

DESERT DUST



A PUBLICATION OF OASIS SHRINERS | CHARLOTTE, NC

June 2025 | Volume 90 | Number 6



Aloha from Hawaii

*See inside for
more photos!*



Shriners
International

IN THIS ISSUE

Oasis Honors Nobles Allen Hardy and Mike Martin
Legacy Golf Tournament | Oasis Paper Giveaway
Ashe Shrine Club Ceremonial | *and more!*



From the Potentate



Nobles and Ladies:

Aloha! Enjoy the pictures from Hawaii found elsewhere in this edition of the June *Desert Dust*.

As this edition is released electronically and published on our Oasis Shriners website at the beginning of June, we will be gearing up to head to the mountains of western North Carolina for our Spring Ceremonial Weekend in Cullowhee. By the time you receive the hard copy issue in your hands, the ceremonial weekend will have concluded with our newest nobles and ladies added to the rolls of Oasis. Stay tuned for the July issue where we will share the Catamount Class ceremonial photograph along with the names of the class honorees and full details about the weekend's FEZtivities.

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**

Your Divan is ready to hit the Dunking Booth on June 14 at the Red Fez Shrine Club as we celebrate the 18th Annual Oasis Family Fun Weekend in conjunction with the 3rd Annual Lake Wylie Ceremonial. If you've never been, come on down! You're missing out. Bring along a friend and his lady as prospective members of Oasis.

Before we blink and come up for air, the Imperial Session of Shriners International will be just around the bend in Atlanta from June 28-July 3. Your Elected Representatives will be in attendance as usual to once again proudly represent the nobility of Oasis Shriners, the largest Shrine Center in the world. Look for more information in the July *Desert Dust* regarding our Oasis Black Tie Ceremonial coming up in August at the Winston Salem Masonic Center in honor of the Grand Master of Masons in North Carolina. If you know of Master Masons who would like to join at the Black Tie Ceremonial, go ahead and share the date of Saturday, August 23 with them.

Remember, all Oasis events for the year are posted in the *Desert Dust* and are available on our website at oasisshriners.org as well as on our Facebook page. Head on over to take a look and mark your calendars. Speaking of the calendar, it's not too soon to go ahead and make your plans for the annual Fall SASA in Myrtle Beach as more than half of our Oasis hotel block is already full. Don't delay and reserve today! Here's the link:

<https://group.doubletree.com/j5pl4k>

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

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From the Recorder

Hello Everyone,

I hope this note finds you well. In my continued series on our hospital kids, I'd like to focus on Alejandro.

Alejandro first experienced a pain in his leg three years ago.

As the pain persisted, his mom, Jill, sought medical attention in their home country of Trinidad and Tobago. A visit to their local provider diagnosed Alejandro with Blount's disease, a growth disorder causing his leg to bow outward, giving him a bowlegged appearance. The condition affects the growth plate around the knee.

Treatment options in the Caribbean were limited, and Jill was determined to find a better solution for her son. She contacted her brother, who happened to know a Shriners Children's patient with the same condition.

"I was reluctant until I heard about Shriners and the remarkable work that they do."

Requesting care at Shriners Children's remains a vivid memory for their family. Jill emailed our international care team at 11:47 p.m. and received a reply before midnight. The speedy response spoke volumes to this concerned mother. "The mere fact that they acknowledged me immediately showed that Shriners isn't

just for children. They're for parents as well," Jill said.

Upon arrival to St. Louis, physicians discovered a second condition on his other leg: slipped capital femoral epiphysis, causing the top part of Alejandro's femur bone to slip at the growth plate. A team of Shriners Children's St. Louis providers including John Clohisy, M.D., Perry Schoenecker, M.D., and Jeffrey Nepple, M.D., combined efforts to form a comprehensive treatment plan for his hip. Alejandro had surgery to place the ball portion of his hip back in the correct position. However, his next appointment revealed yet another setback. His left hip had dislocated, forcing his femur out of the socket. Physicians repositioned Alejandro's thigh bone and applied a body cast to both of his legs for two months to keep them in the correct position while they could heal.

After surgery, one of the physicians called to check on Alejandro late at night. Jill was touched, once again, by this deep level of compassionate care. As his hip began to recover and the casts were removed, Alejandro was forced to conquer a new challenge – learning to walk again. Throughout his treatment, Alejandro has demonstrated incredible resilience. Determined, he has worked hard to regain his mobility. His physical therapy sessions were often demanding, but he was grateful for the stern and loving guidance of his therapist. "He did not show any signs of weakness," Jill recalled with pride. "He was so focused, so determined."

