



new Nobles to Tunis. There will be more to come on this shortly.

## POTENTATE'S MESSAGE



Greetings Nobles from First Lady Debbie and myself.

We both hope that you're still safe, all still doing well. As we move ahead, the light is starting to get a little brighter at the end of our tunnel. But we're not there yet. As our vaccines are starting to arrive in Canada, we may be able to start getting our vaccination. Here's hoping that we're headed in the right direction with pandemic, get ahead of the third wave they have talked about and soon be able to get back to somewhat normal again by this fall.

Please take note of the comments on the age of our membership from Noble Ken Brinston chairman of Membership in this newsletter. We are all still looking for new members right now! Some good news, at the February Stated Meeting we voted on 8 new members. We will be doing a Virtual Ceremonial, open to the public, to get these new nobles started as Shriners. Hoping you will be able to take the time to welcome these

This is an update to the Shriners International Fun and Fellowship contest. On behalf of Tunis Shriners, to those of you have voted, Thank You. I hope you're taking the pledge "**iPledge to vote daily for Tunis Shriners**" and are **voting daily**. We need everyone's support and more if we hope to win.

I have received correspondence from SHC-Canada and SHC-Philadelphia looking for Nobles to fill upcoming vacant Board vacancies. More information can be found elsewhere in this newsletter.

The office and I are getting a few calls about the 150th Anniversary Shriner Directory from Shriners International on the legitimacy of the calls and emails asking for information and photos of our members. It's being handled by an outside organization. It is legitimate and not a scam. It is your choice whether or not to participate. Don't feel you have to. If you choose to purchase a copy when completed I believe it will cost you over \$200.00 USD.

NSA Midwinter meeting will be held on April 09 by Zoom and hopefully having the field days that was planned on August 27 to 29 moved to October 1 to 3 2021 still at Gananoque if the Canada and US Border is open for travel. We should know more after our meeting next month.

Ill. Sir Len Fিন্নamore, Potentate of Kanark, and I have made our decision to cancel our Spring Ceremonial and



Potentates Ball this May 08 in Cornwall because of the ongoing pandemic. We did not feel it would be safe in hosting this event.

*Please stay safe - Until we meet again  
- With Family fun in 2021!!*

*Yours in the faith,*

*Ill Sir Lyle Cavanagh  
Potentate Tunis 179*

**FIRST LADY'S MESSAGE**



Welcome everyone. It's an honour to serve with Lyle in your Temple. I would like to say that our ladies are doing a great job! We have a newsletter the first of every month. We also send out birthday and anniversary cards to the ladies. Our second zoom meeting is coming up in March. We have knitters making lap blankets and shawls to hand out to our local long term residents or people in need. We have a cookbook in the works with proceeds going to the First Lady's Project.

My goal this year is to ensure good communications between all the ladies. I believe it's important to keep everyone updated on everything and just be there

to listen. Fundraising is hard this year but I'm willing to try anything. My project this year is a little out of the box. I'm hoping to help parents out while they're waiting for the child in the Shriners Hospital by installing coffee machines in the child's room. Also by providing a Fezy Bear comfort kit for the parents.

Thank you for trusting us with your Temple and hopefully we can all get together as a family soon to achieve all the goals we have set.

Thank you.

First Lady Debbie

**Black Camel**

Noble John Tycoles passed away  
February 15, 2021

Noble Ralph Morgan passed away  
February 23, 2021

Noble Gordon Chamberlain passed  
away February 25, 2021

**Sick & Visiting, Lost in the Desert and Shriners Milestones**

No report.

**Membership**

Although Tunis Temple was instituted in 1975, the age profile of our members spans over eight decades. We have members ranging in age from 27 to 96. While it is encouraging and beneficial to see younger Masons join our ranks, like the Canadian general population, our membership too is aging. The average



age of our members currently stands at 69.5 years. In fact, half of all Tunis members are over the age of 73 and only 5% are under the age of 40. Therefore, it is important for each of us to be constantly promoting and reaching out to younger Masons about the Tunis Shriners and the rewarding and fulfilling experience of being a Shriner. We now have an electronic version of our membership application which can be sent to you. Please contact Noble Ken Brinston, Membership Chairman, for more information ([brinstonkg@gmail.com](mailto:brinstonkg@gmail.com), 613 260 3532).

### SHC-Canada

Ill. Sir Lyle Cavanagh has received an email from David Merrett, Chairman Board of Governors of Shriners Hospitals for Children-Canada to submit nominations for **two** vacancies on the board and are looking for interested candidates with experience in Human Resources and Medical Professional/Healthcare. If you feel you have the resources and the time, please contact him and he can send you the package you need to apply. This needs to be received by the Board of Governor Nominating Committee before May 1, 2021.

### SHC-Philadelphia

Ill. Sir Lyle Cavanagh has received an email from Jessica Ann DeGuzman, Executive Assistant Shriners Hospitals for Children-Philadelphia to submit nominations for **five** vacancies on the board. This is the first time that Tunis

will be nominating someone for this hospital. If you feel you have the resources and the time, please contact him and he can send you the package you need to apply. This needs to be received by the Board of Governor Nominating Committee before May 1, 2021.

### Tunis Hospital Daddy Program

Please see the following brief summary of how the money raised (\$18,365.00) through the Tunis Hospital Daddy Program in 2020 was utilized by SHC-Canada:

“For some children, coming to the hospital can be an anxiety-inducing experience, as they must undergo medical procedures. Some of these procedures are painful to them and we need to find new ways to address the pain.

