



BEN HUR Shriners

The Chariot



DECEMBER 2024

VOL. 92, NO 12

**MERRY CHRISTMAS & HAPPY NEW
YEAR**



7811 Rockwood Lane
Austin, Texas 78757

Articles due NLT 15th of the month

512-480-0812
www.benhurshrine.org

BEN HUR SHRINE

CHARTED AUGUST 16, 1892
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BEN HUR OFFICE HOURS
Mon - Fri 9:30am to 2:30pm
Closed on Major Holidays

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2024 POTENTATE**

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CHARIOT EDITOR Sam Stimson, PhD
Webmaster/Designer..... Diane Reid

APPOINTED STAFF (Cont)

Entertainment Committee

Romeo "the count" Dengehel, Holly Dengehel, Dolce Avila, Chef Ernest Owney, Jim Kinley, Debbie Kinley, Russell Hur, Russell Jones, Dee Davis, Brenda Willis Scholin Lana Stone, Liz Lewis, Deloris Shaw, Dave Harnden, Ali Scully, Raul Scully, Simon Scully, Chuck Jones, Pam Jones, Mary Jane Falwell, Jim Falwell

Insurance Chairman

Gerald "Jerry" Carruth

Insurance Committee

Ill Sir James Heineman, Potentate, Jim McConnel, Chief Rabban, David Caylor, Sam Stimson, PhD , Recorder

Legal Counsel

Gerald C. "Jerry" Carruth

Masonic Relations

Abram Wallace

\$100 Million Dollar Club

Charles Maddox, Assistant Rabban

Parade Marshal

Ricky Hayes, Oriental Guide

Parliamentarian

Gerald C. "Jerry" Carruth

Photographer

Ricardo 'Doce' Avila

Public Relations

Fred Maynard

Sickness & Distress

Nobility

Transportation Chairman

Vance Brown

Social Media

Aliya Spivey / Robert Darrell

Membership Chairman

David Hoke

APPOINTED STAFF

Chief of Staff

Charlie Farnham, PP

Office Manager

Aliya Spivey

Building & Grounds Manager

Russell Hur

Chaplain

Ted Robertson

Colonel of Units

Charlie Farnham, PP

Donor Relations

Fred Maynard, High Priest and Prophet

Master of Ceremonies

Mike Sanders

Fund Raising Chairman

Sean Williams

STATED MEETING

Ben Hur Shrine meets on the 3rd Thursday of the month. The next stated meeting will be Nov 21 2024. **YOUR 2024 DUES CARD IS REQUIRED!**

APPOINTED DIVAN

Temple Director - Chris Garner

Captain of the Guard - David Harnden

Outer Guard -

1st Ceremonial Master—Russell Jones

2nd Ceremonial Master - Ricky Hayes

Ceremonial Asst. Rabban— Erik Gilstrap

Marshal - Raul Scully

POTENTATE MESSAGE—heinemanja@yahoo.com

Hello All,

I may still be counting (2, maybe 1 depending on when this article gets to you), the November, possibly, and December meetings left, and a wakeup and I will be a has been.



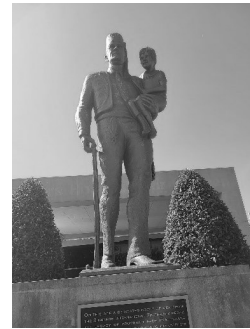
On October 21, 34 Nobles and Ladies boarded a bus heading for Branson Missouri, a GREAT ride and time was had by all. The first night, we made it to Little Rock Arkansas. The next day, Day 2, we made it to Branson, unpacked our suitcases and the fun started with dinner and show at the Hughes Brothers Theater. Day 3 in Branson started with a show, Country Evolutions. Lunch was on our own and included time for shopping. That evening we had dinner and went to Yakov Smirnoff's for an evening of comedy. Day 4 started out with a Neil Diamond Tribute Show.

For the evening, we had dinner and then saw the Haygood's Show. This show was the most liked by everyone, with high energy and Tech and good music.



Day 5, Friday morning, we headed out and spent the night in Texarkana.

