Almas Alibi



Royce A. Watson, P.P. 3/8/1932 - 1/24/2019

Volume 94 Number 2 // March 2019

PHONE 202-898-1688

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WEBSITE almasshriners.org

March Birthdays



James G. Alls Paul D. Andrews Blaine H. Asher Michael Aunzo Billy J. Baker Michael Baker Jay Barmack Eduardo A. Bertacchi Uvo A. Albert Biss Archimedes Calingan Luciano Carvalho Agrizzi Itmar Jose Chagas Andrew Charalambous Bassem Cheaib Paul K. Christensen Matthew D. Clarkson Frank E. Compitello Maurice J. Curcio Richard J. Curlip, Jr. Timothy J. Danahey François Xavier P.H. Dansi Jeffrey B. Deane Assaad Nabil El Feghali Aldo Elguera Lewis C. Ellis Fred W. Evans, P.P. Reef Farah Fabricio Rossi Fernandes Lima Arquibaldo Evangelista Ferreira Najib Fakani Acle Zouain Filho Alejandro Pablo Fontaina Minelli Marshall D. Fraim Clyde D. Garrett, II Atiako George J. Kenneth Gibala Allen M. Goddard Arilson Matos Goncalves

David Gregory Mark Hartz, P.P. Douglas C. Holbrook James C. Holland Lawrence W. Hyson Edwin Mwangi Irungu Lawrence G. Jaggers Antonio Martelli Junior Georges Steve Kamguia Dean E. Klinger Keith Allan Kluwe E. Sam Koontz Papus Elliot KotyGuenter Krejs Jerry E. Larrow Glenn R. Looper Christopher K. Mahaney Jerry Marathon Mather S. McGinley Bruce McMullen Deria N. Moeis Robert L. Moore Paulo Roberto Moulin Rick Mubarak Habakuk Ndzerre Cease F. Pena Andreas Penk

Ben Gil Price

Ralph Dementri Ransom Bilal G. Raschid George Reid, Jr. Christopher Rivera Terry L. Royce, Sr. Gualberto Ruiz Estellano Michael J. Runfola Norman Spears Christopher Stokes Sten Esaias Tegner Robbert van Eerd George D. Vassiliou Oscar H. Viera Charles H. Volkman Billy J. Walker Robert C. Wallace Allan D. Warnes Courtney S. Wessinger David A. Whittemore



Potentate's Rambles



The Almas Shriners family was shocked and deeply saddened at the sudden passing of Illustrious Sir Royce A. Watson, PP, on January 24, 2019. Ill. Sir Watson served as Potentate of Almas Shriners in 2005 and was faithful in attendance at meetings of Almas and associated clubs. Additionally, he served in a number of other Masonic related organizations. His support of the Shriners Hospitals for Children was ongoing and one of his passions. Please refer to his Obituary printed in this issue of the Alibi. One of my fondest memories of Ill. Sir Watson will always be of sharing a table with him and his lady Christine at the Installation of officers at the NW/BCC Shrine Club this year. It was touching to see him holding Lady Christine's hand during the dinner. Semper Fidelis and Rest in Peace Illustrious Sir Watson.

You may have noticed you did not receive a printed copy of the Alibi last month. The Alibi will be posted on the Almas website—Almasshriners.org—with several printed issues during the year as a cost saving measure. Printed copies are available at the temple. With social media becoming more prevalent expect to see more Almas announcements and information on events shared through the website and on the Facebook time line.

Last month Almas participated in the DC Chinese New Year Parade with the Fire Engine and Scooter Patrol. Two Almas Klowns, Chuckles and Goofus, were joined by Dr. I. M. Clueless from the Kena Klown unit to entertain spectators and pass out stickers. Almas Shriners are always warmly welcomed by the Parade organizers and popular with the spectators. Fun times parading was followed by fellowship at the Temple. Thank you to Almas Nobles who turned out in support of the Parade. We are looking forward to participation in other local parades as well as the Imperial and MASA parades. Watch the Alibi and Facebook page for parade information and join the fun.

