

DESERT DUST



A PUBLICATION OF OASIS SHRINERS
CHARLOTTE, NC

July 2025 | Volume 90 | Number 7



IN THIS ISSUE

Oasis Presents Two 50 Year Shrine Service Awards

Spring Ceremonial | Family Fun Day

Fall SASA Registration | *and more!*



Shriners
International





From the Potentate

Nobles and Ladies:

As this July issue of the *Desert Dust* is electronically released, we will be well underway with the Imperial Session of Shriners

International in Atlanta. Look for those photos in the August edition of the *Desert Dust*.

Join us in welcoming the most recent 24 members of Oasis Shriners whose pictures you will see in this issue including nine who joined during our 2025 Spring Ceremonial in Cullowhee and 15 who joined during the 3rd Annual Lake Wylie Ceremonial. We now have 53 new nobles, their ladies, and

families to welcome to the Oasis family this year and still have four more opportunities to join including the High Rock Lake Ceremonial at Rowan Shrine Club on July 19, Black Tie Ceremonial at the Winston-Salem Masonic Center on August 23, Fall Ceremonial at Oasis on November 1, and Cat Square Ceremonial at Lincoln County Shrine Club on December 13.

Speaking of membership, let's hear it for one of the hardest working members, Noble Ben Hamilton, Oasis Outer Guard and Membership Chairman and his Lady Emily! This dynamic duo is truly a powerhouse team who is always willing to help, say a supportive and kind word, and go the extra mile in any way possible. I personally appreciate Noble Ben's leadership of the Oasis Membership Team.

Our Oasis hotel block for Fall SASA in Myrtle Beach quickly sold out. We have received word from the SASA Secretary that the Fall SASA registration window will open on July 1 and close on September 16. Go to SOUTHATLANTICSA.NET to register after July 1. As with previous years, once the parade has concluded and our Oasis Director Rick Garver has confirmed headcounts of parading Nobles with each unit, then Oasis will reimburse those parading Nobles' units their \$25 registration fee via the Unit Captain to distribute. Questions? Contact Illustrious Recorder Gary Taylor or Oasis Director Rick Garver.

Following discussion with the Divan and unanimous consensus, we will shift our annual Oasis Club and Unit Appreciation event from the first weekend in January back to the Friday evening of our Fall Ceremonial at Oasis which will be on Friday, October 31. As longtime members may recall, "it used to be this way" and we believe there are many advantages in doing so. We will be recognizing our clubs and units as usual for all their hard work during the year, so stay tuned for more information to come regarding the event. Rest assured, all clubs' and units' final totals for annual giving will be announced and published as usual in either the January or February 2026 *Desert Dust* once the Oasis office has received all necessary information for final calculations and credits.

Remember, today you are somebody's example when they glance at the ring upon your hand, the lapel pin on your collar, the stitched logo on your shirt, or the decal on your vehicle. In the words of our beloved Oasis Chaplain, Past Potentate John Stanley, "let the words of my mouth and the meditations of my heart be acceptable in your sight, O Lord, my rock and my redeemer."

Yours in the Faith,
Illustrious Sir Chris Hall

2025 OASIS "CAMEL CITY" BLACK TIE CEREMONIAL

SATURDAY, AUGUST 23

Winston-Salem Masonic Center, 4537 Country Club Road



**Dress: Formal
(tuxedo)**

- | | |
|---------|--|
| 5:00 pm | Hors d'oeuvres |
| 5:30 pm | Dinner and Program
Recognition of M.W. Grand Master
Robert Rideout |
| 6:00 pm | Black Tie Ceremonial for Nobles &
Special Presentation for Ladies |
| 7:00 pm | Benediction |

\$60/couple (\$30/person) Choice of Prime Rib or Salmon

Dinner Reservations Required by **Monday, August 18** via Eventbrite

Reserve Dinner and Meal Selection at
<https://2025blacktie.eventbrite.com>

Hotel Block at the Hampton Inn
Winston-Salem Hanes Mall
Book Hotel at
<https://group.hamptoninn.com/tpqsts>



From the Recorder

Hello Everyone,

I hope this note finds you well. My next few articles will focus on our hospital kids, and I hope you enjoy reading their

stories. This month's focus is on Ezra. The following information is readily available on Shriners Children's website, but I am more than happy to bring it to you personally.

Scoliosis Can't Stop the Music

Specialized, family-centered care at Shriners Children's allowed Ezra, 18, to receive life-changing scoliosis treatment while pursuing his musical passion.

Ezra is a talented teen violinist who has played for 12 years and has spent the past three performing with a suburban Chicago youth orchestra. In 2024 he was excited to join the orchestra's prestigious honor ensembles in the Hanson String Quartet. But the serious effects of a lifelong and worsening health condition put performance and his health at risk. "After I was accepted into Youth Symphony, I faced one of my biggest challenges, but it didn't pertain to music," Ezra wrote. Thanks to advanced scoliosis treatment from Shriners Children's pediatric spine team--and some creativity--he stayed on track musically and is now playing with a much straighter spine and less pain.

Ezra was born with several complex medical conditions, including congenital scoliosis. In 2014, his family turned to the pediatric orthopedic spine program at Shriners Children's Chicago for care. As he grew taller, the curve in his spine also grew. But it was more than his curve that caused concern. Ezra's vertebrae were abnormally shaped, including butterfly vertebrae, hemi (wedge-shaped), and block (fused) vertebrae. In Dr. Gupta's words, "Ezra has an alphabet soup of abnormalities with his spine."

Eventually, his unusual spine was shaped in an 'S' curve of more than 100 degrees. Surgery was scheduled for fall of 2024. His orthopedic spine surgeon put Ezra in 24/7 inpatient halo traction for one month prior to surgery. Halo-gravity traction is a treatment for scoliosis and other spine deformities that involves gently stretching and straightening the spine. The treatment involves attaching a metal ring, called a halo, around the head and connecting it to a weighted pulley system.

"This technique has been around for quite a while, but a lot of medical facilities stopped offering it years ago because of the challenges involved with the length of time children needed to be 'in halo,' as we call it, and insurance wouldn't always cover that cost," Dr. Szczodry said.

Ezra was concerned that all those weeks away from the symphony while in halo might mean losing his spot in the ensemble he'd worked so hard to reach. To keep in practice, his music director suggested a new idea. What if Ezra and his quartet could hold weekly rehearsals at Shriners Children's? The request was approved by the inpatient and spine care team, giving the quartet special access to the hospital's Teen Lounge, which provided a small private space to rehearse.

Shriners Children's Chicago is one of only a handful of facilities in the country that offers halo treatment and allows children to stay in the hospital throughout the entire multi-week treatment process. After halo traction, children usually have spinal fusion surgery to permanently straighten the spine. Dr. Szczodry said the halo-first approach reduces intraoperative risk of damaging the spinal cord and nerves, as well as soft tissues that surround and support the spine.

"I have witnessed incredible transformations with halo traction," said Dr. Szczodry. "Kids who arrive with severe,

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DESERT DUST

Illustrious Sir Christopher L. Hall, Potentate

604 Doug Mayes Place,
Charlotte, NC 28262
Phone: 704-549-9600
oasisshriners.org

2025 OASIS DIVAN

Chief Rabban - Tim Farris
Assistant Rabban - Donnie Wrenn
High Priest and Prophet - Scottie Cox
Oriental Guide - John Cable
Treasurer - Bill DePriest
Recorder - Gary Taylor, PP
1st Ceremonial Master - Larry Sanderson
2nd Ceremonial Master - Tom Bridges
Director - Rick Garver
Marshal - Larry Payne
Captain of the Guard - Jack Wallace
Outer Guard - Ben Hamilton
Chaplain - John Stanley, PP

Editor - Edie Wilson
ediewilson7@gmail.com

From the Recorder

continued from page 3

stuck-out spinal curves see their spines gradually straighten and actually feel it straightening in the process. Although the setup can look uncomfortable, our patients typically like the feeling of being stretched and the feeling that comes with it. This treatment is part of our life-changing care for many of our kids and allows them to get back to doing the things they love sooner."

Ezra just remembers those pins. "While halo traction was for the most part painless for me, I did learn that if I didn't thoroughly clean my halo pins every day, they would become very irritated. The hardest part about halo traction is getting used to sleeping with six pins sticking out of your head," said Ezra. With his halo in place, his inpatient stay began. Ezra recalls telling his mom during the second week as an inpatient, "I love it here!" During his stay, he performed the Star-Spangled Banner at a Paralympic Games opening-day celebration for patients. "Thanks to the willingness of the Hansen String Quartet

members to drive all the way into Chicago, I was able to rehearse while in traction," said Ezra. After successful halo treatment, Ezra underwent posterior spinal fusion surgery on September 25, 2024, to address his 120-degree curve between T1 and L4.

"I am feeling great after surgery, although my first three weeks after were quite painful. The process of getting my nerves acclimated and reset was the biggest hurdle," he said. "It's been half a year since spinal fusion and my life is pretty much the same with the exception of no BLT (bending, lifting or twisting). Six weeks after surgery, I was able to return to playing my violin, which in my opinion helped me recover faster and regain feeling in my back and left arm. Now I am back playing gigs and recitals."

Things continue to go well here at Oasis, and we would love to have your stop by and visit your temple. Take care until next month, and remember, the work you do for our fraternity and philanthropy is sincerely *appreciated* and *essential* to our hospitals and all our Shriners Children's programs like Ezra's, that they serve.

Gary



OASIS SHRINERS
Having Fun & Helping Children



HIGH ROCK LAKE CEREMONIAL SATURDAY, JULY 19, 2025

ROWAN SHRINE CLUB
6480 LONG FERRY ROAD
SALISBURY, NC 28146



Potentate's Designated Local Points of Contact:

Noble Mark Shores (704-202-3389)
Noble Kenneth Small (704-754-0032)

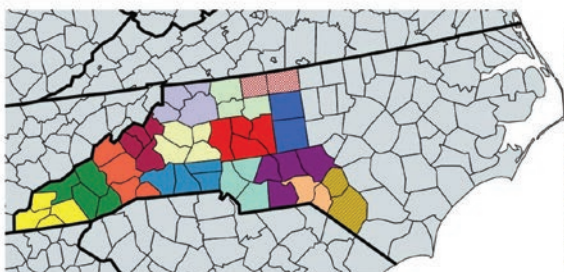
- 10:00 Doors Open
- 10:30 Registration (walk-in Master Masons in Good Standing are welcome)
- 11:00 Welcome, Ceremony, and New Member Orientation
- 12:00 Lunch (provided)

"This one-day opportunity is expressly designed for the convenience of new members to join with ease while keeping life's demanding schedules in mind. Accordingly, there will be no ladies' program for this one-day ceremony. New nobles and their ladies are highly encouraged and welcome to come back during our Oasis Spring and Fall full weekend ceremonials to enjoy a full schedule and full program of events.

- * Class Honoree will be named
- * Class Photograph will be taken with fez following lunch

PETITION TO JOIN:

<https://oasisshriners.org/images/forms/membership/petition-for-initiation-and-membership.pdf>



OASIS JURISDICTION

- District 1
- District 2
- District 3
- District 4
- District 5
- District 6
- District 7
- District 8
- District 9
- District 10
- District 11
- District 12
- District 13
- District A - Concurrent with Amman
- District S - Concurrent with Sudan

NOW HIRING Oasis Hospitality Team Wants You

*Are you ready to get involved?
Are you a new Shriner or Shriner
who's been around for a while but
has not been involved? Would you
like to get to know more people?*

Join the Oasis Hospitality Team.



We are looking for individuals like
yourself to join our team.
Husbands *and* wives are encouraged.

To learn more, please contact
Dennis Grigg at (828) 781-0062.

We look forward to hearing from you.

Oasis Visits with Lady Ina Martin

On June 3, Illustrious Sir Chris Hall was honored to visit and meet with Lady Ina Martin, widow of Oasis Noble Dan Martin.