Saturday, we left and arrived at the Shreveport Shrine Clinic for a tour through the clinic. Christian Berg gave us a great tour and talk on the facility. We headed back to Ben Hur Shrine and arrived in the evening. We all agreed we would love to do this again when the Christmas shows are in full swing.



At the last stated, the sound system was brought up and the consensus was it was not good and needed to be updated to something easier to operate and usable for events managed by Cynthia as well as Ben Hur. I asked our HP&P to chair the committee to look at this. On November 6, Fred Maynard, Earl Robertson and I met with 2 vendors to let them know what our vision was and showed them our setup. We will receive their quotes and equipment that would be needed to have a great AV System. This included adding AV to the Blue Room and Board Room. They will break it down to 3 separate quotes for each room so we can do all or pick out what we want now and add the other room/rooms later.

Signing off for now,
Ben Hur Proud!
James Heineman
Potentate/Nobel
Cell: 281-923-5890
Email: heinemanja@yahoo.com

CHIEF RABBAN - jemccommel@gmail.com

Nobles and Ladies

First of all I would like to thank Ill. Sir James Heineman and Lady Janet, for their service to Ben Hur for the last 5 years. They will be a hard act to follow.

Joan and I have been working hard on planning events for you to enjoy in 2025, and I ask for your vote and support as your Potentate

We have scheduled officer installation for Saturday January 4 at 1pm, we will have cake and light refreshments afterwards.

The Potentates Ball is Scheduled for Saturday April 12, with a Old Time Membership event scheduled for Tuesday September 9, followed by the Fall Ceremonial and New Nobles dance on Saturday September 27.

I am looking forward to serving Ben Hur for another year.

Remember Shriners come from your lodges, so be sure to support and attend your blue lodges

Fraternally

Jim McConnell

Chief Rabban

**RECORDER** - sstimson70@gmail.com

You may have noticed the Chariot has been published in B/W, with the exception of the front page. Ben Hur Shrine purchased a new printer a few months ago and along with the new printer came a most unwelcome maintenance contract. A large amount of the monthly fee is related to the color toner we use. One way of controlling the cost for the next 3 years, until the end of the contract, will be to limit the amount of color pages printed. We will continue to have pictures and all the monthly information you have come to enjoy and rely upon. The only loss will be color.

Enough about that. Remember, The December Stated Meeting will be election night. I have been told by those who keep secrets, there is a full slate. Come on out, enjoy the hospitality, and vote for your representatives.

And here is a plug for the Chariot, if you have an important timely article, send it to me at the email above and I will make every effort to have it printed in the Chariot. Remember, the deadline for article submission is the 15th of the month.

Fraternally,

Sam Stimson, PhD

Recorder



HIGH PRIEST & PROPHET - fred.maynard@att.net

Nobles & Ladies,

As we enter December we approach the end of another year at Ben Hur. I would like to thank Illustrious Sir James Heineman for his dedication to the Shrine & the Divan for the past 5 years.

Lady Traci and I were traveling in November. We were honored to make the Pilgrimage to the Tomb of the Unknow Soldier in Arlington, Virginia with the International Association of Legions of Honor. We were present as International Commander David Hobbs and Imperial Sir Richard Burk laid a wreath at the Tomb. There were over 100 Shriners present this year. We followed this up with a trip down to Aribia Shrine for their annual Military Ball.

We will continue gauging interest in a possible wine club and barbecue cook team. We are planning to have another organizational meeting on December 15th at 4:00 pm in the blue room. Please plan on attending if you are interested in either of these opportunities to have more fun more often.

Some units at Ben Hur are stepping up to create opportunities for more fun more often. The Director's Staff is planning a Crawfish Boil for February 22nd. Be on the lookout for details. Save the date! We will have a Shrine night at the Texas Stars hockey game March 14th. Ticket will be available on the web-site soon. The Motley Brue spring concert and St. Patty's day celebration will be March 15th. Tickets are available now on the web-site or see one of the members of the Motley Brue.

