



THE INSTALLING SUITE from left to right (first row) for the 2009 Oppela Ceremonial: **Denise Spampinato, PQ; Phyllis Levinson, PQ; Pr. Dorothy Wood; Roberta Canfield, PQ; Margaret Judd, PQ; Judith A. Neylon, PQ; Therese Fortier-Silva, PQ.** Second row is: **Susan Flanders, PQ; Nancy Howatt, PQ; Patricia Rust, PQ; Anna B. Craig, Queen; Joanne H. Langevin, PQ and Pr. Elizabeth Wright.**

Daughters of the Nile Installation

OPPELA Temple No. 50, Daughters of the Nile, held their 80th Installation of Officers on Sunday, March 29, 2009 at the Wakefield-Lynnfield Masonic Temple. The ceremony began as the solo "Open the Gates" was sung during the entrance of the Bible Bearer, **Judith Neylon, PQ** of Ahlem Temple No. 84 in Springfield, MA, and the Crown Bearer, **Susan Flanders, JPQ**, also of Ahlem Temple. PQ Roberta Canfield was the Mistress of Ceremonies.

Princess **Anna B. Craig** was led into the Temple by the Installing Marshal, **Phyllis Levinson, PQ**. Anna, looking radiant in her exquisite champagne gown, was honored to be installed as Queen of Oppela Temple by PM **Joanne H. Langevin**, from Aquarius Temple No. 138, in Lake Worth/Palm Beach Gardens, Florida. Anna's choices of music, all beautifully sung by Pr. **Elizabeth M. Wright**, were; "His Eye is On the Sparrow," "I Asked the Lord," "Great is Thy Faithfulness," and "Prayer is the Key to Heaven." Also installed were Princess Royal, **Janice Guilford**; Princess Tirezah, **Nancy Marsdan**; and Princess Badoura, **Alice Nakash**. Other elected and appointed officers were also installed.

Queen Anna signed the Bible, with all Past Queens observing in a semi-circle behind the altar. Following the confirmation of appointments she gave her "Queen's Message" and introduced the members of her family.

Thomas D'Esmond, Administrator of the Shriners Hospital for Children-Boston, gave a very informative and insightful message.

Following the ceremony, members and guests were entertained by the Oppela Tambourettes. Then a delicious buffet was enjoyed by all.

Any woman age 18 or older, who is related by birth or marriage to a Shriner, Master Mason or Daughter of the Nile is eligible to join this charitable organization, which strives tirelessly for achievement in our philanthropic goals for the children in the Shriners Hospitals for Children. Our most vital tenets are Charity, Friendship and Truth.

"Great Noble Start!"

Sometimes the sun shines at the right time. Lady **Helen & I**, along with 24 other Nobles & significant others, relatives & friends, enjoyed a most relaxing seven nights and eight days on a cruise from New York to Florida then over to three ports in the Bahamas.

The Northeast Mid-Winter Meeting was held in Burlington, Vermont, on March 13-15. Besides Officers of the Northeast, Divans of all Northeast Shrine Centers, Imperial Potentate **Doug Maxwell** and the Chairman of the Shriners Hospital for Children, Past Imperial Potentate **Ralph Simms** held an informative meeting on the well-being of our 22 hospitals.

Unfortunately at that time they were considering closing some of our hospitals. We were presented with facts and figures that showed only a matter of time before this becomes a reality. To that note I attended a Board of Governors meeting at Shriners Hospital for Children-Boston on March 26 where a conference call between headquarters in Tampa and all 22 hospitals was held. On that call everyone was notified that at the Imperial Session in San Antonio, Texas, the representatives would have some choices to make regarding the possible closing of eight hospitals. It was expressed that if something was not done that in five years we would not be able to support any of the hospitals. More on this later as more communication from Tampa becomes available.

St. Patty's Day was celebrated on Tuesday, March 17th, with a dinner and dance chaired by **Richard Doherty**, First Ceremonial Master, and his committee. They did an outstanding job. There was plenty of corned beef and cabbage with all the trimmings catered by Noble **Dave Tucker**. There was plenty of dancing and a nice variety of music played by the DJ. Thanks to everyone for a job well done.

Past Potentate **Stephen G. Eriksen** chaired the 5th Annual Aleppo Smoker on March 20th, and what a great success this event has turned out to be. Everyone enjoyed the cigars, meal and entertainment with the Aleppo Shriners Children's Transportation Fund being the benefactor. At the Heads of Units meeting in April, Illustrious Eriksen presented me with a check for \$15,000 for the Children's Transportation Fund. Congratulations Ill. Steve and your committee.

To all the units that have donated and keep on raising monies for the Children's Transportation Fund, I want to give a hearty "thank you" from the children who will benefit from your hard work. To all Nobles and their Ladies, whatever the project you decide to work on as Potentate it brings a smile to my face knowing that our kids are being taken care of.

Colonel **Charles Rivers** and his staff hosted a wonderful Uniformed Units Potentate's Reception on April 11, 2009. A fun time was had by all and the prizes were exceptional as always.

April 17th was the Rockin' Nobles Party, hosted by the Membership Committee, and chaired by Noble **Phil Kumph**. Hopefully you were one of the Nobles that is sponsoring a new candidate for either Blue Lodge or the Shriners and enjoyed the fun. More than twenty potential candidates showed up for the party. Membership is our number one priority. Don't forget "5K NO WAY" is this year's slogan. If you still don't know what it means, ask a brother Noble.

High Priest and Prophet **Peter A. Simmons**, Chairman of the 2009 Shriners All-Star Football Game, is hard at work with his committee. They have held orientations for both the North and South squads, preparing them for the game, meeting their coaches, teammates, and preparing them for what is expected on raising monies for our Children's Transportation Fund and what our hospital system is all about. Don't forget the game will be at Bentley University on Friday, June 19, 2009.

Second Ceremonial Master **David Raymond** chaired our Widows Luncheon on April 22, 2009, which was attended well. After the luncheon, our Ladies were escorted to the 2009 Aleppo Shriners Circus as our guests.

Thanks to Circus Chairman **Roger Metcalfe** and his Committee, as well as all our hardworking volunteers, for the many hours put into making our circus a huge success. I could not list everyone without forgetting someone. I hope you had fun doing it. THANK YOU ALL.

Es Selamu Aleikum
Illustrious Robert F. Smith
Potentate Aleppo Temple - 2009



Robert F. Smith
Illustrious Potentate

Robert F. Smith



5K NO WAY!

Aleppo Divan



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