

# Old Cars Bring New Hope

By HERMES BOYATIS

**J**UST before Aleppo Shrines News went to press, your reporter received a call from **Bill Katsapetses**. He gave such great news about the power of antique cars to children in need of help.

He described a sunny day at the antique car show on the Topsfield Fair Grounds in June. Men of the North Shore Old Car Fund raised \$500 for a two-part donation to the Shriners Transportation Fund and the MacDonald House.

"As treasurer of the club," he said, "I had the special honor of presenting the check to the Shriners."

Do you drive an old car, we asked. "I have a 1931 Model-A pickup truck, which I drive in parades, ceremonials, and other events."

Hobbies? "Mainly antique car shows." And proudly pointing to the future, "We're getting ready for our next show in June 2008."

Our motor vehicles will be anonymous. Our eyes will be on Bill's truck and the other antiques as they bring help to the little ones.



# HONS Fashion Show Star-Spangled Runway

**C**OME and enjoy a Spectacular Afternoon, as the HONS present our Fourth Fashion Show entitled "Star-Spangled Runway." It will be held on May 4, 2008 in the Aleppo Fez Room from 2:00 to 4:00 pm. We will be serving a light lunch along with Tea, Coffee and Punch.

As all are prior Fashion Shows have been exciting, this one will also promise to bump it up a notch! More details to follow in the next issue of the Aleppo News.

Tickets will be available by contacting **Sheila Bissett** at 978-657-4202 ext 20. The ticket price is \$12.50 each. If you purchase 10 tickets, a table will be reserved in your name. So please, reserve the date in your calendar and take an afternoon to treat yourself to some fun and fashions!



**DENNIS REEBEL** stole a kiss from **Lady Debbie** at the 50's Night at the Potentate's Ball Weekend in February 2007.

# Our Electric Buckeye Guy: Dennis E. Reebel

By HERMES BOYATIS

**R**ECENTLY, Potentate **Albert D. Flight** appointed **Dennis E. Reebel** as the Second Ceremonial Master to replace the recently departed **Steve Bissett**. When we caught up with him, two things were happening — or had just happened; he had been at United Brethren Lodge in Marlborough for the Square and Compasses Day. He said, "we processed at least twelve potential applicants." At the same time, he was announcing the baseball ups-and-downs scoring of the Cleveland Indians versus the Boston Red Sox.

However, we need to begin at the beginning. Dennis was born on December 28, 1950, in Warren, Ohio. He says, "I'm a fourth-generation Mason. My great-grandfather **Bert Abrams** was raised in Western Reserve Lodge #543 in West Farmington, Ohio. My grandfather and father were also Buckeyes. I, however, was raised in United Brethren Lodge in Marlborough on March 7, 1990."

He went on: "My whole family was Ohio-born. I attended public school in Warren and graduated from high school in Euclid. I moved on to getting my Associate's Degree in Electrical Engineering from Electronic Technical Institute in Cleveland, and for the last seventeen years I have worked for National Grid servicing electrical equipment. I sure hope to retire safely one of these days." Dennis married **Debbie (McKenzie)** in 1980, and he says,

"we find delight in our two children, **Kimberly (Rushlow)** and son **Brian**."

So what has Dennis done in Freemasonry and Shrinedom? "After being raised in 1990, I followed (current First Ceremonial Master and past District Deputy) **Peter Simmons** in line. I have served as Master in United Brethren twice, in 1995 and 2000. I am a Past District Deputy Grand Master of the Marlborough 24th Masonic District; Past District Deputy Grand Master in the 23rd Masonic District; Past Senior Grand Deacon of the Grand Lodge; participant and graduate of the Masonic Leadership Institute; past president of the Masonic Forum in the Marlborough 24th; Past Master, Lodge of Instruction in District 23; and member of Court #2, Order of the Amaranth in Concord."

With such endless commitments, we asked him for more. "My recognitions have brought honor to my heart. I am the recipient of the Joseph Warren Medal; the Grand Cross of Colors in Rainbow; and the Legion of Honor, DeMolay. I joined Aleppo in 2000 and served as an aide to Peter Stone and personal aide to Past Potentate, **Alex Campbell**. My goals have always been to try to help others understand my enthusiasm for Masonry. My biggest concern about Masonry is the aging of our membership; we must get new blood and find ways to activate their interest."