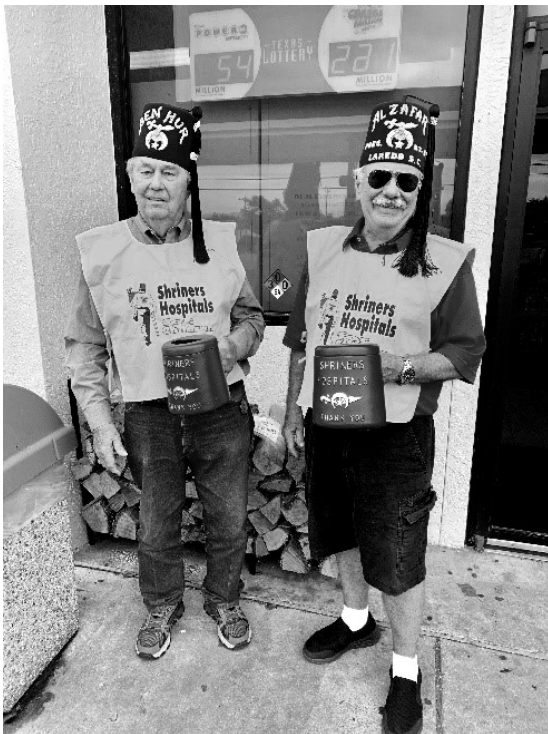
Let us all keep working together to grow Ben Hur and make this the place to have more fun more often.

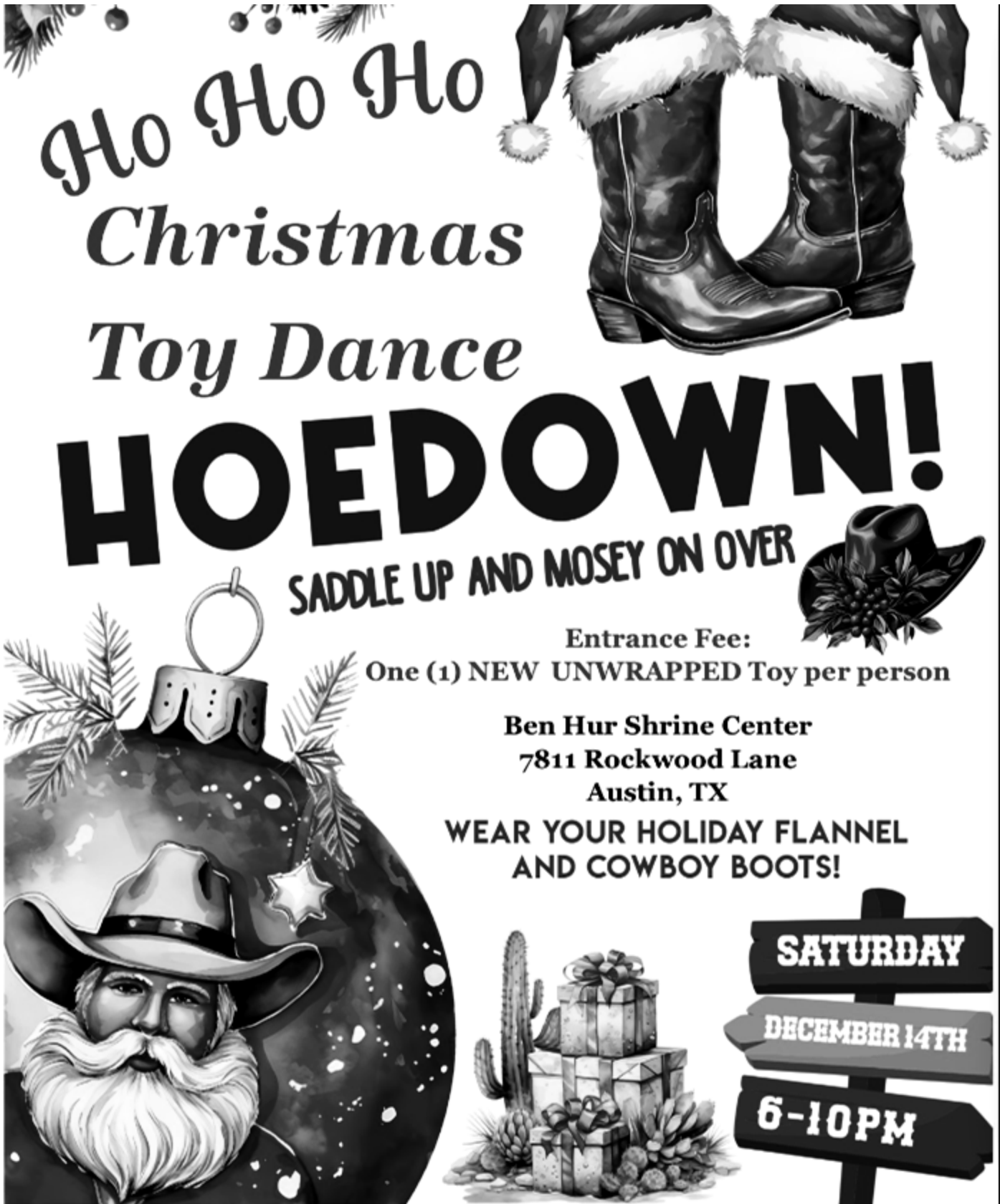
Fraternally,
Fred Maynard
High Priest & Prophet



