



STA Ledger

EARLY EDITION June

Volume 24 Issue 1

Bruce Wiggins — President

Special Dates to Remember

Annual Meeting
July 5, 2020
Kansas City, MO.

CANCELLED



Dear Fellow Treasures,
Nobles, and Ladies

First of all I want to thank everyone for your support and vote for me to be your STA President for 2020 and 2021, I promise that I will do the best that I can to have a good year and try to improve our organization and to have some fun along the way.

You know we need every temple to be a member of the STA as well as all Treasures to attend the Mid-Year meeting.

I would like to congratulate our new Fourth Vice President Dennis Saikaley from Tunis Shriners in Ottawa, Ontario Canada and the rest of the Board moving up one chair. Dennis has committed to me to work hard on temples that have not participated in our Mid-Year meeting in the past few years. If you did not attend the 2020 meeting you missed a very informative session. Deb Domini did an outstanding job on temple accounting with a little help from Imperial Sir Brad Koehn. Randy Baron also did an outstanding job on Web Fez, a lot of changes with more to come.

In addition we were very fortunate to hear from Imperial Potentate Imperial Sir Jeff Sowder, PIP Hospital Chairman Imperial Sir

Jerry Gantt and Imperial Treasurer Imperial Sir Brad Koehn. All have been very busy and a lot of changes in our hospitals and clinics in the way we are taking care of our children now and in the future.

Our meeting at Perdido Beach Resort, Orange Beach, it was the best facilities we have had by far in my STA career. We need to thank Past President Bill Wheeler and his Lady Brent for this nice location plus we cannot overlook all the work Secretary/Treasurer Bob Bulman and his Lady Jane for their support putting all of this together. The food was great, beautiful beach and many restaurants and entertainment areas to choose from, rooms all had great views most facing the Gulf.

We are already looking for the 2021 site.

If you ever get the chance to thank a Hadji Shriner please do so for all of us Treasures. Without Potentate Ed Brown, Recorder Larry Mills and their Divan and Ladies we could not have put this together, they ran vans, trucks and everything they could find picking you and your ladies up and running back and forth to the airport. Again we salute you guys and gals.

In closing I would like your help in getting every Treasurer to our Mid-Year Meeting in 2021, especially the new Treasures we had 20 new Treasures this year and hopefully we can get even more next year.

Yours in the Faith

Bruce Wiggins P.P. Treasurer
Rizpah Shrine Center
President STA 2020/2021

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Vic Hopper — 1st Vice President



the great presentation on Temple Financial Accounting. We heard about everything from Operating Budgets to the Shrine Hospital Transportation Fund, each topic very important to our Temples. For those that were there, if you know any Treasurers that were unable to attend, please reach out and inform them of all that was learned. I can't stress enough how informative these meetings are! A great learning experience, especially to our new Treasurers.

In closing, I hope everyone has sent all reports and assessments that are due at this time and I hope to see each of you at our Mid-Year Meeting

Yours in the Faith,

Vic Hopper, P.P., Treasurer
El Hasa Shrine Center
1st V.P., STA

"I can't stress enough how informative these meetings are!"

Dear Fellow Treasurers,

Having just returned from the Treasurer's meeting at the Perdido Resort in Alabama, I hope this finds all of you well and staying safe from this nasty Coronavirus. I was hoping, by the time you are reading this, this threat would have been over. But it has caused the cancellation of the Imperial Session and our Annual Meeting

Next, I'd like to thank Past President Bill Wheeler for all his hard work the last five years and congratulate incoming President Bruce Wiggins. We had a great time while at Orange Beach...lots of work along with some much needed fun and relaxation.

I'd like to thank Deb Domini for

Steve Harken — 3rd Vice President



blessing before using. There may be shrine centers that aren't able to use any alternate means of communications. How are they going to function? Many of the fundraisers we have planned are either postponed to a future date or canceled. Now is the time to revisit your shrine's budget to see how it may be impacted by the cancellations. Normally, when an event is canceled, you don't get the income but you also don't have the expenses.

However, there may be exceptions. You may have to pay cancellation fees, other hidden fees or expenses for items that may have been purchased for a specific function that can't be returned or used for a future event.