This year, following Ill. Sir JD Holt's lead, the Potentate's Ball will be an informal family friendly event that I am calling the Potentate's Gala. The theme will be Celebrating the Chesapeake and nautical attire is encouraged. We will start with a social hour followed by a seafood themed buffet. After dinner Annapolis's own Eastport Oyster Boys will entertain us with songs of Chesapeake Bay. The EOB are well known in the area for fun concerts and live by the simple philosophy that all you need is a good hat, a good dog and a good boat.

Our next business meeting will be March 7th with a social hour and dinner preceding the meeting. Bring your dues card and wear your Fez. Captain of the Guard Chris and Outer Guard Jeremy will be checking dues cards for admittance. Come join us for good fellowship and fun times and to keep up on what is going on at Almas. It is your Shrine. Support it by attending the meetings, clubs and activities.

Yours in the Faith

90 D

Frank Ireton





Almas Shriners Business Meeting



March 7, 2019 7:30 pm

1315 K Street, NW Washington, DC 20005

Attest:

Frank Ireton, Potentate & Donald R. Ferguson, Sr., P.P., Recorder Wear your Fez





Your 2019 Dues Card is necessary for admittance.

Almas Klown Unit

We still need your help with parades. The Cherry Blossom Parade is just around the corner. We need you to show your inner and outer selves and make kids and adults smile at Parades. Most kids and adults love Klowns and love to have pictures taken with Klowns. Women and children (with the Potentates approval) also can participate in local and national parades. If you don't have a klown costume pull out your old PJ, make one and come join us. The funnier you look the better time you will have with the crowds.

We have a Klown Fire Engine that we use in the Cherry Blossom and National Fourth of July Parades. You don't have to become a member of the Klown Unit to be in the parades just come and help us have a good time entertaining the kids.

If you wish to join the Klown Unit or take part in any of the local or national parades call the Boss Klown, Walter Simon at 301-318-2485 and let him know your intentions.

I owe a Noble an apology. I was called the other day by a new Noble who was interested in the Klowns. Before I could call the Noble back his number was accidently dropped from my phone. I hope the Noble will get in touch with me again my number is 301-318-2485.

Fraternally Weird Wally Walter Simon, Boss Klown



Chief Rabban - George Perez



March 29th is National Vietnam War Veterans Day. First nationally observed as a onetime occasion in 2012, it honors our military service personnel who served during the Vietnam War.

National Vietnam War Veterans Day is a commemorative holiday which recognizes the many sacrifices veterans and their families made during the Vietnam War. The period during this was an extremely divisive era in our country, as well as through much of Europe. Many veterans returned home and either didn't receive any recognition (or the proper amount of recognition for their service) or were unjustly protested against. These veterans came home to a country divided over the debate about the war. According to the U.S. Department of Defense, over 8 million U.S. Troops served around the world during the Vietnam War. This resulted in over 58,000 deaths in theater. As time passed, public sentiment concerning Vietnam Veterans began to relax. While many people still viewed the war as wrong, they now felt veterans of war were only doing their duty to their country. Today, Vietnam Veterans are finally receiving recognition for their service.

The Vietnam War was the longest war in U.S. history. National Vietnam War Veterans Day was first observed as a one-time occasion on March 29, 2012, when President Barak Obama issued a proclamation calling on "all Americans to observe this day with appropriate programs, ceremonies and activities." The day was later introduced as an annual event in 2017 when President Donald Trump signed the Vietnam War Veterans Recognition Act of 2017.

From the beginning of this Great Experiment of ours, our brothers have and continue to serve to preserve it. Our country's growth and evolution are a direct result of our military's sacrifices ensuring our Freedom to meet as upright Masons. By their blood, we raise our families in safer land than our brothers around the globe. We exercise rights and privileges and are provided the opportunity of achievement. This gift, this love that they have given us at an immeasurable cost, can never be repaid. Let us not remember them when told, but instead, when we look at the young faces of our children and know, they are free due to our troops.





The Imperial Court of Washington, DC would like to invite the Membership of Almas Temple to the Royal Mardi Gras Monte Carlo Casino Night! Funds raised will benefit the reign VII charities.

Doors open at 7 pm with the gaming room opening at 8 pm!

Tickets are \$25 per person. Each ticket gets \$25,000.00 in Court Bucks for gaming and 4 raffle tickets. For ticket & event information, go to: http://www.imperialcourtdc.org/gamingnotgambling/

Guests will get to take their chances at Blackjack, Roulette, Craps and Poker.