"He first had to regain the strength to move his legs without assistance, then the ability to stand up with support, and finally the ability to take steps," said Katie Jaschek, PT, D.P.T., Alejandro's therapist.

Months later, the team shifted focus to Alejandro's knee – the original reason for their travel to St. Louis. Due to the complex nature of the bone deformity, J. Eric Gordon, M.D., concluded he needed a months-long device attached to his leg called an external fixator.

continued on page 4

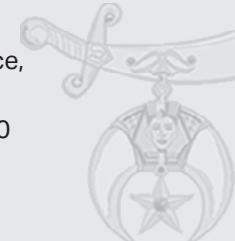
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DESERT DUST

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



Legacy Golf Tournament Honors Oasis Potentates



On May 2, Illustrious Potentate Chris Hall was honored to attend the Legacy Golf Tournament hosted by the Gaston County Shrine Club. The event honors members of the club who went on to become Potentate of Oasis Shriners, including Albert G. Myers (1923), William Y. Warren (1930), J. Sidney Winget (1937), John C. Roberts (1950), William T. Spencer, Jr. (1958), Harry M. Bryant, Sr. (1965), David W. Smith, Jr. (1973), George R. Currence (1980), James E. Fulghum (1988), John H. Stanley (1997), Billy L. Farris (2006), Timothy M. Daniels (2022), and Christopher L. Hall (2025).



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From the Recorder *continued from page 3*

"In very severe deformities or deformities where they are in multiple planes like his, an external fixator is the best way to treat it," said Dr. Gordon. In addition to physical therapy, Alejandro took up swimming at the YMCA on Tuesdays and Thursdays. It became an essential part of his rehabilitation, helping in the recovery process for his knee. "Here he is away from home for a year, so we get him out doing some things that are actually really good for him.

Throughout Alejandro's healing journey, Jill's unwavering support for her son has remained evident. She continues to look on the bright side and is grateful for this opportunity to get to know her son on a much deeper level.

Alejandro will head home fully healed in just a few short months. While they've been away from home for nearly a year, they are simply grateful Alejandro is receiving the most amazing care anywhere.

"We would not get this extensive treatment back home," said Jill.

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 Alejandro's, that they serve.

Note: You can read this article in full on Shriners Children's website.

Gary

Noble Allen Hardy Receives 50-year Certificate and Pin

Submitted by Chief Rabban Tim Farris

On May 3, 2025, I had the distinct honor of presenting Noble Allen Hardy his 50-year Certificate and Lapel Pin from Shriners International. Noble Allen was Created a Shriner on January 26, 1974. I have known Noble Allen for 40 years,

making this presentation very special for me. After I presented the certificate, Lady Marie, Allen's wife, pinned him with the 50-year pin.

Noble Allen, I am looking forward to our next 40 years of friendship and hopefully making the world a little better as we

continue our journey in life.

Noble Allen had requested his 50-year certificate be presented to him at the Mecklenburg Shrine Club which is his home club. A large number of ladies and nobles were in attendance at this presentation.



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ASHE SHRINE CLUB CEREMONIAL



ASHE SHRINE CLUB CEREMONIAL CLASS

MAY 17, 2025 ~ JEFFERSON, NORTH CAROLINA

MEMBER # NAME

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CITY, STATE, ZIP

West Jefferson, NC 28694

LADY

Victoria (Tori)

1001287 Ethan L Beck

Cherryville, NC 28021

Kaci

1001288 John William A Campbell

Statesville, NC 28625

Meghan

1001291 John T Senter

Todd, NC 28684

Judy

1001285 Clayton J Thornburg

Cherryville, NC 28021



Mecklenburg Shrine Club Celebrates the 151st Run for the Roses

While three-year-old Thoroughbreds lined up for the first leg of the Triple Crown, nobles, ladies and friends lined up for a big night at the races.

Sovereignty ran through the muck and mud to win with 9-1 odds, but all who attended *this* party went home victorious. Congratulations to the ladies of Mecklenburg Shrine Club on a lovely event.