DEER SEASON IN THE HILL COUNTRY MEANS SHAKE THE BUCKET TIME.

Shaking the Bucket In Llano, Tx. Raising money for Shriners Children's. Ben Hur Highland Lakes Shrine Club does this every year at the opening of deer season at several locations around town. They donate 8 to 10 grand a year to our hospitals. Russ, Pam and I received 556.00 in about 5 hrs. There were 4 other locations plus. Rock on Shriners. All locations in Llano raised \$2,523.06 for the Hospital. They always need help to man the locations. Contact the HLSC if you want a fun day out in the sun.





Ho Ho Ho
Christmas
Toy Dance

HOEDOWN!

SADDLE UP AND MOSEY ON OVER

Entrance Fee:
One (1) NEW UNWRAPPED Toy per person

Ben Hur Shrine Center
7811 Rockwood Lane
Austin, TX

**WEAR YOUR HOLIDAY FLANNEL
AND COWBOY BOOTS!**

SATURDAY
DECEMBER 14TH
6-10PM

HISTORY

LOCKHART SHRINERS BRING CHRISTMAS CHEER TO CHILDREN

The Nobles of The Mystic Shrine Club of Lockhart discovered two wholehearted businessmen who care as much for the children's happiness as do the Shriners. The purchasing committee for the Shrine Christmas Tree to be given by the Shrine Club of Caldwell County visited the stores of Fred Fehr's Variety Store and J.A. Reed, who operates two drug stores. They offered all the toys that they had left over from last year at no cost. All of the donations were moved to the place where the stockings were being prepared.

The outstanding Christmas festivity was the Caldwell County Shrine Club Christmas Tree given at Baker's Theatre Friday morning at 10:00 o'clock.

It is estimated that there were eight hundred children and grownups present but only the children participated. Well filled stockings were given to every child under twelve years of age in the house.

The Boy Scouts orchestra rendered a well-arranged musical program and Manager Baker, in addition to running free two comedy reels, presented to each child as they passed the box office two bright nickels.

Members of the Lockhart Shrine wearing their red fez's were all over the house welcoming and greeting their guests. They made sure that the kids felt that there is a Santa Claus.

Police officers that worked the event said that as far as they have heard there was not one single accident and that it was one of the safest and sanest Christmas nights that they have seen.

AROUND THE DISTRICT

December 10. Tuesday. Hill City Lodge no. 456. Family Night. Holiday Celebration & Past Masters meal. The Past Masters of the lodge will prepare a nice Holiday season dinner. There will be a Holiday program and door prizes. 6:30pm.

December 14. Saturday. "Toy Dance". Ben Hur Shrine. The annual holiday season Toy Dance. Fundraising Fun, Food, & Live Music. Doors open at 5pm. A flier is flying around.