Need a break from the excitement of the tables? Join the Members of the ICWDC for a speakeasy drag show in the West Wing Dining Room & Lounge throughout the evening.

We look forward to seeing you at our Royal Mardi Gras Monte Carlo Casino Night.



The Almas Transportation Fund is in need of a little boost. If you know of a friend or family member who has a birthday or some special occasion coming along, think of a donation in their honor. We will be very happy to receive this kind donation

and acknowledge everyone for their generosity. Thank you in advance for helping the children of the Shrine Hospital system.

DONATIONS

In Honor of Frank Ireton

Peter Brusoe

In Honor of J.D. Holt

Peter Brusoe

In Memory Royce A. Watson

George & Judy Whetzel Bill & Nancy Lanham Ralph & Connie Connolly Robert & Angela Case

In Memory of Melvin Asterken

Irwin Pescov

Other Donation

All In Enterprises, LLC



Almas Transportation Fund Donations

Remember a loved one or a friend, make a donation to the Almas Hospital Transportation Fund. Make checks payable to:
Almas Hospital Transportation Fund and mail to
Almas Shriners,

1315 K Street, NW Washington, DC 20005. Donations to the Transportation Fund are tax deductible.

Date	Amount \$
In Memory of	
In Honor of	
Person(s) to whom acknowled	gment is to be sent:
Name	
Address	
City & State	Zip
Name of Donor(s)	
Address	
	Zip



Assistant Rabban - George Stoklas





RW George J. Stoklas Grand Treasurer 5428 MacArthur Blvd., NW Washington, D.C. 20016-2524 Telephone: 202-686-1811 Fax: 202-686-2759

Email: gstoklas@dcgrandlodge.org

March 2019 Almas Alibi

Nobles:

When was the last time that you went to a Shiners Hospital, or have you ever been to a Shiners Hospital? For me, it is always a rewarding day. I have had the pleasure of taking patients to three different Shiners Hospitals; Philadelphia, Cincinnati, and Greenville. Each time I go, it is a new experience to see the smiles on the children's faces for the care that they receive. To see the parents smiles, as they know their children are receiving the best care in the world. I recently took a child and her mother to the Shiners Hospital in Greenville, SC for her last visit before being discharged. She had been a patient for several years, and she walked out for the last time to applause from the staff and other patients present with a bright smile on her face.

Yes, whether your Shrine Temple calls you a Sheppard, Road Runner, or Tripster you may get up before dawn to pick up a transport van, travel to pick up the patient and family, drive for hours to the hospital, wait hours until they are ready, and then drive hours to return your patient and family back home, and finally drop off the van and go home after dark, but it is an experience like no other that you will ever forget.

Every time I make a trip, I come home with a happy heart, knowing I have made a positive difference in a child's life. It also makes me very thankful to the Grand Architect of the Universe that my children and granddaughter were born without any physical defects.

When are you going to take a trip??

Yours in the Faith George Stoklas Assistant Rabban

Daughters of the Nile

Happy March Ladies,

I would like to take this last time of writing an article for the Almas alibi to say thank you to everyone who has made this year go along so nicely.

To Junior Past Queen, Diane Logue who has sat beside me all year and made sure that I did not miss anything like forgetting to sing 'Oh, Canada'. To Past Queen Virginia Schweitzer who reminded me that I need to have a second and have a vote.

To Princess Badoura, Sue Kohn for a wonderful fun filled time with a Quarter Auction, the first one I had ever been to. To see the men hoarding their quarters for just the right time to bid on a shrine mug was priceless. For bringing Amelia Earhart into our lives and letting us get up close and personal with all of her adventures. Ask Past Potentate Fred Evans about his flight with her. I am sure that he will tell you about the wonderful time he had.

Princess Tirzah, Adriana Orsi and all of her fund raising ideas and the wonderful job she has done keeping our bank account full so that we can continue to help support Shriners Hospitals for Children.

Princess Royal, Josephine Foley and the items that she has encouraged us to donate and that she and her family have taken to the Philadelphia Hospital for the children that are treated there.