Lady Ina is a mere 95 years young. Special thanks to Oasis Second Ceremonial Master Tom Bridges and Noble Russell Bridges for arranging the visit. Lady Ina enjoys reading her monthly Desert Dust. We particularly hope she enjoys this issue!

The visit was made even more special when Lady Ida mentioned having known and lived near 1985 Oasis Potentate Terry K. Jones years ago in Winston Salem. Illustrious Sir Terry was contacted by phone so that two cherished friends had an opportunity to speak with one another for the first time in several years.

Lady Ina, thank you for sharing your beautiful smile with Oasis!

RED FEZ CEREMONIAL CLASS

JUNE 14, 2025 ~ CHARLOTTE, NC

MEMBER #	NOBLE'S NAME	CITY, STATE, ZIP	LADY
1001283	David C Elderbroom	Charlotte, NC 28273	Stacey
1001281	Thomas W Engels	Waxhaw, NC 28173	Lisa
1001294	John M Falls	Cherryville, NC 28021	Misty
1001293	Jeffrey M Falls	Gastonia, NC 28052	
1001310	Paul Jacobsen	Clover, SC 29710	Charlotte
1001233	Robert M Jones	Forest City, NC 28043	Alysa
1001311	Augstine Krause	Clover, SC 29710	
1001314	Kyle W Lang	Gastonia, NC 28052	
1001308	Andrew Lynch	Clover, SC 29710	
1001279	William D McWhorter	Waxhaw, NC 28173	Wyone
1001309	Tanner N Trites	Clover, SC 29710	
1001282	Freddie A Upton	Forest City, NC 28043	Tammy
1001307	Logan Varalli	York, SC 29745	Sara
1001240	Daniel B Wegman	Bostic, NC 28018	Mary Beth
1001313	Christian C Whittaker	York, SC 29745	Jennifer



Oasis Camping Club



Submitted by Noble Bryan Petzold
Oasis Camping Club

The Oasis Camping Club along with American Airlines Camping Club met Saturday night after the Spring Ceremonial Parade for a cookout at Moonshine Creek Campground.



Family Fun Day





2025 Schedule of Events



JUNE-JULY

June 29-July 3 Imperial Session of Shriners International,
Atlanta, Georgia

JULY

July 17 Oasis Divan Meeting
July 19 High Rock Lake **Ceremonial**
Rowan Shrine Club, Salisbury



**Shriners
Children's™**

**Leaders in
Research**

Shriners Children's strives to transform children's lives by providing exceptional health care through high-quality, innovative research in a patient and family centered environment.

We are committed to the pursuit of seminal, cutting edge discoveries that result in new knowledge and improve the therapeutic treatment, quality of care and provided outcomes to our patients and their families. Today's research is tomorrow's patient care.



**ORTHOPAEDICS • BURN CARE
CLEFT LIP AND PALATE • SPINAL CORD INJURY**

AUGUST

August 23 Oasis Divan Meeting (**STATED**)
Masonic Center, Winston-Salem
August 23 Camel City **Ceremonial** (Black Tie)
Masonic Center, Winston-Salem

SEPTEMBER

September 18-21 Fall SASA - 52nd Annual Meeting
Myrtle Beach, South Carolina
September 19 Oasis Divan Meeting
Myrtle Beach, South Carolina

OCTOBER

October 1 Oasis Circus - Greensboro Coliseum
October 3-4 Oasis Circus - Cabarrus Arena
October 10-11 Annual Homecoming, Masonic Home for
Children at Oxford
October 16 Oasis Divan Meeting at Oasis HQ
October 18 6th Annual Oasis Golf Tournament
October 31 **Annual Club & Unit Appreciation Event**
Oct 31-Nov 2 Oasis Past Potentates "Homecoming"
Ceremonial - Oasis Headquarters, Charlotte

NOVEMBER

November 20 Oasis Divan Meeting

DECEMBER

December 6 Oasis Divan Meeting (**STATED**)
December 6 Oasis Annual Election of Officers
December 13 Lincoln **Ceremonial** - Lincoln County
Shrine Club, Vale & Cat Square Parade
December 18 Oasis Divan Meeting

JANUARY 2026

January 3 **Installation** of the 131st Potentate of
Oasis Shriners & the Oasis Divan



OASIS SHRINERS
Having Fun & Helping Children

Petals of Hope: Lady Laura's Monthly Story

Just as the dogwood bloom symbolizes endurance, rebirth, and quiet strength, Olivia's story unfolds as a living example of grace through adversity. Diagnosed with bilateral clubfoot before she was even born, Olivia's journey could have been marked by limitations—but thanks to early intervention and the expert care of Shriners Children's Greenville, it became one of triumph and transformation.

From her first casting at just two weeks old to multiple surgeries

and years of bracing, Olivia met each challenge with the quiet resilience that echoes the spirit of the dogwood—delicate in appearance, yet deeply rooted in strength. Now 14, she is thriving: marching with her school band, playing soccer, and inspiring others as a Shriners patient ambassador.

This month in **Petals of Hope**, Olivia reminds us that healing is not just about medicine—it's about possibility, purpose, and the people who help us bloom into our fullest selves.



Olivia

From the moment she was born, Olivia's journey was one of resilience and determination. Diagnosed with bilateral clubfoot while still in utero, her feet appeared twisted inward at the ankle, a condition that could have left her unable to walk if left untreated.

Erin, Olivia's mom, was initially terrified by the

unknown diagnosis. However, that fear turned into hope after she attended a Prenatal Education Program session at Shriners Children's Greenville. Touring the facility and speaking with Olivia's future medical staff about advanced treatment options and available services quieted Erin's worries.

"They gave me the reassurance I needed," said Erin. "Before she was even born, I knew Shriners Children's would help provide her the best life."

At two weeks old, Olivia began treatment with casting using the Ponseti method, a process of gradually moving her feet to the correct position. This was the beginning of Olivia's remarkable

journey toward healing. Over the next few years, Olivia underwent several weeks of casting, four years of bracing, and seven surgeries.