December 12. Thursday. "Mason Up" program by R:W: Keith Reynolds. The program will be after a nice 6:30 pm dinner. Onion Creek Lodge no. 220. Bluff Lane. S Austin.

December 28. Saturday. A.L.L. Program at Hill City Lodge 456. The District Education Officer, Byron Webster, P:M: will conduct the program with assistance from Hill City Lodge members. It is open to any MM to attend. 9am-12pm. A nice lunch will be provided.

STATED MEETINGS

Austin Lodge #12	3rd Monday at SRCT
Buda Lodge #	
Colorado 96	3rd Monday in Webberville, Texas
Texana #123	1st Monday at Ben Hur Shrine Center
Onion Creek #220	1st Thursday in South Austin
Parsons #222	2nd Wednesday at the LSCB
Hill City #456	1st Tuesday at SRCT
University #1190	1st Thursday at SRCT
T Neal Porter #1354	2nd Tuesday at LSCB
Centennial #500	1st Saturday (Feb, May, Aug, Nov) SRCT
Scottish Rite	1st Wednesday at SRCT
Colorado Commandry	2nd Monday at LSCB
Ben Hur Shrine	3rd Thursday. Dark June, July and Aug
National Sojourners	4th Wednesday at Holiday Inn Mid Town

DECEMBER 2024

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	Travis Cty Early Voting					
	Texana #123 Nile	Nile Choir RENTAL	LOH RENTAL	BHST Travel Club		Motley Brue
8 Sons of Hermann Travel Club	9	10 Mini-B RENTAL	11 Trailblazers Charioteers	12 HLSC Provost Guard	13 LOS	14 Toy Dance
Travis Cty Early Voting						Travis Voting
15 Meeting	16	17 Provost Shoot Directors Staff RENTAL	18 Nile	19 BHST Stated SREKOJ Transporters	20	21 RENTAL
22	23	24 BHST Closed	25 BHST Closed	26 Travel Club	27	28
29 Shotgun Unit	30	31 BHST Closed				

BE SURE AND CHECK WWW.BENHURSHRINE.ORG FOR LATEST DATES AND TIMES. CALENDARS CAN CHANGE.

JANUARY 2025

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1 BHST Closed	2	3	4 Officer Installation
5 Sons of Herman	6	7 RENTAL	8 RENTAL	9	10 LOS	11 Divan Retreat
12	13 SOOB 7:30pm	14 RENTAL	15 Nile	16 BHST Stated Transporters	17 Pending Rental	
19 Pending Rental	20	21 RENTAL	22	23	24	25 Nile Bunco
26	27	28 RENTAL	29	30	31 LOS Fashion Show	

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Please see below for an authentic photo of the village where I spent my childhood summers. My brother took this photo in October 2018. It shows the north side of the valley. That's the pretty side where everyone wants to live. The joke's on them because those of us on the south side get to look at the pretty side while they get to look at the ugly side. Believe me, you don't want to look at the ugly side! Even the weeds look like they need a vacation.



Ladies and Nobles,

I had some difficulty thinking about a story for this month. While thinking about it, I decided to do my daily Spanish lessons. One of the lessons was about two friends caught in an elevator. The elevator made a strange noise and started falling. The two friends were scared and started talking about the things they wanted to do before they died. One wanted to climb Mount Everest and learn to fly airplanes. The other wanted to learn to cook and teach her cat to paint. Yeah, Duolingo has some strange stuff in its lessons.

Ultimately, the elevator stopped on the ground floor, and the two friends got out safely. They decided to spend the rest of the day watching TV and eating something good.

There is a lesson here. Please don't wait to be reminded of our passing nature so that you can do what you have been waiting to do. Just go out there and do it! Tomorrow may never come, and you may never get to teach a cat how to paint.

Fraternally,
Romeo Denghel



Mötley Brüe

Presents

1st Annual Spring Concert and St Patty's Day Celebration

March 15th 2025 – 7 to 9pm (Doors open at 6pm)

Featuring 70's and 80's rock by the Home at Last Band



Join us for a trip back in time where rock music was dominated by Steely Dan, the Eagles, the Doobie Brothers, Pink Floyd, and many other iconic artists.



