

# Thank You For Contributing

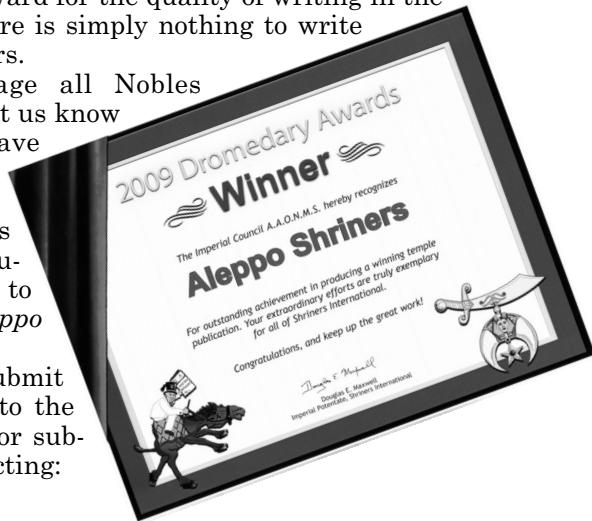


**T**HANK you to all of the *Aleppo News* staff and correspondents who make the *Aleppo News* the caliber of Shrine newspaper that can win the Dromedary award. It is as much an award for the dedication and activity of the Nobles as it is an award for the quality of writing in the paper. Without activities, there is simply nothing to write about in order to inspire others.

To that end we encourage all Nobles involved in events to please let us know what's going on! If you have something going on, let us know. The *Aleppo News* has always been, is, and always will be the sum of its contributors. Here's looking forward to another great year at the *Aleppo News*!

Remember: anyone can submit materials (including photos) to the *Aleppo News*. Any questions or submittals can be made by contacting:

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## ALEPPO SHRINERS NEWS

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### 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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## EDITORIAL

### Imperial Session 2009 San Antonio, TX

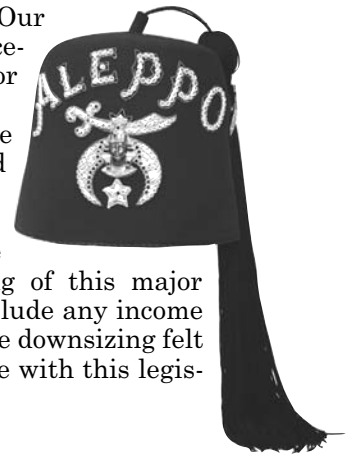
**T**HE controversial legislation of closing six Hospitals was addressed right away on the first day of the session. The intent was to enable the Representatives to think clearly while dealing with the remaining work. Five of the six Hospitals had been working diligently to alter their normal procedures and reduce their budgets. They all have negotiated with nearby Hospitals to share their facilities including beds and operating rooms. All came armed with letters of intent from these other Hospitals and spoke of possible reductions in their budgets as large as 50%.

This left Galveston as the only Hospital to close. However, before the item was voted upon and after much discussion, it was amended to remove Galveston as well from the list of closings.

In a measure of good faith, the Representatives voted to allow negotiations of the five Hospitals to continue and to also reopen the Galveston Burns Hospital. The result would be that Shrine Hospitals for Children would continue to have a presence in all twenty-two of the locations we now enjoy. We can only hope the Shrine Hospitals for Children will find a way to afford this high expense and the system does not suffer for it at a later date.

Additional legislation was discussed on Tuesday regarding "Third Party Pay". This would allow the Shrine Hospital System to bill the Insurance Company of any patient with suitable coverage. The Representatives were assured that the level of care would remain the same and that our Hospitals would not be dictated to. Our Doctors would still control length of stay, all procedures and no patient would ever be turned away for lack of insurance.

"Third Party Pay" will be difficult and expensive to implement in house. It is estimated that it would be up to three years before we achieved the projected results. Many felt that out sourcing this would be a much faster way of receiving these needed funds and thus assisting in the funding of this major change. The new budget did not speculate and include any income from this new source but the five Hospitals that are downsizing felt their budgets would be reduced substantially more with this legislation.



Fraternally,

Peter K. Stone, Boston Board of Governors

# Photo Release Forms Now Available

We now have photo release forms available to all Nobles, Units and Shrine Clubs to fill out if they take photos or likenesses of any Shriners Hospitals for Children patient or family member.

- What Are They?**  
Photo Release forms are necessary if we wish to use photos of patients and their families in the *Aleppo News* or any other Aleppo publication.
- Why Do We Need Them?**  
Since we protect the privacy of our patients in our Hospitals, we need the consent of the patients and their families to display their images publicly.
- Who Should Get Them?**  
Any Unit that holds events with the Hospital patients and takes photos for any purpose.
- How Do You Get One?**  
We have photo release forms available in the Administration Office in the Aleppo Shrine Center.

### ALEPPO SHRINERS AUTHORIZATION TO USE PATIENT'S LIKENESS FOR PUBLIC RELATIONS AND FUNDRAISING PURPOSES

I understand that Shriners Hospitals for Children is a charitable organization which depends upon public financial support to operate its hospitals, because it makes no charges to its patients or others for the services it renders. I also understand that ALEPPO SHRINERS engage in public relations programs and fundraising programs designed to make the public aware of the hospitals' needs, which include financial support, and to inform the public of the availability of the hospitals' services.

I have been asked for permission to use photographs, audios or similar "likenesses" of myself if I am 14 or older, and/or of my child if I am the child's parent or legal guardian, in ALEPPO SHRINERS public relations programs and fundraising programs, and I have been assured that permission is not required as a condition to treatment of my child by Shriners Hospitals for Children.

I wish to help ALEPPO SHRINERS in its public relations and fundraising programs, and I consent to photographs, slides, television, videotape, audiotape or motion pictures (called "likenesses") being taken of \_\_\_\_\_ or parts of his or her body, for public relations and fundraising purposes, subject to the following conditions:

- The last name of either the child or the parent or guardian can be used to identify the "likenesses", unless I/we have initialed here: \_\_\_\_\_
- The "likenesses" will be taken only with the consent of the attending physician and/or a hospital administrator and under conditions, and at times, as may be approved by them.
- The "likenesses" will only be used in Fundraising Mailing Campaigns and Public Relations Media for five years from the date I sign this consent.

I can revoke (take back) this authorization at any time by notifying \_\_\_\_\_ However, revoking this authorization will not affect any materials that were already distributed based on my previous authorization.

I also understand that these "likenesses" may be distributed by other people (such as passing on their copy of a "likeness") and that ALEPPO SHRINERS has no way to prevent this from happening.

I have been given an opportunity to ask questions about this authorization, and either I had no questions or they have been answered to my satisfaction.

I expect no payment or anything else valuable for signing this authorization. Also, this authorization as to any use of photographs, slides, television, videotape, audiotape or motion pictures will expressly release from liability to me the person obtaining the "likeness", the attending physician, the hospital and all its personnel, Shriners Hospitals for Children and affiliated corporations, The Imperial Council, A.A.O.N.M.S., Shrine Temples, their officers and members.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Father or Legal Guardian Signature Date \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mother or Legal Guardian Signature \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Patient's Signature (if age 14 or older) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Witness Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Temple Use Only

Patient Name: \_\_\_\_\_ F \_\_\_\_\_ M \_\_\_\_\_

Hospital: \_\_\_\_\_ D.O.B. \_\_\_\_\_ Age @ Photo \_\_\_\_\_

Orthopaedic \_\_\_\_\_ Burn \_\_\_\_\_ Spinal \_\_\_\_\_

Parent(s)/Guardian Names: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

Photographer: \_\_\_\_\_

Comments: