

Aleppo Oriental Band

The Junkman

By THE ORIENTAL BAND SCRIBE

SUMMER is upon us, with the many splendors and enticements that accompany it. Summers in New England are far too short and with so many things to do, places to visit, and people to see, it is a busy and often frantic time. It traditionally sees us out and about parading and performing in any number of events. This year, has been a bit on the short side in terms of events to participate in but there is never any rest for the weary we managed to fill our time with rehearsals and maintenance of our relatively new float - it is still a work in progress, but it is coming along very well and has proved to be an invaluable tool in enhancing our Parade performances and attendance. Most importantly, it has been well received by the audiences that we entertain. Of course there are always those with too much time on their hands, and that sometimes produces some remarkable things (such as the following) which was one of the sand sculptures from a competition at Harrison Hotsprings in British Columbia, Canada (we commend the sculptors on the choice of subject).

Our Parade Season started with a performance in Newton, Massachusetts and continued with our participation in parades in Somerville and Wilmington, MA - all of which were blessed with spectacular weather, good attendance, and receptive crowds. We also participated in the summer Ceremonial to the satisfaction of all who were present. This Ceremonial saw Noble **Stephen Hoffman's** first performance with the Band. He did a commendable job. We all look forward to his further participation with us.

Unfortunately, we were not able to attend the Shrine Imperial Session in San Antonio, Texas. We are confident that everyone had a wonderful time there and are hopeful that the Alamo survived the attack of Shriners who undoubtedly made their way to the monument.

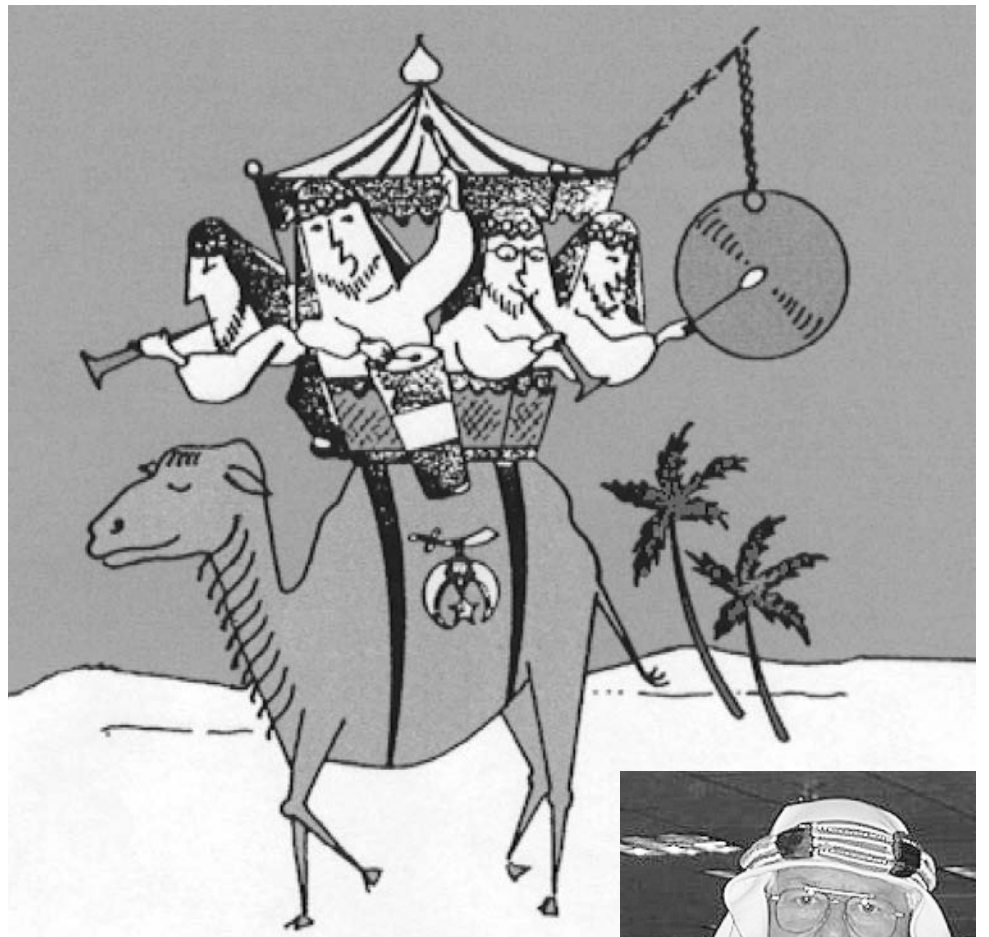
In the meantime, we have been diligently preparing to defend our Northeast titles in Burlington, Vermont. We do anticipate some credible competition this year so we are trying to leave nothing to chance.