Princess Banker, Bonnie Foreman for making sure that we counted every penny and dollar and to Princess Recorder, Past Queen, Marie Johnston for all of her long hours gathering our minutes, filling out form for Supreme, taking our dues and all of the millions of other things that make a Nile Temple run smoothly.

To all the Princesses who held an appointed position in our temple, thank you for giving your time to attend sessions and to all the other smiling faces that I look at each session. It has been a pleasure working for and with you all this year.

I wish the incoming officers a fabulous year and I will be here to help and support you all. Remember that our Installation will take place on March 23, 2019 and that is you have been asked to hold an office, whether elected or appointed, you need to be at the installation. It will begin at 3:00 pm so please plan to be here a little earlier.

Again, Thank you to everyone who made the second time around wonderful.

Nile Love

Jennifer Murray, PQ Queen





Almas Yacht Club

Ahoy mates, the Yacht Club started it's new year with my installation as Commodore at the Commodore's Ball on January 26th. We all had a fun time at the start, with making the crew members sing for their rations. By the sound of their voices I believe a few already had hit their quota of rum rations. We sang, ate, drank and danced the night away. The next day, we groaned and took our Advil. All well worth it.

At the ball, I reminded all that the Shriners are all about fun. We do great work with the hospital but with our membership, not so much. Why, because sometimes we forget to be silly, to just have fun. In that sense, I reminded everyone of the first time any of us had fun in the water. That was in our bath tubs with our "Little Rubber Duckies". That rubber ducky traveled the world all within the confines of the tub. We laughed, had fun and sang, "Sailing, sailing over the bounty main, many a stormy wind will blow before Jack comes home again"

I hope to chart a course all around the world, all within our jurisdiction. Come join us, bring your rubber ducky and join us in singing for our meals. If you're good, you eat, if not, well you'll be good and still get a good meal.

The week after the ball, we met on the shores of Alexandria and had a fantastic Italian meal at Landi Brothers, after which we strolled to the Little Theater of Alexandria to see their production of, "The Fantastics". The main tune is still in my head, Try to remember the kind of September and follow, follow, follow. All was well, but my first mate, Sandy, told me not to quit my day job.

Our next port of call will be Ireland; we plan to meet at the Irish Inn at Glen Echo on Thursday, March 28th at 6:30 PM. Members please contact our secretary, Fred Evans (fwevans@verizon.net), and make your reservations. Not a member, no problem, make a reservation too and join the fun (but remember the above ditty so you can join in the singing.

For those nonmembers, the club usually meets on the last Thursday of the month with a few rendezvous set for a Saturday. The cost to you is the cost of the meal. The March meal will be \$30. March's meal will be your choice of Corned Beef and Cabbage, Shepherd's Pie, Walnut Crusted Cod, Braised Lamb Stew or an Irish Cheeseburger.

Please plan to join us and have some Shriner fun.

Jesse Villarreal, Commodore Almas Yacht Club



Northwest/BCC Shrine Club

The NW-BCC Shrine Club is open to all and we hold our meetings at the Knights of Columbus Hall at 5707 Rosensteel Avenue, Silver Spring just off Forest Glen Road. We have a monthly dinner meeting on the fourth Wednesday of the month. The cost is \$25.00 per person which incudes appetizers, beverage, main course and dessert. What more can one ask. If you are interested in attending a meeting or would like more information contact the Secretary, Walter Simon at 301-318-2485.

In March we put on a Bull and Oyster Roast at the Knights of Columbus Hall and this year it is March 24th. There will be fried and raw oysters along with clams, hot dogs and baked beans, sliced beef, clam chowder, salads and desserts along with beer and soda. Games and a Trash to Treasure Table and all for the price of \$35.00 per person. Children under 12 are free. Contact Fred Evans 301-460-1982, Walter Simon 301-318-2485 or Jay Whitcomb 301-989-0121 for your tickets. It is a wonderful afternoon and great food along with great friends.

We meet for lunch in October at the Old Europe Restaurant and have a holiday party in December on the first Monday. All are welcome at our meeting including significant others and we always welcome new members.