Today, at 14, Olivia is a vibrant girl with a world of possibilities ahead of her. She walks and runs freely, something that once seemed impossible. "Because of the treatment I received, I get the life I deserve," Olivia says with gratitude.

Olivia's life is full and active. She plays the clarinet and percussion in her high school marching band, participating in various parades and half-time shows, and enjoys playing soccer. She is also an avid fundraiser and loyal patient ambassador for Shriners Children's Greenville, sharing her story and spreading awareness about "the most amazing care" she has received, while raising funds to benefit other patients. "Shriners Children's gave me the biggest gift of my life, and I am so thankful to them for that," she says.

Inspired by the physical therapists who have helped her, Olivia dreams of becoming a physical therapist herself. She plans to pursue this dream after high school, driven by a desire to give other children the same chance at a full and active life that she has been given.

***Your gifts help kids like
Olivia live their best
possible lives.***



**Shriners
Children's™**
Greenville

950 West Faris Rd.
Greenville, SC 29605
ShrinersGreenville.org

To donate: 864-255-8765

f t i y in [ShrinersGreenville](http://ShrinersGreenville.org)



Chaplain's Corner

Patience.

Patience. What about patience? Is patience a good thing? Are we to WAIT for something good to happen, for "things" to get better? Have you ever wondered what the Bible has to say about PATIENCE?

The person in the Bible we often think of when we think of patience is Job. Job's faith was tested with numerous types of suffering. Job showed great perseverance and never cursed God for his afflictions.

And, how many times have we heard someone say of someone else: "He or she has the 'patience of Job?'"

Many times, due to circumstances beyond our control, it is difficult for us to have patience. In fact, it seems impossible for us to have 'the patience of Job'.

But, we remember, in Chapter 15 of Proverbs we read the following: *"A hot-tempered person stirs up conflict, but the one who is patient calms a quarrel."*

So, let us attempt to be more like Job as we remember the words of Proverbs: *"The one who is patient calms a quarrel."*

If we have the patience of Job, just maybe we can calm a quarrel. May God continue to hold you in the palm of His hand. God bless you.

John Stanley, P.M., P.P. is Chaplain of Oasis Shriners, and Chaplain of SASA, a Past Imperial Chaplain of Shriners International (appointed by Imperial Sir Al Madsen. He is a former Pastor-Visitation, First Gastonia and Laurinburg Presbyterian. He can be reached at jhstanley1965@gmail.com. He'd like to hear from you!

2025 OASIS QUILT GIVEAWAY

Handmade by Lady Sabrina Cashion

**\$20 each
or 6 for \$100**

**Drawing to be Held at
Fall Ceremonial on
Saturday, November 1**

**Winner Need Not
be Present to Win**

*Proceeds Benefit
Shriners Children's*

**See any Divan
Member for Tickets**

*The quilt will be
featured at various
events throughout
the year.*



*MOONLIGHT MIRAGE
AT
THE LAKE*

**JULY 26, 2025
6:00-10:00 PM
RED FEZ SHRINE CLUB
16600 RED FEZ CLUB ROAD, CHARLOTTE**

MUSIC BY: DJ TODD

COST: \$30 PER PERSON

TICKETS AVAILABLE AT RED FEZ BAR OR FROM A
LADIES AUXILIARY BOARD MEMBER OR
DEBBIE BURGESS AT 803-984-1707

RSVP BY JULY 6TH AT 5:00 PM SO WE CAN CONFIRM
OUR NUMBER FOR DINNER WITH THE CATERER

Oasis Presents Two 50 Year Shrine Service Awards at Spring Ceremonial



Oasis Shriners presented two 50 Year Shrine Service Awards during its Spring Ceremonial held at Cullowhee from June 6-8, 2025. Illustrious Sir John Elder, 2008 Past Potentate, proudly received his 50 Year Lapel Pin from Lady Jean. Noble R. Keith Bailey, M.D., Oasis Chaplain Team member, received his lapel pin from the Potentate and Chief Rabban during the Oasis Non-Denominational Service on Sunday, June 8 at the conclusion of the weekend's festivities.

Congratulations to these two incredible Shriners who continue to work for the World's Greatest Philanthropy—Shriners Children's.



Miraculous Order of the High Seas!



Arrrrr,

By order o' the Oasis Buccaneers - Aug. 2nd be declared Pirate Day! Hoist yer colors and prepare for a day o' swashbucklin'!

Ye Be summoned. This be yer official call to set sail! Join the Miraculous Order of the High Seas for the 1st Ever Pirate Degree!

When: Aug. 2nd, 11 Bells (TPM) - 11 Bells (TPM)
Where: 1460 Oakwood Ave, Kannapolis, NC 28081
Who Be Welcome: All Shriners in good standing 'n their fair Ladies!

A Luau Feast be followin' the degree — don yer Hawaiian shirt or pirate garb an' come feast like a true buccaneer!

OASIS BUCCANEERS

Fer questions or information:
Captain: Aaron "Flintlock" Farmer
Cell: 980-621-7492
OasisBuccaneers1@gmail.com

Shriners Children's

ALLEY OF HOPE

Presented by the Gaston County Shrine Club in support of Shriners Children's



Registration:
\$25/Person until May 31
\$30/Person June 1 - July 12
Includes 3 games of bowling and shoes

When registering via Venmo, include the bowler's name.

