

\$300,003 Sneakers?

By HERMES BOYATIS

PRESENT on the floor at the Imperial Session of the International Shrine Clown Association in Anaheim, California in 2007 was our world's top clown, **Rollo Pearlstein**, serving as master-of-ceremonies that day, in addition to his other roles.

Your interviewer and Aleppo Hospitals, doctors, nurses, children, and volunteers have witnessed his achievements for years. His role that day in Anaheim was two-fold: a major donation and a remarkable award.

A check for \$300,003 from the ISCA's (International Shrine Clown Association) Sneaker Fund was presented at the convention's General Assembly to the Imperial Potentate **Nicholas Thomas** and Imperial Sir **Ralph Semb**, Chairman of Shriners Hospitals for Children, as well as the Imperial Officers and the Divans of North America. Pearlstein, treasurer and imperial liaison, noted that the check is to be used for burns research in our Shriners Hospitals.

Ernie's second presentation was to **Matt "Dusty" Brodeur** of the Aleppo Temple Clown Unit. "I am so pleased," he said, "that another member of our esteemed unit has reached such a level in such a short time. I have witnessed his dedication to our Shriners' goals in his first competition!" He added, "ME is not important. It is Matt's award."

Asked his plans for the future, including of course, his care for his beloved wife and family: "To recruit more people in clowning and more competitions. When our country and the entire world are in deep gloom from fires, floods, earthquakes, tsunamis and war, we need a little laughter more than ever!"

We thank you, Rollo. Keep clowning and making everyone laugh with you!



A CHECK PRESENTATION in the amount of \$300,003.00 to the Imperial Potentate Nicholas Thomas; Imperial Sir Ralph Semb, Chairman of Shriners Hospitals for Children, as well as the Imperial Officers and the Divans of North America. This check was requested by Imperial Headquarters to be presented by the International Shrine Clown Association Officers at the convention's General Assembly. These funds were raised in 2006 by the members of the International Shrine Clown Association.

Left to right: Two Clowns; Ken "Grimmee" Taylor President; Sanford "Ootz" Morris, Past President 2006; Ernest "Rollo" Pearlstein, Past President, Treasurer, Imperial Liaison; Imperial Sir Nicholas Thomas, Imperial Potentate; Ralph "Little Rascal" Semb, Past Imperial Potentate, and current Chairman of the Board, Shriners Hospitals For Children.

Getting Illuminated About the Lighting Unit

.....from page 1

outside of the actual work in the auditorium, we're probably a good fit." In short, the Lighting Unit is more focused on event-related work, and less on social and parade events. The only cost to a member is for the uniform.

So how qualified do you have to be? Al Potter continues, "Many people think you need to be a professional lighting technician or a certified electrician to work with us. However, lighting and electricity are not the same things, meaning that skill in one does not mean having skill in the other. Therefore, we are happy to do a lot of on-the-job training, and we also have an educational newsletter that is sent out to the members. We are constantly educating and improving ourselves when it comes to lighting."

The Lighting Unit currently has 17 members, and is always looking for more people. It's a good way to get involved in an essential role, and learn something at the same time. For more information, drop by the Lighting office in the mezzanine during any Shrine event or call Al Potter at 978-304-3030.



Aleppo's Military Men: The Legion of Honor

.....from page 1

As a newer unit, the Legion had to show that it was needed and productive, and thereby developed its credibility through visibility and a high level of activity - according to Past Commander **Dan Schuldman**, "the Legion of Honor is represented at every Shrine event, and is very active." The unit holds meetings from September to June on the 3rd Tuesday of every month, and marches in every parade during the parade season.

Every Legion has its own uniform, and ours uses a modified Navy uniform with a white shoulder cord

and ascot. Formerly, the unit also had white belts, but has since changed over to khaki. Members are permitted to wear a shoulder patch denoting either their branch of service or their unit, as well as any medals received during their service. As active military service or honorable discharge is a prerequisite to join, DD-214 forms must be presented as part of the application process.

Anyone interested in joining can stop by the Aleppo office to ask for an application, or stop by the recruiting table at any Ceremonial, or next time you see one of the members... ask.