Fraternally Walter Simon Secretary

Almas Shriners Presents 2019 Potentate's Gala Celebrating the Chesapeake Bay

April 27th Almas Temple Social 6:00 Seafood Buffett 7:00 Eastport Oyster Boys 8:00

> Dress, Nautical Attire Family Friendly Event Adults \$60.00 Table of eight \$450.00 Children under 12 free

RSVP by April 21 Almasshriners.org





The Eastport Oyster Boys love to share their musical celebration and stories of life on the shores of the Chesapeake Bay. For over two decades they have educated, amused, and delighted thousands with their wit, wisdom, and special message of stewardship and appreciation for the Bay and its unique maritime culture and history. The Oyster Boys' simple philosophy is wrapped up in the three basic necessities of life "a good hat, a good dog, and a good boat."

Limited number of rooms available at the next door
Hamilton Hotel for out of town guests.
For details and reservations contact
Almas Temple Office
202-898-1688

Proceeds benefit Almas Shriners and are not tax deductible

Chinese New Year Parade











Royce Andrew Watson

Born March 8, 1923 to Robert Dealing Watson and Kirsten Marie Johansen Watson in Brooklyn, NY, Royce lived life to the fullest, was always open for adventure and never conceded or yielded to a challenge. Sadly, all good things must come to an end and Royce unexpectedly passed away on January 24, 2019.

During his lifetime, Royce served as a First Lieutenant in the United States Marine Corp. and attended Wagner College, University of Miami and John Hopkins University earning a BS, MT, BBA and MBA degrees, along with Certificates in Hospital Administration and International Health Planning. Royce also completed his PhD work at Florida State University.

Health Service Management and Administration were the cornerstone of Royce's professional Career. Although his achievements were many, including being published and receiving a multitude of major honors and awards. Royce spoke fondly of his time working on the staff of Florida Governor Claude Kirk as well as Surgeon General C. Everett Koop. Royce volunteered for several organizations - largely the Boy Scouts of America, the National Philharmonic Orchestra, Montgomery County Agricultural Fair and the National Lutheran Home Stamp Program. He was also a devout Lutheran and was ordained as a deacon in the ELCA. However, Royce's utmost passion was focused on his Masonic activities, especially the Shriners Hospitals for Children - for which he was their most ardent ambassador.

Royce was elected to numerous top positions within the Masonic bodies, notably Past Master of Pentalpha Lodge # 194, Potentate of Almas Shriners; Most excellent Grand High Priest, Royal Arch Masons of Maryland; Illustrious Grand and Illustrious Thirty-Third Degree, Inspector General Honorary, Scottish Rite Mason and Monarch of Kallipous Grotto.

Even with all of his success, Royce's greatest enjoyment was his family. His bride, Christine, of 54 years unequivocally and unwaveringly supported Royce in all of his ventures - including traveling to all the four corners of the globe and everywhere in between, a passion that they passed down to their children and grandchildren. He inspired his children to work hard, pursue his dreams and instilled in them financial responsibility and community stewardship.

While Royce was an avid philatelist, gardener, scuba diver and expert marksman, he may be best remembers for his all-encompassing hugs, ability to entertain through his voracious appetite for storytelling and being resolutely patriotic.

Royce is survived by his wife, Christine; son Paul Watson (Kimberly Irvine) of Staunton VA; daughters, Galye Carnes (Michael) of Matthew, NC and Jeanne Tucker (John) of Salisbury, NC; two grandsons, Kyle Watson (Leandra Boreman) and Zachary Tucker and granddaughter Kayla Tucker.



