



A Publication of The Shrine Treasurers Association

STA Ledger

June 2023

STA Updates and Information

Special Dates to Remember

July 2nd, 8:00 A.M.
STA Meeting
Providence Ballroom II
Westin Hotel
Charlotte, NC

Breakfast at 7:00 A.M. for all
Treasurers whose temple has
paid their 2023 STA dues.

Inside this issue:

Steve Harken—	1
Dennis Saikaley—	2
Bill Kutschbach—	3
Francois Nasraoui —	4
Ryan	5
Brad Kohn	6
Bill Wheeler	7
Agenda	8
Pictures	9-10



President Steve Harken

I would like to thank those who attended the March Joint Shrine Recorder & Treasurers Association Conference in San Antonio, TX. We had 130 Recorders and Treasurers present. That was good for having the first Joint meeting since 1995. The reviews we got from those in attendance were mostly positive.

The officers from each organization are already planning on having a joint session next year. Hopefully, we will be able announce the location at our session at the Imperial Session.

For the benefit of those of you who weren't at our March meeting, I announced we were looking for locations for our Winter/Spring meeting. We are planning on picking 2-3 locations and rotate between them. As a number of those attending may be

driving, the weather will be a consideration. The locations also need to be big enough to handle 130-150 attendees and be close to an airport.

In 2020, we thought we had the perfect location in Perdido Beach, AL. Sun, surf and less than a mile from Florida. Unfortunately; the closest airport was in Pensacola, FL, over an hour's drive away. If you have a suggestion for a location, please don't hesitate to let the officers know what it is. Before you submit them as possible locations, Hawaii and Alaska will probably be rejected.

The officers are looking forward to seeing you in Charlotte. Until then, please stay safe.





Dennis Saikaley - 1st Vice President



Greetings,

It is hard to believe that May is over.

In one month, we will be together in Charlotte at the Imperial Sessions.

There is an old saying in marketing, **'try it again for the first time'**.

Although the world is constantly evolving, there are some things that we need to continually go back to and some of us never left.

Remind the Chief Rabban to schedule the Temple Chief Rabban Meeting before the end of the calendar year to present his plans, including financial ones, to the Membership for approval. This allows the Temple to start the year off with a Budget.

Ensure that your Temple holds its Financial Meeting prior to the end of February and that the necessary reports are filed with HQ. This is

your chance to make any necessary adjustments to the Budget presented in #1 above.

Full monthly disclosure at your Divan meeting of your previous month's financial activities. Transparent to the membership. I

suggest having a Financial Presentation at each stated meeting, at least quarterly, with Year To Date results.

Present the Annual Accountant's

Annual Report for the previous year to the Nobility in a timely manner, at a Stated Meeting.

Use WEBFEZ to keep up on which reports and assessments are due.

It concerns me that these SIMPLE steps are NOT being followed through Shrinedom.

We have to be totally transparent and our actions beyond reproach.

That is all for now. I look forward to seeing you at the Annual Meeting at the Imperial Sessions in Charlotte.

Keep well.

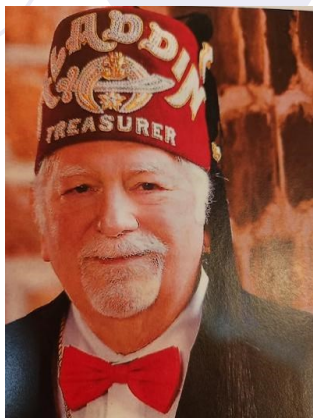
Yours In The Faith,

**Dennis Saikaley P.P.
Treasurer, Tunis Shriners
1st Vice President Shrine
Treasurers Association**





Bill KUTSCHBACH - 2nd Vice President



What are tomorrow's Budget Implications?
 What are your projections for revenue going to be?
 Can we control our expenses appropriately?
 Do you need to change your members annual budget expectations?
 Are your internal controls and segregation of duties effective and current?
 Have you taken your auditor's business advisory comments into consideration?
 What can you do to enhance: accounting issues such as Board Designated funds, funded depreciation, fixed asset schedules, Life membership calculations and reporting, software , hardware etc?



Fellow Treasurers:

We were pleased with the response and comments regarding our session In March this year. It appears that our attempt to provide timely, accurate and useful information and training to our members was successful and as an Association, we will continue to pursue this type of session planning in the future. That being said, we are excited for the upcoming Charlotte Imperial Session and our agenda for the Shrine Treasurers Association meeting. For the purpose of this article, I would like to explore the Accountants, Auditors, and Treasurers expression - "S.A.L.Y." (Same as last year). This is a term that can have both good and bad Connotations / Implications.

