

# LETTERS TO THE EDITOR



The Aleppo News wishes you and yours the happiest of holidays and the best of New Years this year. We would like to take this opportunity to thank all of the Staff Writers, Unit Correspondents, Divan Officers and Nobles whose events we have covered and publicized over the past year. From the 2008 Shrine Circus to individual Shrine Club meetings, we have endeavored to tell the stories that interest the Nobility, and we look forward to continuing to do so far into the future.



Peter K. Stone  
EXECUTIVE EDITOR



Hermes Boyatis  
ASSOCIATE EDITOR



Thomas W. Friberg  
PRODUCTION MANAGER

## ALEPPO SHRINERS NEWS

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Hank Gilhooley	Rag Top

### First Place Dromedary Awards Imperial Shrine of North America

2007, 2005, 2004, 2003, 2001, 2000, 1998, 1997, 1996, 1995, 1994,  
1992, 1991 Honorable Mentions: 2006, 2002, 1993, 1990, 1989



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# It's Time Again for the 2009 Aleppo Shriners Circus

Nobles, Friends and Families:

It is time to gear up for the 58th Annual "2009 Aleppo Shriners Circus!"

The Circus will be held during school vacation and starts Wednesday, April 22 thru Sunday, April 26, 2009. So mark your calendars!

The ads are starting to come in for the Circus Book. Please be diligent in selling the ads and turn them in each week to **Sheila Bissett** in the Administration Office at the Shrine Center. Getting them in regularly will help to put the book together easier and help to maintain the quality our visitors are used to seeing.

The Circus Committee has been hard at work to bring together an incredible show that Aleppo has put on for the past 57 years, bringing smiles to thousands of children's faces.

We are looking for volunteers to help with every facet of the show. There is a letter in this newspaper with a coupon that you can cut out and send in to let us know who and when people can help. Sending this in sooner rather than later will help us to schedule the volunteers making sure that each station is well-manned.

**Ken Howe** and the Provost Guard is looking for volunteers to help park cars. This is a daunting task that the Provost Guard has brought down to a science, but they still need bodies out there to direct the flow of vehicles to the parking areas. If you are interested you can send in the coupon stating that you would like to help.

**Roger Metcalfe**, Circus Chairman



## How Can Aleppo News Help You?

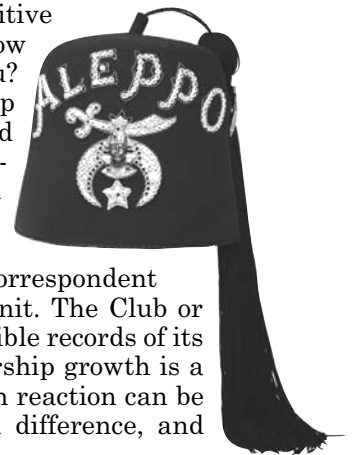
**T**HE Aleppo Shrine is an active Shrine. Our Units are active Units, and our Clubs are active Clubs. This is not new news, nor is it a shocking revelation. All of us who are active within Aleppo know that our Units and Clubs accomplish a lot, not only as social entities, but also as charitable givers supporting the Aleppo Shriners Children's Transportation Fund and the Shriners Hospitals for Children. In the past, many articles have been written about the Aleppo Shrine Units and Clubs by *Aleppo News* staff. These Units and Clubs also send in news to the paper. "Yeah, so what?" you might be saying.

Well, I can say from personal follow-ups with the units I wrote about that they got at least one new inquiry as a result of their article. That may not seem like much, but as we well know, "one man can make a difference." As an example, one man raised the motion at the 1920 Imperial Session that created the Shriners Hospitals for Children. If one man can make such a difference to the world, one man can make a difference to your Unit or Club as well.

So, how do you attract new members?

Publicity! People need to know not only that you are doing something, but what it is you are doing. The *Aleppo News* is a great tool for that purpose. The *Aleppo News* exists to inform the Nobility as well as the public about what Aleppo Shriners and the Shriners Hospitals for Children do. We are a clearinghouse and conduit of information. The *Aleppo News* staff are more than happy to assist the Units, Clubs and Nobility with anything they need to get their information out to the audience. This can be with articles and photos.

When readers see your Unit or Club name in print in the *Aleppo News*, it will stick in their minds in a positive fashion. Your activity is always beneficial, but how much more so when it attracts new members to you? You know how good your Unit is (put how they help the Aleppo Shrine Center and other things), and how fun your Club is; it is simply a matter of letting everyone else know that too. So assign a Correspondent to send material in to the News, and the minimal effort it requires will lead to benefits on every level. On the individual level, a correspondent can contribute to the well-being of his Club or Unit. The Club or Unit in turn interests new members, and has tangible records of its accomplishments. For Aleppo as a whole, membership growth is a positive, and so is membership activity. This chain reaction can be started by just one man. One man can make a difference, and maybe that man is reading this article right now.



**Next Ceremonial  
Sat., Jan. 24, 2009  
Sign Up Your  
Masonic Friends**



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after you read it