Tickets: \$25 in advance, \$30 at the door

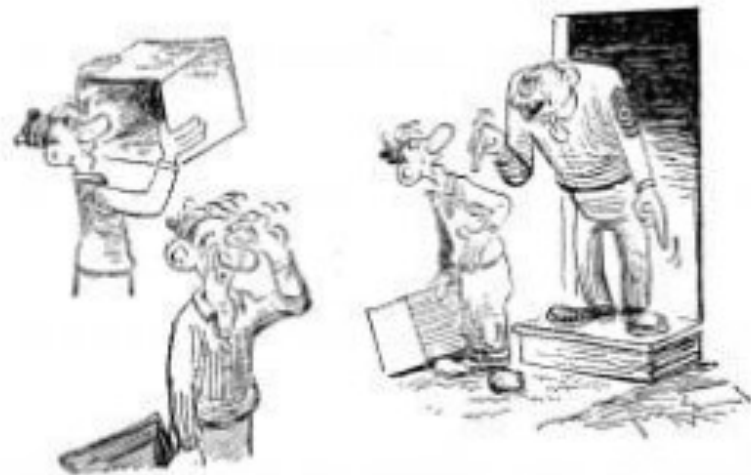
Proceeds to benefit Motley Brue operations

Motley Brue is a proud member unit of Ben Hur Shrine

<https://www.benhurshrine.org/product-page/motley-brue-spring-concert>

For info, contact Tide Williams – 512-502-4399 – tidalwave@austin.rr.com

LOH DECEMBER ARTICLE WAS LOST IN THE MAIL



**NEW NOBLES CREATED NOVEMBER
21ST 2024**

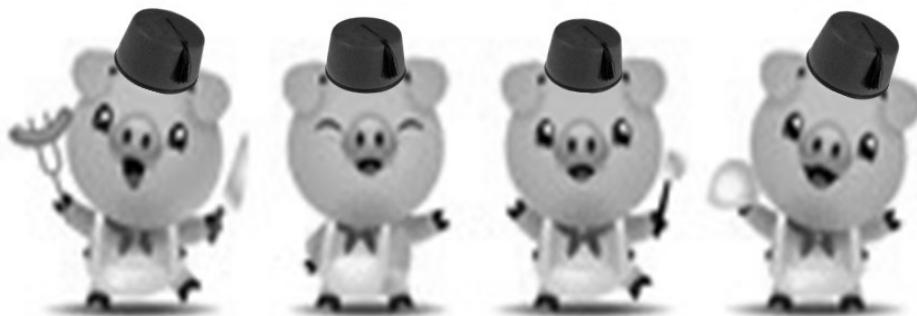
Be a part of something new!

We're holding a meeting to explore interest in a couple of new unit. If you be interested in a barbeque cooking team or wine tasting group, please join us on Sunday, December 15th at 4:00 in the blue room.



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BEN HUR LIVING PAST POTENTATES

1991	Boyce Freitag
1995	Gene Freudenberg
1997	Ronald Harrison
2000	Loren Orme
2002	Ronnie Lee
2004	Ronnie Jackson
2005	Silas Powell, Jr.
2007	Robert "Fred" Park, Jr
2008	Charles Farnham
2009	James Smith (PIP)
2011	Michael Ford
2012	Edward Whitmore
2014	Thomas Hauss
2015	Edward Bromstad
2016	Earl Robertson
2017	Brad Cole
2018	Gregory Rye
2020	Romeo Denghel
2021	Romeo Denghel
2022	Dennis Motley
2023	Chuck 'Fester' Jones