THE GOOD:

It would seem that "status Quo" is typically a The same successes year after year is always good Many of us do not like "change."
 Nobles are great at comparing today's data" with that of prior periods.

THE BAD:

Many Chief Rabban (when preparing budgets) look to spend at least the same amount as the prior Potentates -----Inflation changes everything; Investments down? Declining membership? Etc, etc, etc.

WE ALL NEED A CHECK – UP FROM TIME TO TIME...Does "S.A.L.Y" STILL WORK FOR YOU?

TRAINING, EDUCATING AND BRAINSTORMING IS ESSENTIAL

Training your Divan / Board
 Training the Nobility
 Training the Club and Unit Directors (and especially their Treasurers) beneficial.

After you have had a chance to determine what needs changed and what should be "S.A.L.Y.", please consider joining us at the STA Meeting in Charlotte to share your thoughts and suggestions with our group. In the meantime: ENJOY THE GOOD WEATHER!

Yours in Faith

J. William Kutschbach (Bill)
 Treasurer Aladdin Shrine
 2nd Vice President
 Shrine Treasurers Association



Francois E. Nasraoui, 3rd Vice President



Dear Fellow Treasurers,
I hope that you are doing well and that your Temple's financial health is steadily improving under your stewardship and guidance.

At our last mid-year winter seminar in San Antonio, Tx; we realized that there was a substantial number of Treasurers with very basic knowledge/experience of accounting software (QuickBooks/Sage); therefore I will benefit from this opportunity to shed some light on a simple, yet very effective and beneficial accounting software feature: Memorized Transactions.

All Shrine temples have certain recurring transactions on a weekly, monthly, quarterly, or yearly basis. Instead of entering the same transaction every time in Quickbooks, you can enter all the information pertaining to that transaction once and then click on the Memorize icon in the Menu banner to save it as a memorized transaction. A window will then pop up giving you options for **Reminders** and **Frequency**:

1. The main Reminders options are: **Add to my reminders list – Do not remind me – Automate transaction entry.**

Normally you would either select the first option **Add to my reminders list** thus instructing Quickbooks to remind you when the transaction is due, thereby allowing you to verify it before processing it or **Automate transaction entry** when you want Quickbooks to automatically create the recurring transaction without any intervention. The last option **Do not remind me** is self evident and is scarcely used.

2. The frequency options are: **How often** (Never, daily, weekly, every 2 weeks,

monthly, etc.), **Next date**, **Number remaining** and **days in advance to enter.**

If this is a monthly recurring transaction then you will choose the monthly option in the **How often** drop down menu, if it is quarterly then you will choose quarterly and so forth...

If you want QB to start the next transaction on the 1st day of the month then you will choose June 1st 2023 on the **Next date** drop down calendar, for example.

If the recurring transaction is valid for the next 12 months then you will enter 12 in the **Number remaining** box; if it is a recurring transaction for only 3 months then you will enter 3.

Next, QB puts 0 by default in **days in advance to enter.** Keep this default option unless you need QB to enter this transaction a few days in advance (3 for 3 days in advance and so forth).

Finally, click on OK and the transaction is memorized. You can access all the Memorized transactions by clicking on Lists in the menu bar then Memorized Transactions list or simply the Ctrl-T shortcut.

This will open the window listing all your memorized transactions (including name, type, Source, amount, frequency, auto and next date). If it is not an automated entry, then all you have to do is to double click on the transaction to open it, verify the date and all the pre-filled data is accurate (if not manually make the modifications) and then click save. Easy, breezy!

The main benefits for creating Memorized transactions are speed and efficiency (no need to enter the same information over and over again), avoid human error (risk of inadvertently entering incorrect data) and last but certainly not the least to ensure that the transaction is recorded on the correct date thus eliminating the risk of forgetting it or entering it with an incorrect date.

Hope you enjoyed this short tutorial and I am looking forward to seeing you in July at the 2023 Imperial Sessions in Charlotte, NC.

Stay safe and if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to ask.

YITF. :

François E. Nasraoui, MBA,
C. Adm.