July 12, 2025 | 12pm - 4pm

George Pappas' Liberty Lanes
 2501 S. York Road
 Gastonia, NC 28052

For More Information Contact:
 • www.facebook.com/gastoncountyshrineclub
 • shannonwaters721@gmail.com

SPRING CEREMONIAL



SPRING CEREMONIAL CLASS

JUNE 7, 2025 ~ CULLOWHEE, NC

OASIS #	SHRINE #	NOBLE'S NAME	CITY, STATE, ZIP	LADY
1001278	1337474	Dennis E Curtis	Murphy, NC 28906	Debra
1001305	1339567	Johathan R Fahrman	Brasstown, NC 28902	
1001292	1339159	William T Forsyth	Murphy, NC 28906	
1001301	1339448	Christopher A Grubbs	Winston-Salem, NC 27107	Jessica
1001302	1339450	Donald LaTulipe	Murphy, NC 28906	
1001303	1339555	Jesse B Self	Robbinsville, NC 28771	
1001286	1338860	Robert M Swann	Burnsville, NC 28714	Brenda
1001304	1339565	Maverick S Whitley	Albemarle, NC 28001	
1001284	1338477	John C Williams III	Sylva, NC 28779	Jennifer





SPRING CEREMONIAL PARADE



SPRING CEREMONIAL

Ladies Brunch



2025 Oasis Spring Ceremonial “Catamount Class” Honorees

On Saturday, June 7, Illustrious Sir Christopher L. Hall proudly named two distinguished class honorees for the 2025 Oasis Shriners Spring Ceremonial at Western Carolina University in Cullowhee.

Illustrious Sir W. David Sumpter III of Murphy and Noble Wayne Alley of Spartanburg were recognized and distinguished with this honor. The Illustrious Potentate noted both men's tireless work and efforts throughout the years.



Illustrious Sir David and Lady Sandy traveled ten years on the Divan from Murphy to Charlotte and back, among other travels, for countless meetings as he progressed to become Potentate in 2014. He serves as Temple Attorney and continues to be extremely active in Western North Carolina and beyond to help promote the important work of Oasis Shriners for Shriners Children's. Illustrious Sir David was joined by his son, Noble Thomas Sumpter, as well as his other son, newly created Noble Troy Forsyth who was a candidate during the Spring Ceremonial.

Noble Wayne is a former hospital patient and “Shrine Kid” who proudly wears his heart on his sleeve. As an active member of the Clown Unit, he has also helped secure countless bicycles for the annual bicycle drive during which the bikes are distributed to children during the circuses.

Illustrious Sir Chris proudly gives a “Tip of the Fez” to these distinguished Nobles.

UPCOMING CLUB AND UNIT EVENTS

JULY 12

Gaston County Shrine Club
Alley of Hope

See ad on page 11

JULY 26

Red Fez Shrine Club
Moonlight Mirage at the Lake

See ad on page 10

AUGUST 2

Oasis Buccaneers
Pirate Day

See ad on page 11

AUGUST 9

Red Fez Shrine Club
Beach Party

See ad on page 16

AUGUST 16

Water Buffalo Degree

See ad on page 17

Inherited a coin collection?

Let us help you navigate your options!



CAUDLE
COIN & CURRENCY

- Collection Appraisals
- Retail Storefront
- Online C&C Auctions (NCAL#10247)

- Private Sales
- Buy Collections Outright
- Appraisal for Insurance and Estate Purposes

New
Downtown
Location!

125 E. Front St.
Statesville, NC 28677
www.CaudleCoin.com

704-380-3010

Douglas@CaudleCoin.com

Mention this Ad and 10% of profits go to Oasis Charities

Oasis Shrine Photos



VIEW PHOTOS OF OASIS EVENTS!

shrinephotos.com



Illustrious Sir Chris Hall attempted to sneak into the Spring Ceremonial photo of Oasis Past Potentates who jokingly motioned that he is "almost there, but not yet" as he only made it halfway into the photo!

Greetings from your Oasis Clown Unit

We're off to a busy year, and are still making preparations for the circus this year with our bicycle giveaway. If any club, unit, individual or company wants to make a donation of \$150, that will cover a bicycle and helmet. Our deadline for the cut off is August 1 for the donations. If you have collected helmets or bicycles, please let myself, Wayne Alley know by calling **864-706-6282** or email mr.drmples1970@iCloud.com.

The information that is needed on the bicycles is as follows: There are 16, 18, 20, 22, 24, 26 or 28 inch bikes. I need that information to be able to fill in the blanks for the bicycles that we need for the circus. Please indicate whether it is a girl's or boy's bike. Also, let me know if you have helmets for girls or boys and how many you have. The easiest way to provide the helmets is to buy the universal helmets that are just one solid color. That makes it easier to adapt to any size child. Donations can be mailed to our treasurer Mark Murphy at PO Box 936, Conover, NC 28613. Checks can be written out to Oasis Clown Unit, and the memo should state "bike giveaway 2025."

We would like to thank you in advance for making our children smile with the opportunity of having a new bicycle and helmet.

Thank you for all your help. Let's make this the best circus ever!

Fraternally yours,
Wayne Alley (Mr. Dimples)

BEACH Party

RED FEZ SHRINE CLUB
16600 RED FEZ CLUB RD., CHARLOTTE
AUGUST 9, 2025
DINNER/SOCIAL 6-7 PM
MUSIC 7-10 PM BY CHAD SAIN
TICKETS \$30
AVAILABLE AT RED FEZ CLUB BAR OR CONTACT
CHARLOTTE BURGESS 704-578-8098 OR
CNB1954@BELLSOUTH.NET

RSVP BY AUGUST 1ST BY 5:00 TO
CLUBMANAGER@REDFEZSHRINECLUB.COM
OR 980-875-1257

Clowns and Bikes

Greetings nobles and ladies, the deadline for the bicycle donations will be **August 1, 2025**. Anyone buying a new bicycle or helmet or wanting to make a donation needs to have it in by September 1.

Contact Wayne Alley, Barry Winecoff or Tom Livingston so that we can order the rest of the bicycles for this year.



Thank you for all that you do.

Wayne Alley: 864-706-6282

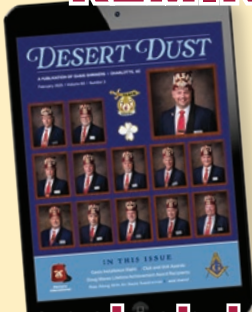
Reminder: All ads & articles for the August edition of the *Desert Dust* must be submitted to Edie Wilson - Ediewilson7@gmail.com by July 10.

