plenty of free food for all.

We are always open to the public and thanks to the public we are able to give so much to the place we hold dear to our hearts—Zamora Temple Shrine Center.....We would love for you to check us out, spread the word, and bring your ladies out with you.

Sincerely, Management Team of Z Lounge

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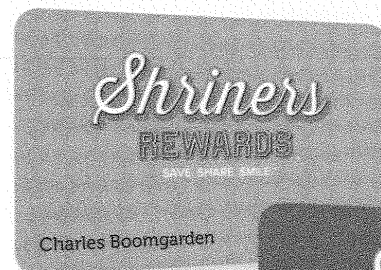
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Tag Program

The Shrine License Plate program began in 1993 on the floor of the newspaper office in Piedmont, Alabama. Lane Weatherbee was changing the Shrine tag on his motorcycle. At the time, any “heavy duty motorcycle” could bear a Shrine tag. As he was putting on the new tag on his Gold Wing, he said it occurred to him that Shriners’ automobiles should be entitled to distinctive tags, and some of the proceeds should go to the Shriners’ kids.

After receiving permission from the Potentate, Weatherbee contacted State Rep. Gerald Willis (now deceased). They discussed the program, and it was agreed that any Shriner, when showing a valid dues card, could obtain a automobile license plate that bore the Shrine emblem and a reference to the hospitals. This brought on several sessions with Willis, Weatherbee and the Clerk of the House of Representatives, but the final bill was written, and with a little lobbying, it passed the House, the Senate and was signed into law by the Governor.

The provisions of the law were simple. An applicant must show a valid Shrine dues card, pay a \$25 fee and get the tag. There were unforeseen difficulties. For instance, if a second car was in the name of the Shriner’s wife, she couldn’t get a tag. If the vehicle was in the name of a business or corporation, the Shriner could not get a tag. There was no provision for a personalized Shrine tag. In the background, there were more issues to be faced. The state charges slightly less than \$5.00 for the tag, This would leave slightly more than \$20 to go to the Shriners’ Hospital program. Some of these problems have been solved.

Weatherbee contacted Imperial headquarters, and it was determined that 18 percent of the revenues would be paid to the transportation fund of the Temple in whose jurisdiction the tag was sold. The remaining 82 percent went directly to the hospital’s general fund in Tampa. This, too, presented a problem. The State of Alabama will not send license plate receipts outside the state. The state would, however, send the money to municipality. Weatherbee wrote and ordinance creating “the Juvenile Health Care Authority of the City of Piedmont, had it introduced and passed by the Piedmont City Council. He then arranged with Farmers and Merchants Bank of Piedmont for a no-fee account.

In 1994, the Shrine License Plate program began to generate revenues. Weatherbee’s late wife, Carol, set up a computer program to separate the checks into the proper Shrine jurisdiction. It further divided the receipts transportation between the hospitals and the transportation funds. In 2006, Carol Weatherbee passed away, and Weatherbee asked that Noble Art Lyle and his Lady B.J. take over the duties of receiving and distributing the funds. Noble Lyle and Lady B.J. have faithfully executed these duties.

Recently Lyle was called to the Imperial Session to present the checks that bring the total revenues from Alabama’s Shrine License Plate Program to slightly more than \$1 million, all of which went to either the transportation funds or directly to Shriners Hospitals for Children.

There have been a few changes in the program. Several years ago, Weatherbee and Lyle had to go before a state revenue committee that was threatening to stop the program because one State Trooper complained that the license plate numbers (that were black) could not be read, because of the Shrine emblem (which was gold) was behind them. Weatherbee came up with a design using the shade of gold that had been adopted by the Alabama Antique Auto group. The program was saved.

The main change came earlier this year. In January, The State Legislature, without notice and without contacting anyone, decided to double the cost of the tag from \$25 to \$50. In this case, the unrequested action may have been for the good. While tampering with the original legislation, the Representatives allowed the receipts to the Shrine to be much larger. For each tag, the state receives \$4.25, while the program receives \$45.75 per tag.