RHODODENDRON CAR SHOW

SATURDAY JUNE 21, 2025
10AM ~ 3PM
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ALL PROCEEDS GO TO THE SHRINERS HOSPITAL FOR CHILDREN

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FOOD, RAFFLES, MUSIC, 50/50 DRAWINGS & MORE



UPCOMING CLUB AND UNIT EVENTS

JUNE 20						
Mecklenburg Shrine Club						Fish Dinner
See ad on page 4						
JUNE 21						

Mountaineer Shrine Club
Rhododendron Car Show
See ad on page 7

JULY 12						
Gaston County Shrine Club						Alley of Hope
See ad on page 18						

AUGUST 16						
Water Buffalo Degree						See ad on page 15

Gator Patrol in Action



2025 Schedule of Events

JUNE

June 6-8 Oasis Spring **Ceremonial**
(Western Carolina University
Cullowhee & Dillsboro)

June 13-14 Annual Oasis Family Fun Weekend
at Red Fez Shrine Club, Lake Wylie

June 13 Oasis Divan Meeting (**STATED**)
Red Fez Shrine Club, Charlotte

June 14 Lake Wylie **Ceremonial**
Red Fez Shrine Club, Charlotte

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

AUGUST

August 23 Oasis Divan Succession Planning Meeting
Masonic Center, Winston-Salem

August 23 Oasis Divan Meeting (**STATED**)
Masonic Center, Winston-Salem

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

Clowns and Bikes

Greetings nobles and ladies, the deadline for the bicycle donations will be **September 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

SEPTEMBER

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

September 19 Oasis Divan Meeting
Myrtle Beach, South Carolina

September 19-20 Grand Lodge Annual Communication
Winston Salem, North 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

Oct 31-Nov 2 Oasis Past Potentates "Homecoming"
Ceremonial - Oasis Headquarters, Charlotte

NOVEMBER

November 15 Smoky Mountain **Ceremonial**
Blue Ridge Lodge No. 435, Highlands

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 2 **Annual Club & Unit Appreciation Event**

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

Like the resilient dogwood bloom that endures through harsh conditions to reveal its beauty, 12-year-old Parker's story is one of courage, strength, and renewal. What started as an ordinary morning turned into a life-altering moment when Parker's quick thinking during a car accident saved his family's lives. Yet, the hero of that day faced his own battle after losing his leg due to complications from his injuries.

Parker's journey from despair to determination mirrors the dogwood's symbolic message of hope and perseverance.

With the expert care of Shriners Children's Greenville and the dedicated POPS team, Parker was fitted with a custom prosthetic, giving him not just mobility, but the chance to reclaim the active life he thought he had lost.

This month in **Petals of Hope**, we celebrate Parker's unwavering spirit and the healing power of hope, reminding us that even after the harshest storms, the dogwood bloom flourishes—and so can we.



The morning 12-year-old patient Parker's life changed forever began just like any other.

He rushed out the door, hopped in his mom's car, helped settle his baby brother and together, they headed to school, chatting excitedly about the day ahead.

Less than 20 minutes later, EMS would be pulling the family from a heap of twisted metal.



That morning on the road, Parker's mom, Sharonda, suffered a seizure and lost consciousness — but as her car sped out of control, Parker jumped into action.

"Parker was sitting in the back, but when he realized something was wrong, he unbuckled his seatbelt and got to the front to take over the wheel," Sharonda said. "He saved our lives."

While Sharonda walked away with a few broken fingers and a fractured tailbone, and her youngest son unscathed, Parker was transported to the hospital with a broken ankle, broken ribs, punctured kidneys and

a perforated gallbladder.

Nineteen days into his two-month-long hospital stay, Parker was told he would need to have his leg amputated — his broken ankle hadn't allowed blood to circulate properly. Understandably, he was devastated.

For months after the amputation, Parker's mental health rapidly declined.

"He developed severe depression and anxiety," Sharonda said, explaining the once avid athlete was convinced he would never feel like a kid again. But he was going to try.

Parker decided he would fight for the life he loved. A few months later, he found himself at Shriners Children's Greenville, where an in-house Pediatric Orthotic and Prosthetic Services (POPS) team fabricates thousands of custom-fit assistive devices every year.

With consultation from renowned physician David Westberry, M.D., a team of highly skilled physical therapists and orthotists began working to ensure Parker would make a full recovery. He would be fitted with a prosthetic designed for comfortable support and, of course, lots of activity.

Parker is a Shriners Kid

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



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ShrinersGreenville

Chaplain's Corner



"Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things."

For a moment, would you please picture this scene from Rodney Wilmoth's Book: Beyond Explanation. "It is dusk, and a couple is sitting on an ocean beach. The sand is warm to the touch. The sun is just about to set, kissing the surface of the ocean. A spirit of romance comes over the young woman. Without taking her eyes off of the ocean and sun she says, "Isn't that sunset gorgeous?"

The fellow replies, "Well, strictly speaking, the sun is not setting. Nor for that matter, does it ever do so. The sun, you see, is in a relatively fixed position in relation to the earth; therefore, to speak precisely, one ought to say that the earth is rising."

An absolutely brilliant statement for the classroom, but an unbelievably dumb statement for the beach in the presence of a beautiful young woman!