Gator Patrol in Action



This Hobo caught by the Oasis Railroad Police is "Ted E," named Clown Shriner of the Year.

REMINDER:



You can view the digital version of the Desert Dust online!

oasisshriners.org

LOYAL ORDER OF WATER BUFFALO

THE LONG LEAF PINE QUARRY NO. 1
OF THE LOYAL ORDER OF WATER BUFFALO
INVITES

YOU AND YOUR LADY TO JOIN US FOR OUR
WATER BUFFALO DECREE

DETAILS:

- Saturday August 16, 2025
- 12PM - 3PM
- Oasis Carolina Room:
604 Doug Mayes Place, Charlotte NC 28262
- \$75/person: includes Water Buffalo hat and lunch
- \$20/person: Lunch only for those who are already members
- LUNCH: BBQ and fixings



it'll be a
YABA DABA DOO Great time!

Proceeds benefit the
Oasis Shrine Center.
Not tax deductible

RSVP THROUGH EVENTBRITE
NO LATER THAN AUGUST 1ST
NO EXCEPTIONS

<https://WaterBuffalo.eventbrite.com>



CONTACT FOR QUESTIONS: Brandon Penley 828-320-7234 blpenley1@gmail.com



FALL SASA REGISTRATION

Oasis Nobles and Ladies:

We have received the information below from SASA regarding the Fall SASA Registration window which they plan to have open **beginning July 1**. Please make certain to carefully read the information from SASA.

Also, please note that **Oasis will once again continue with the following procedure regarding reimbursement only for Nobles who participate in the SASA Parade:**

- Oasis unit and its members will be responsible for handling their registrations.
- At the parade, Oasis Director Rick Garver and his team will confirm each unit's headcount and individuals' names with the Unit Captain who are in Myrtle Beach and in the parade.
- Upon return home from Fall SASA, Oasis will provide a reimbursement check to each Unit for \$25 for each Unit member who participated in the parade.

If you have any questions regarding the above procedure, please email the Oasis Recorder at recorder@oasisshriners.org.

INFORMATION FROM SASA REGARDING REGISTRATION FOR 2025 FALL SASA IN MYRTLE BEACH

As our 2025 Fall SASA convention is approaching fast, the Credentials Committee would like to highlight the following:

- **Pre-registration will open on Tuesday, July 1st and will close at the end of business on September 16th, which is the Tuesday before the festival. We believe that this should give everyone the opportunity to pre-register through the registration portal which will be located on the SASA website link that will be opened and shared at a later date.**
[HTTPS://SOUTHATLANTICSA.NET](https://southatlanticsa.net)
- **Late registration will open in the Exhibit Hall on Thursday, September 18th. Please reference the registration schedule according to SASA schedule for hours.**

A Late Fee of \$40 will be charged for those that register after the closing of the pre-registration portal on September 16th.

- We anticipate having approximately 2,700 Nobles and Ladies that will register for this event. The cost will be **\$25 per Noble; your ladies and guests are free.** Tickets to the various events can be added to the registration cost when completing your registration.

It is important that we capture online all those who plan to attend this festival as we are eligible for monies from the City of Myrtle Beach and the Chamber of Commerce based on those numbers which will help offset the cost of the festival. Please indicate on your registration the total number of people in your party and also indicate if you are a **SASA representative, otherwise you will not be allowed to vote.**

We ask that you encourage pre-registration with the nobility in your Temples as this will significantly speed up the process of registration upon arrival. This also will eliminate the need to pay the Late Fee as noted above. We have (5) volunteers who have graciously agreed to run the registration for us, and the process takes additional time to complete when registering on arrival instead of online especially when the line is long. Please note that your event tickets will be noted on your registration identification card that you receive at check-in and must be with you at all events in order to enter.

As there are a limited number of event tickets available, we encourage you to pre-register on the portal and include any of those events you wish to attend. Should the events not sell out, events can be added at the registration desk upon arrival which will require a **change in your identification badge when picked up.**

For your Nobles who have concerns or are not computer savvy, we encourage you, your Units, Clubs or Temple offices, to assist them in registering online for the event.

REMINDER:
Oasis Hotel Block is SOLD OUT!

[HTTPS://SOUTHATLANTICSA.NET](https://southatlanticsa.net)

WIN

Drawings to win one of 3 handguns

Donation: \$20 per ticket, 6 for \$100
Drawing: December 18, 2025

High Point Shrine Club Fund Raiser



**1st Prize: Kimber K6XS
38 Special +P Stainless Revolver**

**2nd Prize: Hellcat Micro-Compact OSP
9mm Luger Melonite Black**

3rd Prize: Taurus 856 38 Special +P Stainless Revolver

All proceeds to benefit High Point Shrine Club. Donations are not tax-deductible.
Must be 21 or over. Must be North Carolina Resident.
Must pass background check at pickup at our generous sponsor: SPORTSMAN'S WAREHOUSE
Contact Number 336-202-3052

ROADRUNNERS NEEDED

FOR TRANSPORTING OUR
CHILDREN TO THE HOSPITALS

Call 704-549-0926 or
email coordinator@oasisshriners.org
for more information.



FOCUS ON OUR ROADRUNNERS

ROADRUNNERS DISTRICT	ROADRUNNERS NAME	MAY TRIPS	MAY MILES
AVERY			
CATAWBA	Eric Morabito	3	874
CHARLOTTE	George Stoklas	2	484
MACON			
MOUNTAIN			
TRIAD	Tom Erickson Jim Barney	1	436

OASIS WOULD LIKE TO SAY "THANK YOU" TO:
**DANNY BEAN & ERIC MORABITO FOR MAKING A TRIP
ON SATURDAY, MAY 24 (MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND)!**

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Liberty

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Mount Airy TOYOTA

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CONTACT:

Scott McCorkle,
Steve Lee, Rusty Hopkins

704-708-8000

2026 Potentate's Cruise

Nobles and Ladies,

Lady Betty and I are thrilled to share information with you regarding the 2026 Potentate's trip on a Cruise to the Southern Caribbean in February 2026. Several of our counterparts from other Shrine Centers and their members will be joining us on this cruise.