STA Ledger

Ryan Harris— 4th Vice President



Dear Fellow Treasurers,

I remain honored and humbled to serve as 4th Vice President of the Shrine Treasurers Association, but I am excited to be able to work with the STA Officer team and all Shrine Treasurers and Nobles as we work to educate and support one another toward success in our individual Shrine Centers and Shriners International as a whole! My first contribution to this effort is something that is near and dear to my heart. For the past 14 years, I have been speaking and presenting in the airline and travel industry on payments, payment business processes, and fraud prevention. This year I hope to bring some of that experience to benefit you, our fellow Noble Treasurers, and help Divans throughout Shrinedom make more informed decisions in the management of their local Shrines. In today's digital age, it is more important than ever for Shrines to accept credit cards. In fact, a recent study found that 73% of US consumers prefer to pay with credit and/or debit cards; however, accepting cards as a form of payment comes with a monetary cost. Our Shrine Centers typically pay a fee of 1.5% to 3.5% of the transaction amount for each credit card payment they process and depending on the type of merchant account, those fees can be as much as 5% to 7% for accepting premium reward cards.

There are several factors that affect

the cost of credit card processing, including the type of credit cards accepted, if the card is physically present at the point of sale, and if the fee is flat for all cards or variable based on the individual card accepted and through every sales channel.

While the cost of credit card processing can be a significant expense, it is important to remember that accepting credit cards can also lead to increased sales and less transactional friction. In fact, a study by the National Retail Federation found that businesses that accept credit cards see an average of 20% more sales than businesses that do not. There is also the consideration of decreased workload and loss risk when processing credit card payments by the elimination of cash handling processes and the electronic deposit of funds.

Ultimately, the decision of whether to accept credit cards is a business decision. However, Shrines that do decide to accept credit cards should carefully consider the cost of processing fees and how they can minimize and control those costs. Join us on Sunday, July 2, 2023 at the Weston in Charlotte, North Carolina for the Shrine Treasurers Association Annual Meeting where we will discuss the business considerations for choosing a payment partner to minimize cost, workload, and complexity in today's modern marketplace. Of course, don't forget to check up on the STA happenings on our website, <https://shrinetreasurers.org/> where you can find STA information, online Treasurer resources, and updated event schedules as they happen! I look forward to seeing you in Charlotte!

Fraternally Yours,
Ryan Harris, CISA
Treasurer - Bahia Shriners, Orlando, Florida
4th Vice President - Shrine Treasurers Association





Brad KOEHN — Imperial Treasurer



Looking forward to our meeting
in Charlotte.

Brad T. Koehn, Imperial Treasurer



Greetings

What a great Mid-Winter Shrine Treasurers Association Seminar we experienced in San Antonio last March. Thank you to our elected STA Officers, Imperial Officers and Imperial staff for stepping up with instruction, information, leadership and help to make this a great learning experience.

If you were not able to join us in San Antonio, plan now to attend the Mid-Winter Seminar next year.

Our Mid-Winter Seminar was improved with both education and networking during our Joint Seminar with the Shrine Recorders Association. Treasurers, Recorders and our Ladies all had a great time.

Treasurers, whose Temples, have paid annual STA dues are invited to breakfast Sunday July 1, prior to our Annual Treasurers Meeting in Charlotte, NC. Breakfast 7 AM, Annual Meeting 8:00 AM in Providence Ballroom II, Westin Charlotte Hotel. If your Temple has not paid their Shrine Treasurers Association Annual \$175.00 dues, please bring a check with you, we want you to be included. Continued Education and Information will be included in the agenda listed below.

William A "Bill" Wheeler

Cahaba Shriners

STA Secretary-Treasurer



Bill Wheeler

Secretary Treasurer

STA Ledger

Shrine Treasurers Association

Annual Meeting Agenda

Providence Ballroom II, Westin Charlotte, NC

Sunday July 2, 2023

7:00 – 8:00 Breakfast

8:00 – 8:15 Welcome – STA President Steve Harken

8:15 – 9:00 Accounting – STA 2nd VP J. William (Bill) Kutschbach

9:00 – 9:30 “THE CALL” – Noble Jon Hanson

9:30 – 9:45 Break

9:45 – 10:00 Secretary/Treasurer Report – STA S/T Noble Bill Wheeler

10:00 – 10:30 Credit Cards – STA 4th VP – Noble Ryan Harris

10:30 – 11:15 Imperial Treasurer – Brad Koehn

11:15 – 12:00 Chairman of Hospital Trustees – Jerry Gant

Embracing Change: STA 2023– San Antonio