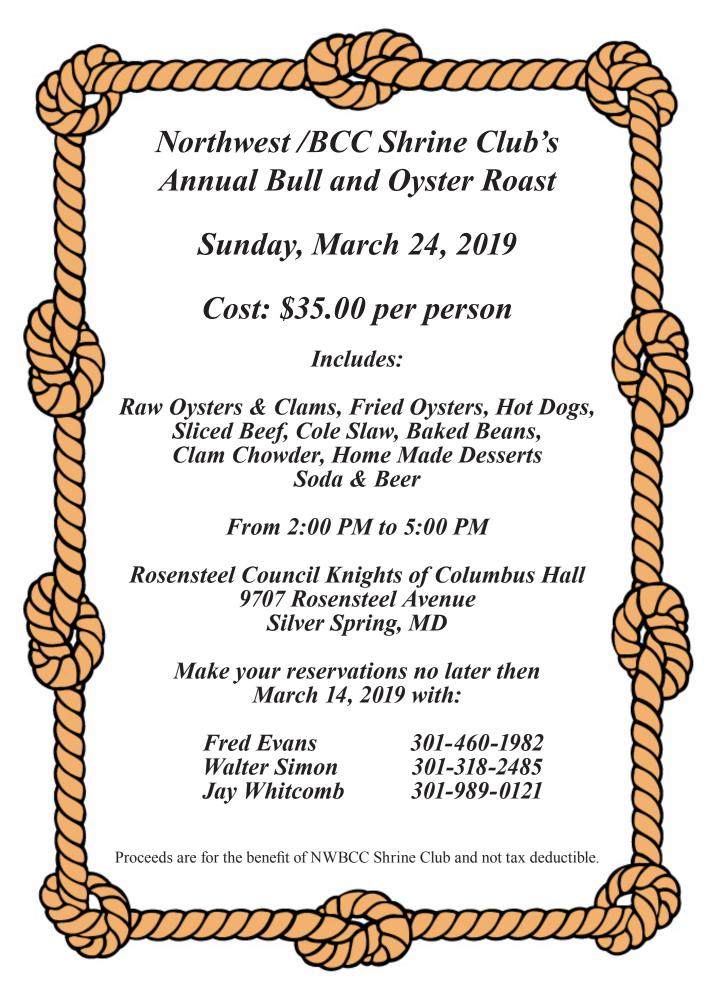


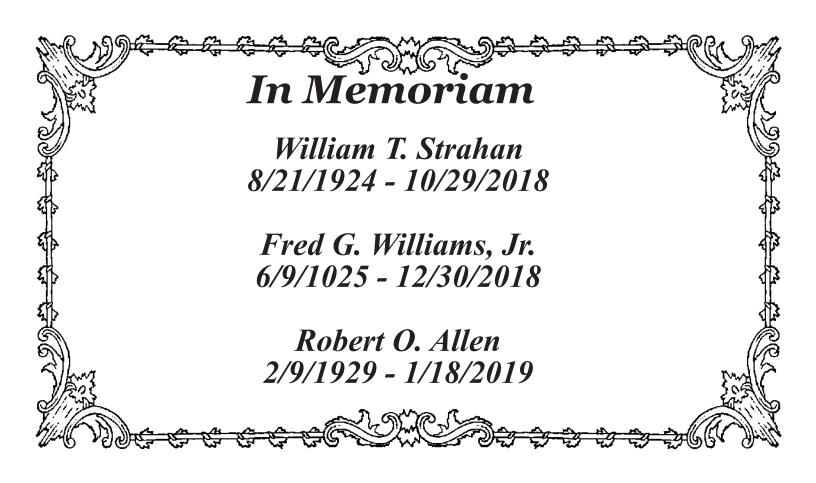


Have you paid your 2019 Dues yet?

If not you can use WebFez at www.webfez.org
Almas's web site at www.almasshriners.org
or call the
Recorders Office at 202-898-1688.

Let's get every ones dues paid today





Almas Shriners Sick and Shut-in Nobles, Give them a call or send them a card.

(as of 2-25-2019) If you know of a Noble who is ill or shut-in please call 202-898-1688.

Paul Adams 549 Valley Mill Road, #201 Winchester, VA 22602 540-333-5822 Scott Miskovic Summit Place Assisted Living 491 Highway 17, # 232 Little River, SC 29566 843-685-5554

Marlon Curtis 1740 S Street, SE # 4 Washington, DC 20020 202-678-0809

Thursday Night Dinner

March 7 2019 is the Temple Business Meeting and the Daughters of the Nile Session.

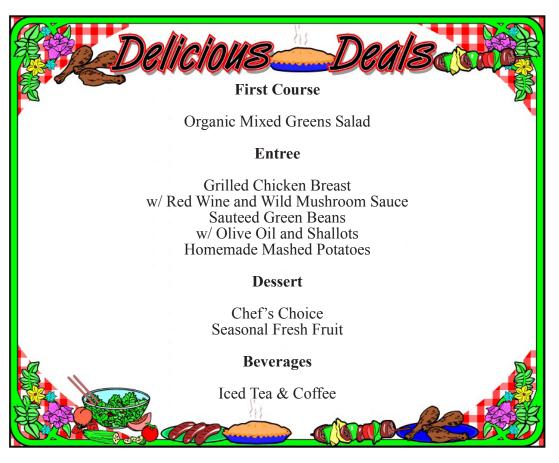
Dinner will be served starting at **6:00 pm** in the dining room and is open to all who make reservations.