The cruise will sail from Port Canaveral on February 21, 2026, and will return to Port Canaveral on March 1. This trip promises to be a fun and exciting eight days, cruising with Shrine families from other Shrine Centers.

Lady Betty and I want to thank Lady Lisa and Past Potentate (2017) Illustrious Sir Don Nicholson (Kerbela Shriners) for putting this trip together for us, they are standing by to assist you in booking your cruise. Illustrious Sir Don and Lady Lisa have worked hard to secure a great

price for this trip-\$2650 per couple for a balcony room, WOW!

Lady Betty and I sincerely appreciate Illustrious Sir Chris Hall for allowing us to share this information with you so you will have ample time to plan for this trip. We are looking forward to traveling with you in 2026!

Fraternally Yours,
Tim and Lady Betty
Tim Farris
Chief Rabban, Oasis Shriners

SHRINE TRAILER Travels for You

Did you know the Shrine Hospital Trailer is available for your public Shriners Children's Hospitals fund raising or awareness events?

Noble Sam Moody has generously agreed to volunteer his time and energy to transport the Hospital Trailer to any location within the Oasis Region in an effort to spread the word about our wonderful Hospitals.

The trailer unfortunately cannot be used for fraternal (non-hospital) fundraising.



Noble Sam is ready and willing to bring the trailer to your location, with advance notice. 980-722-7951
sambo447@aol.com



Shriners and Friends Cruise!

All are welcome aboard the magnificent Carnival Vista



February 21 thru March 1, 2026
8 Days in the Southern Caribbean

Departs from Port:
Canaveral (Orlando), Florida

Ports: Aruba, Curacao
and **Celebration Key (Brand New)**

Rooms starting at: (per couple, double occupancy, taxes and port charges included) --- these cabins are all deluxe and subject to availability

Drink, Tip, Excursion and other Packages available to be added on.

Cabin w/ Balconies \$2650 and up

Cabin w/ Ocean View \$2150 and up

Interior Cabins \$1770 and up

Please call **Lisa @ 865-740-0972** to book your trip or if you have any questions.
Just mention the Shrine!

Donations

CLUB AND UNIT DONATIONS:

Appalachian Shrine Club

Avery County Shrine Club

Blue Ridge Shrine Club

Cherryville Shrine Club

Foothills Shrine Club

Lexington Shrine Club

Lincoln County Shrine Club

Oasis Drum & Bugle Corp

Oasis Mountain Buggies

Thermal Belt Shrine Club

OTHER DONORS:

Big Boy's Cigar and Lounge LLC

Bud & Pat Taylor

Cagney's Kitchen of Lexington Inc

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Gary W Kearney

Lake Wylie Classic Charity

Randy & Kathy Pitts

Richard A Bass

Tina Lanier (Realtor/Broker)

Vincent E Kinman

Memorials

DONOR

Lorraine Stephens

Elizabeth Gibson


Bob & Pat Hatley

IN MEMORY OF:

Charles Stephens



Doris Shaw Cook

Joe Deich




Passed Within the Unseen Temple

NAME	CITY, STATE	CREATED	DIED
Derrick Stephen Graves	Greensboro, NC	6/1/2024	6/4/2025

Devante Hicks, Class of 2010



scan to donate

www.mhc-oxford.org
(919) 693-5111
600 College Street
Oxford, NC 27565

"Growing up with 12 siblings in the house, everything was scarce. It was survival mode. I started hanging out in bad environments. At that point I thought nothing mattered, no one mattered.

I found a brochure from the Masonic Home for Children. The slogan was "A home away from home," and I thought this is where I need to be. When I got there my house parent, Karen, said "This is your room." First time I ever heard that. Immediately I felt secure. After a while everything started to stick. The love that was given was real, Karen was real. All of these things played a part in healing the brokenness of not being cared for, not being loved.

That carried me throughout my journey from the time I got to the Home until I graduated from college until now.

I now have three beautiful children and I'm a certified juvenile justice officer with the state of North Carolina. We're taking on juveniles who come from similar backgrounds as myself.

From being at the Home to what I do now, I look at every kid as a chance. If you give them the tools and give them the resources, you'll be amazed as to what they can grow into.

The Masons have helped guide my life. They didn't know me at all. Who helps people they don't know? They're doing it with genuineness and care."

Want to make changes to your Club/Unit Bulletin Board ad?

Keep text simple so your ad is easy to read. No detailed images, group photos, or low quality/blurry images will be accepted.

If submitting your own ad, make sure your file is high-resolution, with all text and images clear and high-quality. Ad size is 2.5" wide x 1.2" high.

Email your ad or ad changes to ediewilson7@gmail.com

Club and Unit Bulletin Board



We meet on the 3rd Thursday of every month at the Fairview Masonic Lodge #339 in Kings Mountain.

Pres. - Chandler Champion
VP - Charles Bullock

Email: WhitePlainsShrineClub@gmail.com

OASIS PATROL

MARCHING FOR A PURPOSE

Contact Captain Paul Southworth
at 704-577-9845 or
southworth.paul@yahoo.com to
join the oldest unit of Oasis Shriners



Mt. MITCHELL SHRINE CLUB

Contact: Noble Secretary
Mike Pritchard
828-442-9170



Centrally located in McDowell County

Latona Temple # 154 Daughters of the Nile



Contact Betty Parker, PQ at
(704) 654-7108 or betty0340@bellsouth.net
www.daughtersofthenile.com



High Point Shrine Club

Fun, Food and Fellowship.

Join us every 4th Thursday of the month. Social 6:15 | Dinner 7:00
700 Old Mill Rd, High Point, NC 27265
336-880-5586 | hpshrineclub@gmail.com



OASIS SHRINERS CAMPING CLUB

FUN – FOOD – FELLOWSHIP • COME JOIN US!