As performers, we usually are clad in our uniforms and adorned with make-up and regalia which hide our real identities. In an effort to remedy that, when space permits (as it does on this occasion), an effort will be made to introduce you to some of our members in or out of uniform.

Membership Seniority is a much coveted aspect of being in the Band and occasional discussions are had as to who is the most senior member of the Band and what constitutes Seniority. For the sake of simplicity, we have decided to define it as either continuous service or the sum of discontinuous services (because we have some members who have had to take time off for good reasons). Accordingly, our secret archives and records, having given way to our appropriate ancient cabalistic chants, passwords, rituals, potions, and signs, show that the distinction of longest continuous service (and hence the title of Senior Band Member) currently goes to Noble **James A. Harvey** who is also affectionately known as Jim "the Junkman" Harvey. Jim has been with the Band for over forty years and is in the percussion section where he plays a drum (a youthful pursuit of his since before the dawn of mankind). Jim comes by his Band nickname or alias as a result of his association with a family business involved in waste management and collection. Jim is of the Harvey family whose name you see on all those dumpsters and trucks and, being more like the Energizer Bunny (of advertising fame) than the invisible Harvey Rabbit (of movie fame), he personally remains very active in the business. Jim personifies the adages that



JIM AND JANET HARVEY



"one man's junk is another man's gold" and that "there is gold in them thar hills of junk" as he has been very successful with the business. Jim is an avid golfer with a reasonable handicap and a powerful tee shot and a model train enthusiast who presides over an impressive model train empire in and around his home. He has a charming wife, Lady Janet, and family who are all supportive of his ventures. Jim often regales us with stories of past Band doings which we all take delight (and occasionally wonderment) in hearing. We are all grateful for Jim's participation with the Band (especially given his hectic schedule and work responsibilities) and for the excellence of his performances. We hope that Jim will retain his seniority for many more years to come and continue to entertain us and you for an equal period of time.



JIM
"THE JUNKMAN"
HARVEY

Please take note that the host of our webpage has indicated that they will be discontinuing their service sometime during the current year. We are not sure what that will mean for the future of our webpage, but alternatives are being considered.

Till our paths next cross,

Shalom

The Oriental Band Scribe



Don't Forget
November 14
2009
Ceremonial

MUSICIANS WANTED

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Scribblings of the Scribe

The story is told of the umpire convention which saw the coming together of three of baseball's greatest umpires (Tom, Bill, and Harry - for lack of true identities) who made inquiry of each other as to how they were able to determine whether a pitched ball was in fact a "ball" or a "strike". To which question Tom stated, "When a ball is pitched, it is either a "ball" or a "strike" and I call them the way I see them." To which the other two umpires nodded in agreement after which Bill stated, "When a ball is pitched, I agree that it is either a "ball" or a "strike" but I call them what they are." All agreed that made sense too, then along came Harry and stated, "I agree with what has been said so far, when a ball is pitched, it is either a "ball" or a "strike" BUT, it ain't nothing until I call it!" May the umpires of life look favorably upon the balls that are pitched your way and consider well that, if you hit the pitched ball - it doesn't matter whether it was a "ball" or a "strike"! Get a hit every time and the arbitrary and whimsical capriciousness of authority will be denied.

SIC TRANSIT GLORIA MUNDI