Aligned with the Shriners Hospitals for Children®-Canada’s vision



DreamLand® - Virtual reality game designed by PaperPlane Therapeutics for use with children undergoing medical procedures.



of providing exceptional and patient-focused care, Nursing Research partnered with a local Montreal MedTech start-up, PaperPlane Therapeutics, to bring virtual reality (VR) to patients. Using the generous donation from the **Tunis Hospital Daddy Program**, they recruited Ms. Sofia Addab, a master's student enrolled in Experimental Medicine at McGill University. Together with Dr. Reggie Hamdy, they co-supervised Ms. Addab who conducted innovative research. Ms. Addab evaluated whether patients, parents, and healthcare professionals, could benefit from using VR to distract children from their pain and anxiety during medical procedures.

Virtual reality, openly welcomed by our healthcare professionals, helped elevate our patient's hospital experience by alleviating their worries and allowing them to escape to a magical world. Parents, too, were relieved to see their child distracted and in less pain. We continue to work closely with healthcare professionals to expand the use of VR during various medical procedures to help provide the highest quality of care to our patients. In 2021, we will be creating the practice guidelines for VR, and hope to share these guidelines across the Shriner system." Submitted by Argerie Tsimicalis, Sofia Addab and Kelly Thorstad, February 16, 2021.



Master Student, Sofia Addab, presenting her research findings of the use of VR at the Shriners Hospitals for Children®-Canada at the annual research day hosted by the Institute of Injury Repair and Recovery of the Montreal University Health Centre (MUHC).

Please consider making a donation to the Tunis Hospital Daddy Program in 2021 through the TADS program or cash donation. If you commit to just \$10.00 per month this translates to \$120.00 a year and is tax deductible. With your help we can reach our \$20,000 goal for 2021.

Noble Wayne Keech  
Tunis Hospital Daddy

## **BROCKVILLE DISTRICT SHRINE CLUB**

The Shriners International Fun and Fellowship contest has passed the three quarter point. Thanks to your voting, Tunis Shriners is now in first place! We couldn't be here without your **daily** support!

Using a horse race analogy, we're now rounding the last corner. It has been a very close race so far with Tunis being as low as third place to their current first place. The last day of the contest is March 25 so anything can happen in the last half of the race.



What can you do to help Tunis stay in first place? The following are suggestions:

1. You can vote daily at the following link: <http://bit.ly/3tl1hih>. You may be able to vote from multiple devices, multiple platforms (eg. internet and Facebook), and/or service providers each day. You can also vote from home and from work.
2. You can send this email to your family, friends, colleagues and any organizations/associations you may belong to and have them vote. Remember to ask them to forward this email on. We need to increase our voting coverage.
3. You can post this email on your Facebook page and have your "likes" vote. They could even share the page with their "likes".
4. You can use the hashtag #First2Fun so that everyone in the world can know that Shriners are first to the fun, even in the midst of a pandemic!

### LAND O'LAKES SHRINE CLUB

Prior to Valentines day, the President and executive of the Land O' Lakes Shrine Club approved a plan regarding our Special Ladies. All of our Special Ladies (21 in all) were to receive a fresh bouquet of flowers, delivered by Nobles in Almonte, Carleton Place, Smiths Falls and Perth. The Nobles enthusiastically took on the task and were rewarded with

smiles and appreciation from our very Special Ladies.

It was a good day to be a Tunis Shriner!

Caption: President Phil Pilon (right) and executive member Peter Houlton deliver their first bouquet of flowers.



### EVENT CALENDAR

#### March-April

Meetings/Events

February 11 to March 25: Shriners International Fun and Fellowship voting, you can vote daily

April 7 5:30 p.m.: Divan Zoom Meeting

#### Shriners Trivia



The Marcom and Social Media Committee is holding a quarterly trivia contest about Shriners, Tunis and the hospital. At the end of the year, a prize will be given to the Noble who has the most correct answers. If there is a tie, those Noble's names will be put in a fez and a winner will be drawn.

The following are this month's questions:

1. What is the name of the first Shriner's temple?
2. What is the name of the first medical condition that the Shriners Hospital treated?
3. Prior to moving to Walkley Road, where was the Shrine Temple located?
4. Where was SHC-Canada's first hospital and what years did it operate? (half point for each correct answer)
5. Where and when was the first non-U.S. Temple chartered? (half point for each correct answer)

Answers in the June eNews.

Submission deadline is March 30, 2021.

You can email your responses to [tunistrivia@gmail.com](mailto:tunistrivia@gmail.com). You can also mail your responses to: Tunis Trivia, Tunis Shriners, 2140 Walkley Road, Ottawa, ON. K1G 3V3. For all submissions please include your name and number each response. Good luck.

## Donate your Air Miles – Canadian Association of Shrine Temples

Nobles, Families and Friends

Donating Aeroplan Points from Air Canada, or West Jet Points from West Jet, makes it possible for Shriners to transport our children to the medical help they need.

And for your generosity, you will receive an **official tax receipt** for the value of the number of tickets the points will buy.

If you or someone you know wants to donate points, Please

contact **Noble Wayne Cormier** at

[wcormier@harveystravel-cwt.com](mailto:wcormier@harveystravel-cwt.com) ....

cell is 506-547-5246