United States Postal Service
Statement of Ownership, Management, and Circulation

1. Publication Title Aleppo Shriners News	2. Publication Number 4 6 6 - 3 9 0	3. Filing Date October 1, 2007
4. Issue Frequency Bi-Monthly	5. Number of Issues Published Annually 5	6. Annual Subscription Price \$3.00
7. Complete Mailing Address of Known Office of Publication (Not printer) (Street, city, county, state, and ZIP+4) 99 Fordham Road, Wilmington, Middlesex County, MA 01887-2148		Contact Person Harvey J. Waugh Telephone 781-665-6466 ext. 13
8. Complete Mailing Address of Headquarters or General Business Office of Publisher (Not printer) 99 Fordham Road, Wilmington, MA 01887-2148		
9. Full Names and Complete Mailing Addresses of Publisher, Editor, and Managing Editor (Do not leave blank) Publisher (Name and complete mailing address): Harvey J. Waugh, 99 Fordham Road, Wilmington, MA 01887-2148 Editor (Name and complete mailing address): Harvey J. Waugh, 99 Fordham Road, Wilmington, MA 01887-2148 Managing Editor (Name and complete mailing address): Harvey J. Waugh, 99 Fordham Road, Wilmington, MA 01887-2148		
10. Owner (Do not leave blank. If the publication is owned by a corporation, give the name and address of the corporation immediately followed by the names and addresses of all stockholders owning or holding 1 percent or more of the total amount of stock. If not owned by a corporation, give the names and addresses of the individual owners. If owned by a partnership or other unincorporated firm, give its name and address, as well as those of each individual owner. If the publication is published by a nonprofit organization, give its name and address.) Full Name Complete Mailing Address Aleppo Shriners, A.A.O.N.M.S. 99 Fordham Road, Wilmington, MA 01887-2148		
11. Known Bondholders, Mortgagees, and Other Security Holders Owning or Holding 1 Percent or More of Total Amount of Bonds, Mortgages, or Other Securities. If none, check box <input type="checkbox"/> None Full Name Complete Mailing Address		
12. Tax Status (For completion by nonprofit organizations authorized to mail at nonprofit rates) (Check one) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Has Not Changed During Preceding 12 Months <input type="checkbox"/> Has Changed During Preceding 12 Months (Publisher must submit explanation of change with this statement)		

13. Publication Title	14. Issue Date for Circulation Data Below	
15. Extent and Nature of Circulation	Average No. Copies Each Issue During Preceding 12 Months	No. Copies of Single Issue Published Nearest to Filing Date
a. Total Number of Copies (Net press run)	10,600	14,000
(1) Paid/Requested Outside-County Mail Subscriptions Stated on Form 3541 (Include advertiser's proof and exchange copies)	7,568	11,129
(2) Paid In-County Subscriptions Stated on Form 3541 (Include advertiser's proof and exchange copies)	1,888	2,726
(3) Sales Through Dealers and Carriers, Street Vendors, Counter Sales, and Other Non-USPS Paid Distribution	none	none
(4) Other Classes Mailed Through the USPS	none	none
c. Total Paid and/or Requested Circulation (Sum of 15b, (1), (2), (3), and (4))	9,456	13,855
d. Free Distribution by Mail (1) Outside-County as Stated on Form 3541	0	0
(2) In-County as Stated on Form 3541	0	0
(3) Other Classes Mailed Through the USPS	0	0
e. Free Distribution Outside the Mail (Carriers or other means)	0	0
f. Total Free Distribution (Sum of 15d and 15e)	0	0
g. Total Distribution (Sum of 15c and 15f)	9,456	13,855
h. Copies not Distributed	1,144	145
i. Total (Sum of 15g and h.)	10,600	14,000
j. Percent Paid and/or Requested Circulation (15c divided by 15g times 100)	100%	100%
16. Publication of Statement of Ownership X1 Publication required. Will be printed in the Oct/Dec 2007 issue of this publication. <input type="checkbox"/> Publication not required		
17. Signature and Title of Editor, Publisher, Business Manager, or Owner <i>Harvey J. Waugh</i> EXECUTIVE EDITOR Date: October 1, 2007		


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- In item 16, indicate the date of the issue in which this Statement of Ownership will be published.
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