In the Bible, we read where the Apostle Paul describes a love for all seasons: "Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things." A love for all seasons hopes all things.

I saw what *no hope* looks like in real life at a funeral home. A woman standing beside a casket, looking down at her brother who had died after a 20-year long term illness. She wept and wept and wept, almost to the point of fainting.

And, later I asked her: "After such a long-term illness, was there ever a day when you did not think that your brother would

awaken?" She responded: "I do not remember there being a morning when the first thing that I thought of was: "Is this the day that the Center calls and says that I need to come immediately because he woke up!"

But, now here she was at the funeral home...the HOPE of his healing in this world gone.

Paul says, "Love hopes all things." In one interpretation, says: "Love never regards anyone or anything as hopeless." Every day for over twenty years, this young woman hoped for the physical healing of her brother. Love never regards anyone or anything as hopeless.

And, the Apostle reminds us that Love endures all things. Barclay's translation: "Nothing can happen to break love's spirit." Later, the sister, said, "But, John, you and I know that this is not the end. We will be back together, we will be re-united—JUST NOT THE WAY I ANTICIPATED. Not on this earth.

WOW! Barclay is right on: "NOTHING CAN HAPPEN TO BREAK LOVE'S SPIRIT." So, we're back to this amazing affirmation: Love endures all things - nothing can happen to break love's spirit.

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.

Noble Mike Martin Receives 50-year Certificate and Pin



Submitted by Chief Rabban Tim Farris

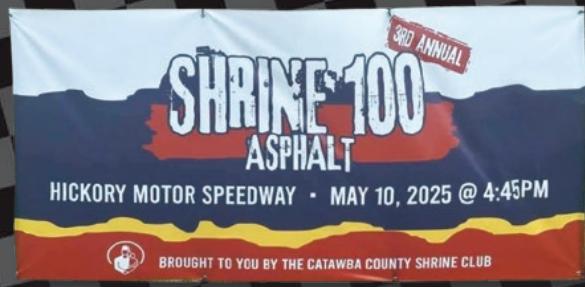
On April 18, 2025. I had the privilege to meet with Noble Michael (Mike) D. Martin who resides in Mount Holly, North Carolina, for the purpose of presenting him with his 50-year Shriner International Membership Certificate and his pin.

Mike was created a Shriner in Asheville, North Carolina on October 26, 1974.

He and his wife Lady Rhonda are proud of this milestone. Lady Rhonda proudly pinned Noble Mike with his 50-year pin.



IT IS RACEDAY AT HICKORY MOTOR SPEEDWAY FOR THE CATAWBA COUNTY SHRINE 100!



Piedmont Pistons



Kart Attacks



Gators and Gals



Hospital Trailer gives race fans an opportunity to see what we do



Surry
Mini
Truckers



Chief Rabban Tim Farris checks out the food



Ragtops



Dune Cats



And from Lake Norman Shrine Club,
our newest unit, Oasis Bokarts

Oasis in Hawaii!

At the end of April, 41 members of the Oasis family embarked upon the Potentate's trip to the Hawaiian paradise of Oahu. From an Easter sunrise service to hiking Diamond Head, Cousin FiFi and the Paradise Cove Luau, Pearl Harbor, the USS Arizona Memorial, the USS Missouri to the Iolani Palace, Shriners Children's Hawaii, the private Aloha Shriners Beach Club, to Waimea Valley and the waterfall, Pali Lookout, the Dole Plantation and countless delicious meals shared together, our trip provided memories that will indeed last a lifetime.

Until next time...MAHALO and ALOHA,
Illustrious Sir Chris and Lady Laura







Get ready for the 151st Imperial Session of Shriners International, June 29-July 3, 2025, in Atlanta, Georgia.

All nobles, ladies and their families are invited to join Imperial Sir Richard Burke and First Lady Judy for the fraternity's biggest event of the year.

ENJOY THE 'CAPITAL CITY OF THE AMERICAN SOUTH!'
The 2025 Imperial Session will take place in Atlanta, aka the Sweet Tea Metropolis and the City in a Forest, at the Hyatt Regency Atlanta. Located in the downtown area, the hotel is just steps away from the Peachtree Center, the Georgia Aquarium, the College Football Hall of Fame and the World of Coca-Cola, one of Atlanta's most popular attractions. Downtown Atlanta has an abundance of excellent dining, shopping, arts, culture and entertainment possibilities.

WE HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE

The 2025 Imperial Session will be an event where nobles can meet new friends, learn and plan the fraternity's future. You don't want to miss it. Come celebrate the fun, fellowship and philanthropy that makes Shriners International the greatest fraternity in the world.

