

Carrie Continues to Follow Her Heart

HAS it really been a year since Carrie was the queen of the 2008 Aleppo All Star Classic? This is the story of what **Carrie Holmstrom** of Dartmouth, MA has been up to this past year. As a refresher, Carrie was in a single vehicle accident in which she received burns to 70% of her body in April of 2006. After spending the first eight days at Mass General she was transferred to Boston Shriners. In the first weeks and months doctors were forced to amputate both legs below the knee along with the fingers of her right hand. She spent nearly eight months at Boston Shriners, the first three in an induced coma, and then became an outpatient of Springfield where she is receiving her prosthetic legs. She is currently on her 6th pair. She returned to high school in January 2007 and went on to walk up and receive her diploma to a standing ovation. She then took a year off before starting college to strengthen herself.

At the time of her accident Carrie was being recruited by numerous colleges for her soccer goalie talents. Her tenacity undoubtedly helped her with her recovery. She recalls waking up and finding "a determination I never knew I had" to get better. She knows Shriners played a huge role in her recovery and she is now working on spreading the word.

Not long after being discharged, Carrie was asked if she would do a radio commercial for Shriners. Her positive attitude, along with her personality and constant smile seemed like a perfect fit. It played throughout New England. She was then asked if she would help with the Springfield

Hospital Virtual Tour, which is now on the Springfield website. But it doesn't end there.

Carrie and her family have been very active in promoting Shriners. They have not refused any invitations and have been traveling to various functions. She has been the guest speaker at the last two Rhode Island Shriners Potentate's Receptions and recently helped out with their Screening Clinic. She was at the Clinic on a recent Saturday morning, and drove with her family that afternoon to Kora Shriners in Lewiston, Maine, where she spoke before a crowd of 500. This was for the initial meeting of players and their families for their upcoming East-West Football Classic. They showed the Springfield tour video and then surprised the crowd with her coming out from the back. She told them of her accident, the 36 surgeries, but mostly, she told them what the Shriners did for her and thousands of other kids. She also told them that they weren't just playing this game for her and kids they may never meet, but they were "playing for one of your own". Carrie and her family heard about an 18 year old girl from Winthrop, Maine that was in an extremely similar accident to Carrie's back in December. Carrie and her dad have been communicating with them for months and went to Boston Shriners to visit. They recall not knowing if they would be there 10 minutes or 2 hours. They spent the entire afternoon and Carrie was told by the patient's family after the visit that this day was the most they have seen her smile since before her accident. Carrie and family have been invited to attend

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Carrie Holmstrom showing off her dress before heading to the Rhode Island Shriners Potentate's Reception.

Aleppo Adjutants Association

By **JAMES G. PERKINS, JR.**
SECRETARY

THE Aleppo Adjutants Association met on March 5, 2009 in the Aleppo Fez Room as guests of Aleppo Potentate, Illustrious **Robert F. Smith**.

Illustrious Smith introduced Past Grand Master **Albert T. Ames** and announced that he had appointed Noble Ames as President of the Adjutants Association.

President Ames presented an Adjutants fez to new adjutant **Wayne Bogar** and he was welcomed into the group.

Illustrious Potentate Smith had the pleasure of presenting a Past Grand Master's fez to Noble **Jeffrey B. Hodgdon**.

President Ames called on Adjutant **Ernest Pearlstein** to say grace before lunch. The Adjutants then enjoyed a delicious lunch of sirloin steak prepared by Adjutant and Chief Steward Emeritus **Albert J. Gebow**.

President Ames asked each Adjutant to introduce himself and make brief remarks about their Masonic affiliations. He then made brief remarks about the organization and announced that another meeting will be held in the near future hosted by Adjutant **Brad Pottle**.

President Ames then introduced Illustrious Potentate Robert F. Smith, who thanked the Adjutants for attending and told about his trip to New Orleans to be held in December.

Illustrious Smith also asked the Adjutants to support the Legion of Honor's flag fund. This fund helps to pay for the flags that are flown 24/7 in front of our building. They must be replaced periodically to main-

tain a good appearance. A donation box is located on the mezzanine level or contributions can be sent to the Legion of Honor Flag Fund at the Aleppo Shrine Center.



Above: Illustrious Potentate **Robert F. Smith** presented Noble **Jeffrey B. Hodgdon** with his Past Grand Master's Fez.

Left: Noble **Albert Timothy Ames** presented new Adjutant **Wayne P. Bogar** with his Adjutant's Fez.

ADJUTANTS ATTENDING:

Albert T. Ames	Robert J. Magovern
Wayne M. Bogar	John A. Moore
H. Nicholas Boyatis	Ernest A. Pearlstein
Edward M. Burns	James G. Perkins, Jr.
Savvis Fotiadis	Norman A. Peterson
Albert J. Gebow	Bradford A. Pottle
Robert V. Goodman	W. Warren Richardson, Jr.
Bruce G. Gregory	Kenneth J. Scott
Jeffrey B. Hodgdon	Ernest C. Sofis
Stephen Kaloyanides	Charles E. Taylor
Robert G. Katz	Roland K. Woodberry
James W. Killam	Maurice Zabarsky

ALEPPO DIVAN ATTENDING:

Robert F. Smith, *Potentate*
Jeffrey Arnold, *Chief Rabban*
John E. Grant, Jr., *Assistant Rabban*
Peter A. Simmons, *High Priest and Prophet*
Dennis E. Reebel, *Oriental Guide*
Robert C. Keogh, *Treasurer*
Peter K. Stone, *Recorder*



- Spacious studio, 1-bedroom and 2-bedroom/2-bath suites
- Preferred Hotel of the Shriners Auditorium Wilmington
- Full kitchen in every suite
- Complimentary hot breakfast buffet
- Free Wireless Anywhere
- BridgeMart® convenience store, open 24/7
- 24-hour fitness center
- Swimming pool and Sport Court
- BBQ grills and pavilion
- Priority Club® Rewards
- Free laundry facilities
- Free local phone calls
- Pets welcome

To book individual reservations at the Shriners rate, please call 978-686-2000 and ask for the Shriners rate when booking. To book a group of rooms for an event at the Shriners, please call our group desk direct at 978-645-5014.

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