STA Secretary-Treasurer Bulman has updated the website. Under the Directory tab, in addition to the STA officers and Imperial and Administrative contacts, you'll also find an alphabetical listing, by Shrine, of the Shrine Treasurers. If you don't already know, check to see who is Treasurer in a nearby Shrine. In an earlier column, I discussed networking. This would be a good time to start a network with the shrine centers in your state, association or maybe one or more of those you met at the seminar.

In closing, just a reminder we, as your officers, are here to assist you in the conducting of business in your respective shrines. If you have any questions or would like for us to write about a particular subject, please contact one or more of us. If we can't answer the questions, we have sources available we can ask. However, if it's about a particular subject, I would recommend you send your request to just one of us. Otherwise, you may see five columns on the same topic.

Until next time-
STAY SAFE and HEALTHY.

Steve Harken
3rd V/P Shrine Treasurers Association
Mohammed Shriners

Another Shrine Treasurers Seminar is history. With 52 members and 36 ladies registered, it wasn't the largest seminar we've ever had. However, 20 of those in attendance were new treasurers. That's what it's all about, a mixing of the new with the experienced which leads to better and more productive discussions. I do want to thank then President Bill Wheeler for having the foresight to move the meeting dates up three weeks. In light of the COVID 19 outbreak, had we been scheduled to meet at the end of the month, we would probably have been required to cancel the event.

The ongoing Global Pandemic has made us rethink how we do business. With the stay at home policies being put into place along with social distancing, we can no longer hold divan or stated meetings as usual. Add to that the requirement of keeping meeting attendance under 10, we've eliminated not only committee meetings, but basically all Shrine functions. There are ways to conduct business, such as teleconferencing, Skype, Zoom or other similar means. However, you may want to check with Imperial for their

"a mixing of the new with the experienced which leads to better and more productive discussions"

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Dennis Saikaley —4th Vice President

It is MY DUTY TO SERVE.

First off, thank you for the confidence that you placed in electing me to the position as your 4th Vice President of the Shrine Treasurer's Association.

What a world we are living in as I write this in late April We got home from our Seminar just ahead of the COVID19 Pandemic. I hope that you are all well.

I will use the majority of my first article as an introduction:

I was Born, Raised and Educated Nepean, Ontario, a suburb of Canada's National Capital City, Ottawa. I am a graduate in Financial Management. I retired in November 2016 after over thirty-seven years of continuous, uninterrupted service with the same employer.

Here is a snapshot of my fraternal bio:

Ottawa Chapter, Order of Demolay
Initiated in 1974, Master Councilor in 1978, Age of Majority in 1982, Recipient of the Degree of Chevalier, Recipient of the Demo lay Legion of Honor, Long Time Advisor, Director General for three (3) All-Canada Parliament Sessions.

Lodge:

Initiated, Passed and Raised into Temple Lodge #665 in 1982, Treasurer from 1992-2005 then again from 2009 to 2014, Worshipful Master 2007-8, Grand Registrar for the Grand Lodge of Canada for the Province of Ontario 2017-18, Served on a number of District and Grand Lodge Committees.

Scottish Rite:

32nd Degree from the Valley of Ottawa (1984)

Shrine:

Crossed the Hot Sands in the Oasis of Tunis in November 1984, Joined the Tunis Director's Staff and Mini Bike Unit in 1986, Temple Director for many years, Named

Director Emeritus in 2001, Temple Treasurer in 2007 and 2015-Present, Temple Appointed Divan 1996-2006, Temple Elected Divan 2008-2012, Temple Potentate 2012, Served as Imperial Captain of the Guard Aide and Imperial Outer Guard Aide a number of times, Imperial Potentate's Aide 2007 and 2011, Past Governor Region #1 and Governor-At-Large for the Shrine Director's Association, President of the Shrine Director's Association 2017-18, Director General for the 2020 Northeast Shrine Association

Community:

Active in his local community having been recognized for years of volunteer work by the Municipal, Provincial and Federal Governments as well as the Queen's Representative to Canada (Governor General)

Personal:

My Lady Catia and I enjoy the Fraternity as a whole and enjoy attending many events. Catia has been a welcome addition to my life and is welcomed everywhere she goes.

