

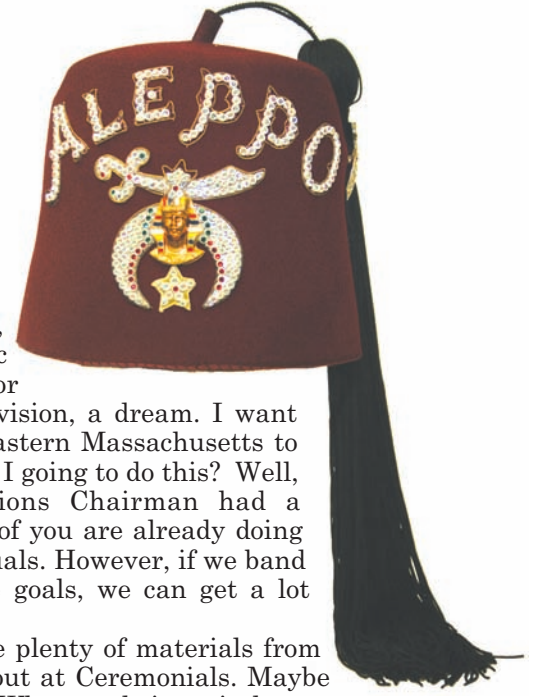


AT THE 2008 Imperial Session in St. Louis, Illustrrious Potentate **Stephen G. Eriksen** and Lady **Lynne** presented **Megan Johnson** with a Boston Celtics shirt to go along with the Red Sox and Patriots shirts that she received when she was here in January.

Why Do Shriners Need PR?

MY name is **Doug Dodge**, and I am the current Public Relations Chairman for Aleppo Temple. I have a quest, a vision, a dream. I want nothing less than for everyone in Eastern Massachusetts to know what Shriners do. So, how am I going to do this? Well, back in 1957, the Public Relations Chairman had a Committee. I also know that some of you are already doing PR of a sort on your own as individuals. However, if we band together and set up some concrete goals, we can get a lot done.

Just as a few examples, there are plenty of materials from Shrine Headquarters we can pass out at Ceremonials. Maybe we can get billboard space donated. What we do is entirely up to us, and there's a lot we can do. If you want to get involved, drop me an email at dougdodge@hotmail.com. I look forward to hearing from you.



"The Fun And The Purpose"

Hi Nobles,

Well the last Aleppo Ceremonial of 2008 is behind us. Boy time flies. Now that our opportunity for making new Shriners in 2008 is past, it's time to see what we can do about making 2009 an even better membership year.

The Aleppo membership committee headed by Noble **Phil Kumph** is working hard to come up with ideas to add new Nobles to our roster as well as retain current members. Some of the things the committee is working on include a membership dinner for newly raised Masons, an Aleppo traveling degree team to raise Master Masons, attending Lodges of Instruction to speak or at least be a presence, attend Blue Lodge Open Houses to help bring more men into Masonry, distribute the *Aleppo News* to various districts, and much more. If you are interested in joining the committee or have ideas that may help, please contact either Phil Kumph or myself. We would love to have you as a member of Aleppo's Membership Team!

I realize this message sounds like a membership sales pitch, that's because IT IS! New members are our lifeblood. New members bring excitement and enthusiasm to our Nobility. Remember how excited you were when you first became a Noble, wanting to see what it's all about, and meeting new people? Everyone seems to know each other so well. Don't forget getting involved in Shrinedom and feeling proud to be a part of an organization that does so much good. Don't let your friends miss out on that feeling you had. Tell them about the hospitals, the kids, and what we do to help.

Speaking of helping kids, here is a **Megan Johnson** update: If you recall, Megan was our guest at the January Ceremonial. Well, on August 28th, Megan underwent her 26th surgery at Shriners Hospital in Portland, Oregon. Megan and I talked a couple of times during the week preceding the operation. She was justifiably nervous, but upbeat as always. She wasn't happy about the upcoming procedure, but she enjoys all the doctors, nurses, and volunteers at the Shriners. Less than a week after her surgery, I talked with Megan and her mom, **Jill**. Megan was home and doing great. Her surgery was difficult, but she came through it like a champ.

You should know that during her visit to Aleppo, you must have done something special, because Megan now has an affinity for Aleppo. She has an e-mail and phone relationship with many Aleppo Nobles and Ladies. It's amazing the number of people I run into that have e-mailed or talked to Megan. What a great feeling to know that you played a part in helping a young lady like her.

This is exactly the feeling we should share with our friends who are not Shriners. Until they become a part of Shrinedom they cannot know how good it feels to be a part of the Shrine family. So pass this copy of the *Aleppo News* (after you've read it), on to someone who you think would enjoy what we do. Someone who likes to volunteer, help out, and have fun doing it. They may thank you later.

And now for a commercial: Our building is now being used for events in the summer, thanks to the airconditioning that was installed four years ago. We still have one more year to pay off the AC. I am asking Shrine Clubs, Units, and Nobles to make a donation to the Cold Sands Fund before year's end. If you can, it would be greatly appreciated. If you can't, don't worry, we'll still turn on the AC for you too.

Es Selamu Aleikum
Illustrrious Stephen G. Eriksen
Potentate Aleppo Temple – 2008



Stephen G. Eriksen
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