NOTABLE EVENTS



Ladies Luncheon



Shriners Parade



All Nobility Evening Concert

HEADQUARTERS HOTELS

HYATT REGENCY

The Hyatt Regency is a headquarters hotel.
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For more information, visit

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PARKING

Free off-site complimentary parking will be provided by the 2025 Imperial Session Convention Corporation for those staying at one of the host hotels, the Atlanta Hyatt Regency, Atlanta Marriott Marquis or the Atlanta Hilton.

For more information, visit

<https://imperialsession.com/2025-parking/>

The Last Bobtail

Noble Mike Penegar has generously responded to requests concerning a once-active Oasis Unit, the Oasis Bobtails. Below is a brief history and a few pictures from back in the day.

When Potentate James E. Fulghum was Potentate, the Bobtails were Chartered on November 5, 1988 and were headquartered at the Lincoln County Shrine Club at Cat Square. There were 15 charter members: 12 yellow trucks, 1 red wrecker truck, and a yellow golf cart.

The Bobtails reigned for 26 years, from



Noble Mike circa 1989

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We look forward to hearing from you.

1988 until 2014. They attended 323 parades and won six first place SASA trophies. In 1989, Hurricane Hugo came through while we were at SASA in Virginia Beach, but we persisted and won our first 1st Place trophy in the mini-motor category.

After the Bobtails disbanded, I missed parading, so I joined the Surry Shrine Mini Truckers out of Mount Airy in 2024. I still have the same original yellow truck which as of April 23, 2025 has been in 329 parades.



*"That little yellow truck is 37 years old and
still trucking!"*

Just the facts...

We paraded in six states.

Participated in all Oasis parades.

Ladies were called the "Bobtailettes!"

Our motto was "There's no tail like a Bobtail."

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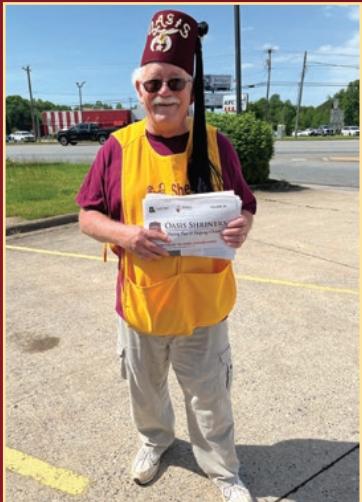
Oasis Nobles Participate in Paper Giveaway



Brother Freddie Upton has petitioned Oasis



New Noble Fredrick Jaeger's first paper giveaway



Noble Wayne Mills,
Thermal Belt Shrine Club



Noble Picker Don Lookadoo
in Rutherfordton



Noble Picker Ken Goodrich in
Rutherfordton



Noble Weldon Poling



Noble Cline Lambert chooses
to offer papers to the
folks at Hot Dog World in
Hendersonville



Noble Teddy Bearing doing
his part

History of the Oasis Paper Giveaway

So many Oasis Nobles spent the first weekend in May working the Annual Paper Giveaway. But how many of them know the way this legendary fundraiser began? This editorial written by Noble Harvey Burgess, first appeared in the Dust in 2018. The information below is not only important...it's personal. Read on to see why.

Originally named the Oasis Paper Sale (and referred to in this article as such), this initiative was begun in 1976 by then Potentate Doug Mayes, III. Sir Doug, a native of Tennessee, knew about two temples in his home state who had what they called a Paper Sale. Those two were Al Menah of Nashville and Kerbela of Knoxville; both were doing the same thing, printing an eight-page tabloid newspaper with the story of patients from their jurisdiction being treated at Shriners Hospitals. Both of these temples left an edition of the paper and an envelope on the front door knobs on Saturday telling the occupants of the home they would be around Sunday morning to pick up their contribution.

III. Sir Doug brought the idea to his Oasis Public Relations, a very active committee at the time, to discuss the possibility of having a Paper Sale. His committee thought this idea had merit and recommended that it be started that year. Potentate Mayes and his chairman, Noble Bob Vaughan, who became Potentate in 1989, went to Nashville to learn exactly how Al Menah Temple's operation was run.

On return the two called the PR Committee together to discuss what they had learned. Oasis put a little different

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Oasis Paper Giveaway

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wrinkle on their paper sale by standing in front of businesses and offering papers to those customers as they entered. The idea was to just hand them a paper and if they read some of it while they were inside they would want to donate when they exited the store. This worked, and was adopted for future sales. By the way, that first year Oasis collected just over \$42,000 for our hospitals.