Chip Rollins 704-718-8514
chiprollins@gmail.com

ASHE SHRINE CLUB

Meeting the 3rd Monday of every month

Contact Noble Shannon Worley 336-877-6629
or Noble Mike Neaves 336-977-9122

OASIS SHRINE WAGONEERS



For info, contact:
Feddell Dellinger,
980-522-6226

OASIS HIGHLANDERS

PIPES & DRUMS

Contact Jim Davis
cell (704) 309-1215
fyrbagpyper@gmail.com



THE OASIS TEMPLE BAND

Did you play in a high school band or
college band? IF SO WE NEED YOU!

Captain - Noble Chuck Reed 847-502-0872

NASCARTS

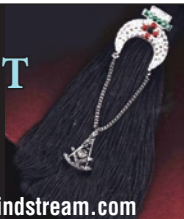
Captain Everett
Jarrett Jr



ejarrett64@gmail.com 336-669-4782

OASIS PAST MASTERS UNIT

Are you a Past Master?
We are your unit. Join Us.
Noble Matt Peeler, Captain
(704) 279-9154 | peelerm@windstream.com



Gaston County Shrine Club

505 Pinkney Road Dallas, NC 28034

Meets 2nd Wed of each month
Social @ 6pm | Meeting @ 7pm

CONTACT INFO FOR RENTALS: 704-215-7172
www.gastoncountyshrineclub.com



THE SCOTTISH RITE OF FREEMASONRY

All Scottish Rite Masons are invited to
attend our monthly meeting!

Junaluskee Lodge #145
50 Church Street, Franklin, NC 28734
3rd Wednesday of each month 7:00 PM
www.ncritecare.org

Cabarrus Shrine Club

Nobles, Ladies and Guests Welcome!

1460 Oakwood Ave, Kannapolis NC
704-933-2797 cabarrushrineclub@gmail.com
www.cabarrusshrineclub.org
Like us on Facebook: Cabarrus Shrine Club

HENDERSONVILLE SHRINE CLUB

Join Us 2nd Mondays

Social 5:30 | Dinner 6:15 | Meeting 7:00

hendersonvilleshriners@gmail.com | 828-280-4909
Golden Corral, 2530 Chimney Rock Rd., Hendersonville, NC

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The Greensboro Shrine Club

5010 High Point Road, Greensboro, NC 27407
Call 336-707-6588 for information.

OASIS DRUM & BUGLE CORPS



Captain
Casey
Ham



(704) 718-7782 caseyham88@gmail.com



JOIN OUR GROUP

Contact Captain
Don Anderson
(336) 775-8076

plaaout@triad.twcbc.com

Visit us on Facebook @OASIS500s

Club and Unit Bulletin Board

Shriners on Bikes



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803-610-7876

MECKENBURG SHRINE CLUB

INVITES YOU TO VISIT OUR CLUB

CONTACT SAM MOODY
sambo447@aol.com
980-722-7951



MOORE COUNTY SHRINE CLUB & The Sand "T" Parade Unit



President John Dunbar
910-544-7624

"Like" Moore County on Facebook to see many photos!

OASIS ORIENTAL BAND

CONTACT CHIP BURCH
AT 336-430-5779
FOR MORE INFORMATION

OASIS SHRINE CLOWNS



Accepting New Members
No Experience Necessary

Contact Thomas Livingston
336-452-4600

PAST CAPTAINS CLUB

Meeting 3rd Monday at 6pm
Big Daddy's in Mooresville



Noble Peter Schuetz
PC, President - 704-543-0695

The Hillbillies are lookin' fer ya!

If interested in joining, please contact
Jack Devine @ 828-464-9886
or Gary Patterson @ 704-938-3930

Oasis Oldies

CAPTAIN DAVID STEELMAN
336-909-1830 Bcimagedr@gmail.com



If you have a
classic car or
are interested
in the old
classics, come
join us for
some fun and
fellowship.

CAROLINA DRIFTERS



Captain Paul Lawing
704-244-0014
paulawing82@gmail.com



WINSTON-SALEM SHRINE CLUB

Meeting: First Thursday of Each Month at 7:30pm
4909 Hampton Road, Clemmons, NC 27012 • 336.955.1375
Danny Wingo, President (336) 403-2047
Rodney Bennett, Secretary (610) 805-3482



Oasis BrewMasters
TAPROOM NO. 16

Like to Homebrew?

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BrewMasters today!

Contact President Brian Clay
(brianclay@windstream.net)
or Secretary Scottie Cox
(scottcox67@aol.com)



Metrolina Shrine Club



5930 Brookshire Blvd., Charlotte, NC 28216
704-393-5881

President: John Dixon | 704-281-9374
Vice President: Twig Dixon
Secretary: John Tilley | 704-941-7982

OASIS RAGTOPS

Riding around with the Top Down...

Raising money for
Shriners Hospitals
for Children



Captain David Faircloth: 704-579-2520

Union County Shrine Club

P.O. Box 324 Monroe, NC 28111

Oasis

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Driven to help children



Kart Attacks

Oasis.KartAttacks@Gmail.com



Red Fez Shrine Club

16600 Red Fez Club Road, Charlotte NC 28278

Events Manager: TracyLee "Sabrina"
Cullen (980) 875-1257

clubmanager@redfezshrineclub.com

Call us for you next wedding or event rental



CAPTAIN
BRIAN MELLON

(704) 692-8576



Piedmont Shrine Club

MEETING: Fourth Thursday of each
month at 7pm at Fisherman's Feast,
Shelby N.C.

Contact Kevin Pruitt, 704-473-3070
or kwpruitt77@gmail.com



Oasis Gator Patrol
Captain Jimmy Cline



2156 Sterling Ridge Dr.
Newton, NC 28658

(828) 409-1995
jimcline.jc@gmail.com



Oasis
Cove #1

OASIS YOUNG SHRINERS CLUB

Allen Rea, President allenrea5@yahoo.com
Chase Trites, Vice President ctrittes@radcoroofing.com
Brandon Burton, Secretary bkburton87@gmail.com

If you are under 40 and interested in joining,
reach out to any of our officers.

DESERT DUST

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Charlotte, NC 28262

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