Now, what can I do for you?

What can we, as Officers do to grow this Association? What is missing from either the Mid-Winter Seminar or Annual Meeting that would encourage you to attend?

There is no Crystal Ball. We need your feedback.

Please let me know your thoughts. I am here to serve.

Fraternally,

Dennis M. Saikaley P.P.
Fourth Vice President
Shrine Treasurer's Association

"There is no Crystal Ball ...

what can I do for you"

Robert the Bob Bulman — Secretary-Treasurer



for new treasures as stated earlier there were twenty (20) treasurers that had just been elected for the first time this year.

The Seminar was broken down into Four (4) half day sessions. This provided for some networking between everyone and also allowed for some exploring of the Orange Beach and Pensacola areas .

There were five (5) different presenters during the sessions and all were VERY knowledgeable regarding the topics and Shrine as a whole.

We give Past President Bill Wheeler and his Lady Brent a grateful thank you for his leadership this past year and all the effort he put into making the 2020 Mid-Year Meeting a great success.

We elected our new officers with Bruce Wiggins as the President for 2020-2021.

Now for no so good stuff.

As most have heard the 2020 Imperial Session had to be cancelled due to the coronavirus. This then was cause for STA to cancel our Annual Meeting. As with Shrine International, the executive committee of STA will be exploring our options regarding our annual meeting. We will let you know as the plans develop.

Robert 'The Bob' Bulman
Midian Shrine Center
STA Secretary/Treasurer

“Seminar was a well attended event for new treasures”

“cancel our Annual Meeting”

This has been an exciting year for STA so far.

First the good stuff:

We had our first meeting outside of Tampa FL in many years, Orange Beach AL at a deluxe Hotel Resort— Perdido Beach Resort.

As you have read earlier it was above our expectations in very way. All of the comments I have received have been very positive.

The Seminar was a well attended event

Brad Koehn—Imperial Treasurer



“familiarize yourself with Imperial and temple bylaws as they relate to your position”

“are proper financial controls in place to assist the Divan in managing the financial affairs of the temple”

First and foremost, my thoughts are with you and your shrine families during these unprecedented times. Who would have ever thought our country and world would experience an event that so disrupted our daily lives? Please reach out to all your members and touch base. Everyone could use cheering up through a phone call, e-mail or text message. Remember, one of our Masonic tenets is Brotherly Love.

Now, congratulations to the newly elected treasurers and to those of you returning for another term. We appreciate your desire and dedication to serve. You are the Chief Financial Officer of your temple and as such have the responsibility of providing up-to-date and accurate financial information to the Divan and nobility of your Shrine temple. Please familiarize yourself with Imperial and temple bylaws as they relate to your position. You are the leader of the

budgeting process and also charged with ensuring there are proper financial controls in place to assist the Divan in managing the financial affairs of the temple. I want to thank all of you who attended the Treasurer's Association Seminar in March. The new location was a welcomed change. There were many interesting and informative topics on the agenda to aide you in your endeavors. We were blessed to have had Imperial Potentate Jeff Sowder and Chairman of the Board of Trustees Jerry Gantt share words of wisdom. If you were unable to attend we look forward to seeing you next year.

We all realize that membership is critical to each of our respective temples. As membership continues to decline, there are less nobles to pay dues, volunteer their time and support Shriners Hospitals for Children. Please work with your Divans and Nobility to emphasize bringing in new members. It is hard work but the results are well worth it.

The financial picture of Shriners International is always at the forefront. The Per Capita dues increase that was approved a few years ago will only take us so far. The continued decrease in our membership will require us to make some important decisions in the very near future.

Thank you for all that you have done and continue to do for our great Fraternity and Philanthropy. My Lady Cheryl and I were looking forward to seeing you in Kansas City, but as you know by now that will not happen as a result of the coronavirus pandemic requiring the cancellation of the Session.

Yours in the Faith,
Brad T. Koehn, Imperial Treasurer