In 1977, under the leadership of Potentate Shutt Hartman, the sale was repeated. Oasis now had a full-time Public Relations Director. We set up an organization for that year and future years. There would be a Paper Sale Chairman and first and second vice-chairman. The chairman served a two year term, would be replaced by the first vice-chairman, the second vice-chairman would move up and a third vice-chairman would be selected to come on board.

III. Sir Gene Morrison, who would serve as Potentate in 1986, was the sale's chairman in 1977 and 1978. This was the first year that Oasis set up districts, and the committee decided to have district meetings to tell the Paper Sale story and deliver materials for use during the sale. III. Sir Hartman brought to the Paper Sale Committee an idea he had picked, that of selling framed certificates for \$25 to individuals and businesses. With this new organization the sale went well in 1977, and the donations increased to over \$220,000.

After using the certificates for several years, the idea was presented that we should go to plaques and offer them for \$25,

**ROADRUNNERS NEEDED
FOR TRANSPORTING OUR
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Contact Your Patient/Hospital Coordinator
Karen Henley @ 704-549-0926 or
coordinator@oasisshriners.org
for more information.



FOCUS ON OUR ROADRUNNERS

ROADRUNNERS DISTRICT	ROADRUNNERS NAME	MAY TRIPS	MAY MILES
AVERY			
CATAWBA	Larry Hale	1	270
CHARLOTTE	George Stoklas	3	784
MACON			
MOUNTAIN			
TRIAD	Tom Erickson	4	1870

\$50, \$100 and over that, a special plaque. This worked well, and Oasis was off and running with what would become the largest money maker for the Temple. At the height of the program Oasis made over one million dollars on the paper sale alone.

I think the success of the Paper Sale was the paper itself. It was an eight page paper with stories about the patients, letters from parents describing treatment for their child and a letter from the Potentate. Included in every issue was a coupon inviting whoever read the publication to donate to Shriners Hospitals.

The Paper Sale effort became such a success that Recorder Calvin Gaddy of Oasis and Recorder Glenn Akin of Al Menah, at their request, volunteered to carry the story to meetings around the US. To name a few, meetings were held in Texas, Florida, Ohio, Alabama and California.

Along the way the Imperial PR Department, under the leadership of Imperial Public Relations Direct Mike Andrews, became very involved and produced a booklet on how to conduct a Paper Crusade. (Note the name change). The Imperial PR Department furnished materials and slicks for a four-page publication, so a temple only had to put their name at the top and have it printed.

All in all the Temples received a lot of support to make this a successful Shriners Hospitals fundraising event that, through the efforts of Oasis Shrine, spread to a world-wide project.

High Point Shrine Club Fundraiser

WIN

Drawings to win one of 3 handguns

Donation: \$20 per ticket, 6 for \$100

Drawing: December 18, 2025

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-deductable. 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

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

The Oasis Pickers were out “In Force” in May!

The Oasis Pickers were out in May working the Paper Crusade and then helping with Steele Creek Lodge's Fish Fry! We keep looking for ways to be out in the community, raising awareness for our Shriners Children's, and then, of course, HELPING KIDS learn about our brand of music. I think our new “SPITs” (Shrine Pickers in Training) get it, and we all have fun!

Hopefully, when we're out at the next couple of ceremonials, you'll bring an instrument and sit a spell with us. We'd love to have you join in.



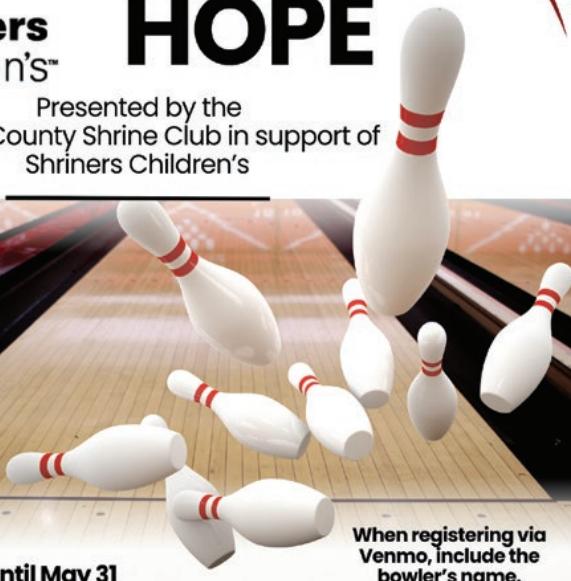
Want more info on the Oasis Pickers? Check us out on Facebook by looking up Oasis Pickers OR log in on this group number...
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/5611773555541356>

Of course you can also call, text or e-mail: DBMahan@gmail.com 843-372-5510.