What was Dennis's most memorable moment? "Becoming an Eagle Scout. In Scouting, my favorite activity was swimming, and years later that favorite came in handy. When my job with National Grid transferred me from Ohio to Boston to Plantation, FL, I had a great time. While all my friends up north were trapped by the great blizzard of '78, I was scuba diving in warm water and basking in the sun! When I returned, I married Debbie."

Funniest time? "When I was six or seven, I worked with my dad in an old musical show as a straight man for his jokes."

Hobbies, sports, TV, books? "I watch the original CSI, play golf, and — of course — watch baseball!" Dennis was giving scores of the Red Sox-Indians game during the interview, and I can't help but wonder where his loyalties lie: with the Cleveland Indians from the Buckeye State, or the Boston Red Sox? No matter which it is, we say to our Electric Buckeye Guy, keep those batteries charged!

Advertisement



## LEGAL LINES

By Ludwig Alban, Esq.



More than twenty years ago, the highest court of Massachusetts, the Supreme Judicial Court, compared automobile insurance law to the "uninitiated driver's first foray into the streets of Boston." Indeed, as it is being reported almost daily, Massachusetts has a confusing and unusual auto insurance system.

Difficult as that system is, there are basic facts to know when you are in an accident in Massachusetts. Consider:

- The law requires you to file a Motor Vehicle Crash Operator report within five days of the accident if there is \$1,000 in property damage or personal injury.
- Notify your insurance agent and/or insurance company.
- Make sure you obtain all witnesses at the accident scene, if at all possible, as that information may very well determine your right to recovery.
- Don't be deceived by the term "no-fault insurance" as fault/responsibility/negligence governs your ability to recover for injuries, commonly referred to as pain and suffering, and your insurance rate will be affected under the Safe Driver Insurance Plan.

We do personal injury law. However, as with most endeavors, some people do it whereas others do it thoroughly and with real effort. Thoroughness and effort count. By preparing the accident case with great care, a lawyer can obtain a very favorable settlement. That allows for a recovery without going before a judge and twelve strangers, the jury, in a pressure-filled environment, the courtroom.

We have resolved hundreds of personal injury cases in a less frightening forum — mediation. There, the client does not have to testify, but the lawyer will demonstrate to the other side in the presence of a neutral person, the mediator, the seriousness of the injury. (Proof on liability, if the other side disputes it, can also require serious attention and your lawyer must do that as well, if you are to be successful.) How do you go about showing how serious the injury is:

- Lay people such as family members and co-workers, as well as school or work documentation, will establish the client's status before the injury, thereby setting forth a baseline to compare the present condition to the pre-accident condition.
- Head, brain, spinal and orthopedic injuries can often be proven by radiographic evidence in the form of X-rays, MRIs and CT scans. This will document in a concrete and vivid way the existence of such an injury. Expert testimony (neuroradiologists, orthopedics, neurosurgeons, etc.) and/or documentation can supplement these tests.
- If the X-rays, MRIs and CT scans are helpful — and the case can be successful even if they are not — they deserve imaginative use of demonstrative evidence, such as with blow-ups, to depict the injury and thereby give it meaning.

**Ludwig Alban** practices law with the firm of **Feinberg & Alban, P.C.** He concentrates in the areas of Real Estate, Elder Law, Probate, and Small Business Law. His firm also concentrates in all areas of Personal Injury Law. He can be reached at (800) 479-9991.

The information provided in this advertisement is not legal advice. If the issues discussed here concern you, you should consult an attorney.

## Bits & Pieces

### Syracuse to Springfield

Reported recently was another story of a burn victim. Four-month-old **Jesse Dreswick** was scorched over 60 percent of his body, but still breathing, when his mother **Julie**, was summoned from work. Doctors in Syracuse, New York, where the Dreswicks live, arranged for a flight by jet to the Shriners Hospital in Boston, MA.

Pediatric burn surgeon **Robert Sheridan**, M.D. and his staff worked to save the infant's life. "It was touch and go," but they moved forward with essential medical steps.

Mother Julie felt hope as she traveled back and forth to her other three children. At the time of this news story, Jesse, now three, is described as "an active, friendly and talkative tyke, starting preschool in September."

Said Julie: "The people at the Hospital do wonders. Dr. Sheridan, he's the best, and the nurses are just awesome."

We hear you, Julie!