The cost is \$15.00 per person.

Call the Temple Office at 202-898-1688 to make your reservation by Wednesday, March 6, 2019 before 12 noon.

Catering by *Catering Resources*

Looking forward to seeing everyone.



Petition for Initiation and Membership in

Almas Shriners

To the Potentate, Officers an	d Nobles of Almas Shriners, si	ituated in the Oasis o	f Washington, Des	ert of the District of
Columbia: 1, the undersigned	d, hereby declare that I am a M . Whi erica. Furthermore, I have resident	iaster iviason in good	standing in	:41, 41, 6
Loage # Located in	. Wnl	cn is a loage recogni	zed by or in amity	with the conference of
Grand Masters of North Ame	erica. Furtnermore, i nave resi	ueu at my current au	uress for not less tr	ian six(o) monus, as
required by the By-Laws of	Shriners International. I respec	ctiuily pray that I ma	y be made a Nobie	of the Mystic Shrine
	ur Temple. If I am found worth			
of Incorporation and the By-	Laws of Shriners International	and the By-Laws ar	id Ceremonies of y	our Temple.
Birthplace:	Da If so, what was the C	ite of Birth:		
Were you ever a DeMolay?	If so, what was the C	hapter Name and Lo	cation?	
Profession or Occupation:				
Have you previously applied	for admission to any Temple	of the Order?		
If so, to what Temple?		When?		
Residence Address:				
Street:	City:	State:	Country:	Zip:
Home Phone:	City: Mobi	ile Phone:		
Rusiness Address				
Street:	City: Spouses Name:	State:	Country:	Zip:
Business Phone:		E-mail Address:		
Hat Size:	Spouses Name:			
Signature:			Date:	
Print Full Name:				
	(Initials are not su	fficient)		
Recommended and vouche				
Noble:	Shrine #	Noble:		Shrine#
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Our objective is to do all this and exceed your customer service expectations.



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Donald R. Ferguson, Sr., P.P. - Recorder

Jennifer Murray - Editor

Martha Boltz & Bobbie Hassler - Proof Readers

Deadline for the next *alibi* is the 5th of the month

Unless otherwise indicated proceeds from all activities advertised in this publication benefit Shrine Organizations only.

They do not benefit Shriners Hospital for Children and are **not** tax deductible.

MARCH 2019

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
3	4	Scottish Rite	6	Business Mtg. & DON	8 Oriental Guid	9 Seminar
10	11As	12 sistant Rabban Seminar	13	14	15	16
17	18	Scottish Rite	20	21	22	23
		Scottish Rite	Motor Corp Mtg.			Daughter's of the Nile Installation
24 Bull & Oyster Roast 31 SE Shrine Club	25 Board Meeting	Scottish Rite	27	Yacht Club	29	30

APRIL 2018

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1	2	3	4	5	6
		Scottish Rite		Business Mtg. & DON		
7	8	9	10	11Sprii	12 g MASA, Atlantic City,	13
	<u> </u>	Scottish Rite				te Reunion
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
Palm Sunday		Scottish Rite	Motor Corp Mtg.		Good Friday	Passover Begins
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
Easter Sunday	Board Meeting	Scottish Rite	NW/BCC Shrine Club Meeting	Yacht Club	Passover Ends	Potentate's Gala
28	29	30				

MAY 2019

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				Business Mtg. & DON	Cinco de Mayo Party	4
5	6	7 Scottish Rite	8 DC Grand Lodge Semi-Annual Communication	9	10	11
Mother's Day	13	Scottish Rite	Motor Corp Mtg.	16	17	18 MD Grand Lodge Semi-Annual Communication
19 Almas Memorial Service	20 Board Meeting	21 Scottish Rite	NW/BCC Shrine Club Meeting	Yacht Club	24	25
26	Memorial Day Temple Closed	Scottish Rite	29	30	31	

Almas Alibi

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