 **ALLEY OF HOPE**

Shriners Children's™

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
• shannonlwaters721@gmail.com



Oasis Shrine Photos



www.shrinephotos.com

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



52nd Annual SASA Fall Festival

*September 18 - 21, 2025
Myrtle Beach, South Carolina*

The 52nd Annual Meeting of the South Atlantic Shrine Association will be held on September 18 - 21, 2025 in Myrtle Beach, South Carolina. As in past years, in appreciation of Shriners, the City of

Myrtle Beach has designated the week a city-wide festival and the entire town is ready to celebrate. You will not want to miss any of the fun.



**DIRECT LINK TO OASIS HOTEL RESERVATION BLOCK
at the DoubleTree Resort by Hilton Myrtle Beach Oceanfront:**

<https://group.doubletree.com/j5pl4k>



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.*****

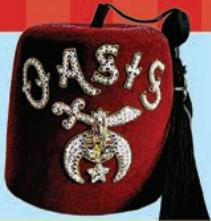
Cabin w/ Balconies \$2650 and up

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!

18TH ANNUAL ***FAMILY FUN DAY***



SATURDAY, JUNE 14, 2025

WITH BBQ COOK OFF COMPETITION

*Nearly 20
teams
expected!*

Bring a Friend • Games and More Games • Pack A Cooler • Music

LOCATION:

**The Red Fez Shrine Club
16600 Red Fez Club Rd.
Charlotte, NC 28278**



New Shrine Candidates and
Ladies are welcome.

PLAY "DUNK THE DIVAN"
Oasis Divan members
will be in a Dunking Booth!

FRIDAY

7:00 pm: Food Crawl on Club Grounds and DJ at Picnic Shelter
8:30 pm: "Shrine Games" at Picnic Shelter

SATURDAY

7-9:00 am: Breakfast at Clubhouse - \$8 per person
7:30 am: Registration for Youth Fishing Tournament
All Ages! Bring a Fishing Rod, Fish from 8-9
10:00 am: Water Slide and "Dunk the Divan"
Dunking Booth Open
10:30 am: Kids Activity hosted by Red Fez Ladies
Auxiliary at Club Front Porch
12:00 pm: Hot Dog Lunch provided by Oasis Shriners
Enjoy an afternoon of swimming - Pool Open!
4:00 pm: BBQ Cook Off Awards Ceremony at the Picnic Shelter

***Family Fun Day will be held in conjunction with the 3rd Annual Lake Wylie Ceremonial.
Ceremonial on the Lake: 10:30 am-12:00 pm***

Questions? Contact Todd Ham: 704-363-9257 todd@hambrothers.com

Johnny Burgess: 704-564-2193 jdbgpc@aol.com

Shea Fadel: 704-309-5396 shea.fadel@fadelsinc.com

❖ Donations ❖

CLUB AND UNIT DONATIONS:

Cabarrus Shrine Club
Crowders Mountain Shrine Club
Surry Shrine Club

OTHER DONORS:

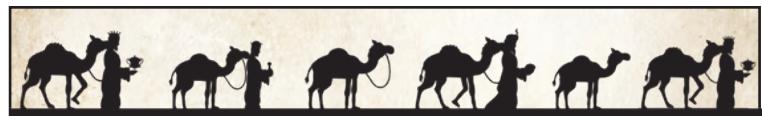
Anderson Express and Cartage	The Captain's Cap
Gary W Kearney	Tri County Womens Auxillary
Jason D Cloninger	VFW Paw Creek Post 6724
Lanier Hardware Inc	Welcome Easter Parade
Mount Olive Baptist Church	William B Ritchie
Olde Well Tavern LLC	William Dennis Jr
Point Security Inc	William Parke
Richard A Bass	Woods Farm LLC

❖ Memorials ❖

DONOR

Ken & Glenda Kluttz	Archer Livingood, Jr
Oasis Ragtops	Archer Livingood, Jr
Bob & Pat Hatley	Betty Ingold
Gordon & Daisy Hensley	Darryl Lorenz
Audry H Harris	Doris Shaw Cook
David J Little	Doris Shaw Cook
Don & Gail West	Doris Shaw Cook
Elizabeth P Gibson	Doris Shaw Cook
Jean White	Doris Shaw Cook
Martin Oehler	Doris Shaw Cook
Preneed Funeral Programs Inc	Doris Shaw Cook
Scott & Tammy Laughinghouse	Doris Shaw Cook
Jamela L Everhart	Jack Marble
Gaston County Shrine Club	Lander Barnhill
Jimmy & Shirley Barney	Lucy H Carter
Gaston County Shrine Club	Mitchell Sanders
Jimmy & Shirley Barney	Thelma "Tootsie" McKinney