Weatherbee is Past Grand Master of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Alabama, past Emeritus Director at Zamora and Past President of the Shrine Directors Association of North America. Lyle is Past Master of of Lozahatchee Lodge No. 97, and Past Patron of the Lozahatchee Chapter of OES.



Zamora Park

Zamora Park held a successful 4th of July weekend late night swim and fireworks show. This year was unique in that this event was opened up to the public. In past years this was a Shriner friends and family event. This event was highly publicized to the local communities using social media like facebook. It was estimated that attendance was close to 600 guests for the fireworks show. Trent Ferguson said “we are going to do it bigger and better next year, and we have already started making plans”. What makes this year so special is that this is the first time that the event has paid for it self and made a nice donation to the park. “Every year” prior “that we have done it, we have lost significantly”. Feedback from the public was phenomenal and Trent let us know that even weeks later he was still receiving positive responses. Tentatively the plan is to open the park back up to the public on Labor Day weekend for another night swim with a live band for entertainment. This was a prime example of where some new thinking about how we handle our events made a huge impact in how we as Shriners interact with our communities.



Throughout the day the pool was crowded with people who were trying to avoid the weekend heat.



Glenn holding down the fort at his Blind Man Store. Brad Parker is in the background giggling and photo bombing Glenn.



Shriner Nick Barnes along with Josh Mize....Will Josh be the newest Shriner?



Frankie Sports pulls a fried fillet for the next order up in the kitchen.



The mortars are prepped and ready to be taken to the launch area.



The sun sets on another day at the lake.



Zamora's fireworks crew took the time to get one last group shot before the start of the show.



It was bright and loud at the launch site. It looked chaotic but Zamora's fireworks crew put safety first to make sure the show went off without incident.



Several hundred people watch the show from the pool area across the lake from the launch area.

DeMolay



The Alabama State DeMolay Association held its annual Conclave at Zamora Shrine Temple July 14 – 16, 2016. The theme for this year was “Heroes and Legends.” The young men and Advisors held business meetings, educational sessions and enjoyed some local fun at Autobahn and The Escape Room. The conclave was a wonderful success and it ended on Saturday with their Honors Ceremonies, State Officers Installation and Banquet, and a dance. The newly installed State Officers are State Master Councilor Dalton Absher of Birmingham Chapter, State Senior Councilor, Taylor Cheeley of Birmingham Chapter and State Junior Councilor Kyle McGee of Mobile Chapter. Thank you to Illustrious Sir Tommy McGhee Potentate, and the members of Zamora Shrine Temple for their continuous support of our Masonic Youth Organizations in Alabama.



Rainbow Girls



The Alabama Grand Assembly held their annual convention on June 23 – 26, 2016 at Zamora Temple with Sister Erin Bumpus serving as Grand Worthy Advisor. We were enthusiastic to initiate two new members into our Order. Rainbow in Alabama has grown greatly throughout the past several years. It was exciting to have all of the stations filled this year at Grand Assembly, AND begin a new term with a full core of officers...plus some! We begin our “Leave a Legacy” term ready to continue growing. With Sister Julia McGee, our Grand Worthy Advisor, and Mrs. Jennifer Mulkey, our Supreme Deputy, leading us into a new year, we know that this year will be filled with fun and excitement. The girls of Alabama Rainbow cannot wait to see what is in store for them.

We are honored to have Sister Julia McGee serving as Acting Supreme Outer Observer at Supreme Assembly this year in Providence, Rhode Island. We are so proud of her and we know that she will represent our state well.

We are also honored, and grateful, to be able to hold our annual Grand Assembly each year at the Zamora. We would like to send a big THANK YOU to Illustrious Sir Tommy McGhee, for all he has done. He, as well as all the Shriners, have been a huge help to us over the last several years. It is because of Sponsoring Bodies like this, that we are able to have such a beautiful and successful Grand Assembly.

An aerial night photograph of a fireworks display. A large, brilliant firework bursts in the upper left, with numerous smaller bursts trailing off to the right. Below the fireworks, a parking lot is visible with several cars parked. In the lower right, there is a long, low building and a circular sign with a star. The scene is illuminated by the bright light of the fireworks against a dark night sky.

Zamora News

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