ASSOCIATED

1991	Eddie Daffern (Khiva)
1995	George Auer (El Kalah)

CHARIOT BOOSTER CLUB

Greg & Ann Murrow	04/35	Glenn & Gwenn Goulet	02/25
Ron & Jami Dewees	12/28	Al & Ellie Blaschke	02/25
Jerry & Bea Hohman	07/28	In Memory of Gus Carlson	02/25
Charles & Emily Maddox	07/27	Fred & Traci Maynard	12/24
The Count, Lady Denghel And Girlfriend Margaret	09/26	Doris Grabo	12/24
Ron & Debbie Speaks	03/26		
Charlie & Betty Farnham	02/26		
Kay & Ron Harrison, PP	12/25		
Brian & Carol Vance	12/25		
John Cooper	11/25		
In Memory of Margaret & Bob Kelly, PP	11/25		
In Memory of Vernon Milton	11/25		
David & Juanell Yeager	11/25		
Gerald "Jerry" Carruth	09/25		
In memory of Gail Carruth	09/25		
In memory of Stan Anderson	09/25		
Jack O Neal	08/25		
Jim & Donna King	08/25		
In Memory of Don Lee	07/25		
Billy D & Alice Edmondson	05/25		
In memory of Robert L. Ligon PP	04/25		
Boyce and Jody Freitag	04/25		
In memory of Byron Betncourt	03/25		
Jesse & Sharen Soliz	03/25		
Margaret Shaffer	04/25		
Rickey Hayes & Angie Shaffer	04/25		
Tom & Judy Schneider	02/25		
Pat & Wanda McDavid	02/25		
Charles Campbell	02/25		

NOTICE: Did YOUR name get dropped this edition?

Remember to check the date following your name. **Next edition will drop all dates to 10/24!**

Send in the form below TODAY with your \$25 to become/remain a loyal booster club member.

YES! I WANT TO BE A BOOSTER

Enclosed please find my check in the amount of \$_____

ONE LINE (single name) - \$25 per year

ONE LINE (Mr. & Mrs. or two names) - \$25 per year

TWO LINES (Yours and your Lady's name on 2 lines - \$45 per year

NAME(S): _____

Mail to the Temple Secretary.

BROWN, LACALLADE & LANGE, P.C.

CHARLES L. LACALLADE
ATTORNEY AT LAW

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Texana Masonic Lodge No. 123
Meets First Monday of Each Month
at the Ben Hur Shrine Center
Eat at 6:30 p.m.; Meeting at 7:30 p.m.


BLACK CAMEL REPORT



WILLIS L WOOD 10/2/2022

JAMES C OVERCASH 11/5/2024

GERALD CAMPBELL 11/14/2024



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If you wish to make a donation directly to our Shriners Childrens in Texas, here is the address. Make your check payable to Shriners Hospitals for Children—Texas

**Shriners Hospitals for Children
Donation Department
815 Market Street
Galveston, Texas 77550**

**Ben Hur Shriners
7811 Rockwood Lane
Austin, TX 78757
(512) 480-0812**

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BEN HUR NOBLES WITH BIRTHDAYS IN DECEMBER

12/1 Donaciano M Gonzalez	12/14 John C Reed Jr. Gerald D Marx Ewell M Lawrence Jr. Donald R Wheeler	12/21 Jesse H Soliz	12/28 Kenneth A Keller
12/2 Stephen A Borrego Scott L Lehman Charles N Jones	12/15 Robert L Doss Thomas A Hamilton	12/23 Thomas H Hauss Jr. PP	12/29 Elisha R Morgan
12/3 Jimmie S Graybill	12/16 William W Bellotte John R Dickens Don R Hewlett	12/25 Edward P Whitmore Jr.	12/31 William B Hilgers
12/5 Richard M Smith Lawrence Way Fred W Maynard	12/17 Gene L Freudenberg P.P. Christian D Moore	12/26 Craig S Reiswig	
12/8 Aaron Alford	12/18 Justin N Byers III Chris A Moyseos	12/27 Calvin D Bourgeois Ford A Meadows	
12/9 Kenneth L Parker Gary L Knackstedt Richard P Brandwein, Jr	12/19 Dennis J Moore Andrew Murray		
12/10 Lawrence E Clare	12/20 Richard Martin Gilman Jack F Buel		
12/12 Steven R Washburn			

Some people might have noticed their name missing from the Birthday listings. The editor takes the names from a report in WEBFEZ. If you have selected 'Non-Solicitation' in your General Info and your name will not appear on the report and it will not be reported in this publication.