IN MEMORY OF:



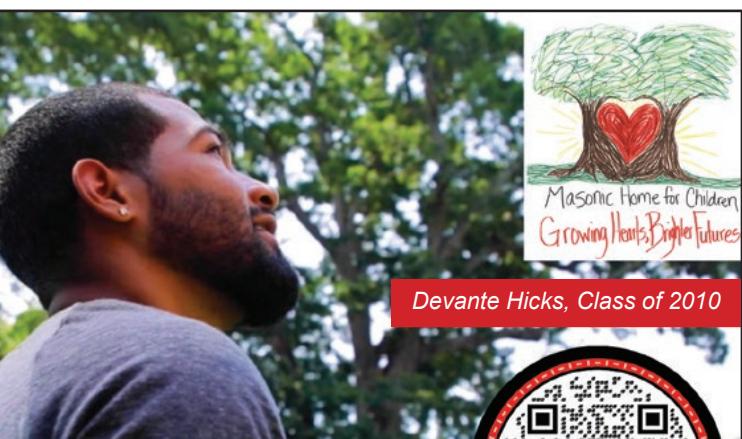
Passed Within the Unseen Temple

NAME	CITY, STATE	CREATED	DIED
Ted Mitchell Sanders	Gastonia, NC	3/22/1986	4/5/2025
Ronnie Joy Davis	Stanley, NC	5/6/1995	4/20/2025
Darryl Thor Lorenz	Myrtle Beach, SC	11/7/1998	4/21/2025



REMINDER:

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



Devante Hicks, Class of 2010

"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."



scan to donate

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

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

ASHE SHRINE CLUB

Meeting the 3rd Monday of every month
Contact Noble Shannon Worley 336-877-6629
or Noble Mike Neaves 336-977-9122

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

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

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

The Greensboro Shrine Club

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

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 SHRINE WAGONEERS



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

NASCARTS

Captain Everett Jarrett Jr
ejarrett64@gmail.com 336-669-4782

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

OASIS HIGHLANDERS

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

OASIS PAST MASTERS UNIT

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

Cabarrus Shrine Club

Nobles, Ladies and Guests Welcome!
1460 Oakwood Ave, Kannapolis NC
704-933-2797 cabarrushrineclub@gmail.com
www.cabarrushrineclub.org
Like us on Facebook: Cabarrus Shrine Club

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www.oasisduncats.com

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Captain Casey Ham
(704) 718-7782 caseyham88@gmail.com

OASIS 500'S
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Don Anderson
(336) 775-8076
plaaut@triad.twcbc.com

Visit us on Facebook @OASIS500s

Club and Unit Bulletin Board

Shriners on Bikes



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STRITES@
ROCKETMAIL.COM
803-610-7876

MECKENBURG SHRINE CLUB

INVITES YOU TO VISIT OUR CLUB

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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



Like to Homebrew?

Join the Oasis
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

Fueled by adrenaline,
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 your next wedding or event rental



CAPTAIN
BRIAN MELLON
(704) 692-8576



Oasis
Cove #1

Piedmont Shrine Club

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

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


OASISBUCCANEERS@GMAIL.COM

OASIS YOUNG SHRINERS CLUB

Allen Rea, President allenrea5@yahoo.com
Chase Trites, Vice President ctrites@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

604 Doug Mayes Place
Charlotte, NC 28262

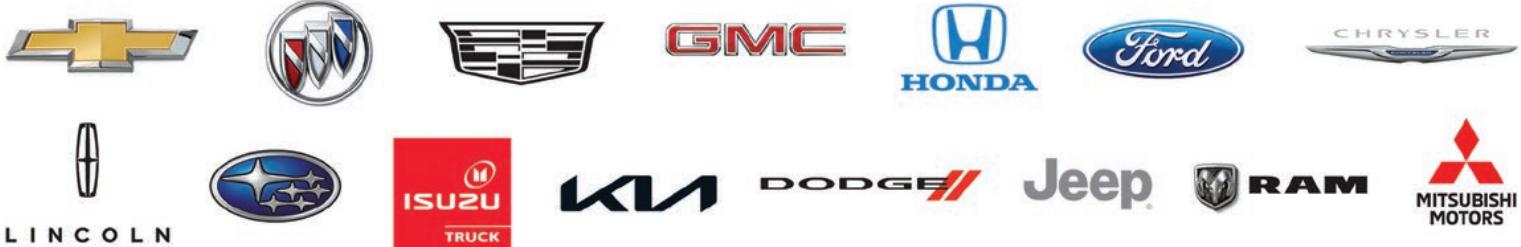
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