

Florida Shrine Association
2007 Annual Meeting Minutes
May 3, 2007

The public opening of the Annual meeting of the FSA for 2007 was conducted by Noble Oscar Cloutier, Asst. Rabban and Director General of the FSA Annual meeting.

Noble Cloutier thanked his committee for all of their labors and announced that there were over 800 room nights sold for this meeting with a grand total of over 300 Nobles in attendance. It was a splendid turnout and one that made everyone happy and proud.

Noble Cloutier then introduced the Honorable Mayor of Sarasota Lou Ann Palmer, Sheriff Noble Bill Balkwill, and Commissioner, Noble David Mills. All of whom addressed us and wished us a successful meeting along with their best regards and thanks for visiting Sarasota. The theme was "To get FSA back on track for future years."

Noble Cloutier then introduced the Officers of the FSA and then he introduced the Imperial Officers in attendance I. E. Imperial Sir, Jack Jones, Imperial Recorder and Imperial Sir, George Mitchell, Imperial High Priest and Profit and his Lady Dianna.

Pres Ill. Sir Ed Phillips, P.P. then gave his greetings to all in attendance and he thanked Noble Cloutier for all of his efforts in making this Annual meeting such a success. The Legion of Honor Guard then presented the Colors, which was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to our Country. Pres. Phillips, then introduced, Rev. Noble Don Collins, Chaplain of Sahib Temple for the invocation. Pres. Phillips, then introduced, the Potentate, of Sahib, Shriners, Ill. Sir Dale LaBelle.

Ill. Sir Dale LaBelle, welcomed us warmly and thanked Noble Cloutier for his hard work. Ill. Sir LaBelle then advised us that there was to be many activities occurring during this weekend and encouraged us to support our Units in their competitions. In addition he advised the ladies that there are plenty of places to do shopping here in Sarasota and the stores have been advised that we are here.

Mayor Louann was introduced and she welcomed us to Sarasota, she stated ".how much Shriners are appreciated for the work that they do for the Children in our Hospitals."

The Sheriff was introduced and he stated that "... the Shrine is the best group of people in the world".

The Commissioner read a proclamation to the FSA commending Shriners and the work we do. May 3-5 was proclaimed, "Shrine Days.

Pres. Ed Phillips then had all of the attending Potentates and Divans stand and be recognized. He then introduced HP&P Imperial Sir George Mitchell.

Imp. Sir George Mitchell stated that he was bringing a welcome from his Country I. E. Canada to us and extended their regards to us as well.

Pres. Phillips then introduced his wife.

This concluded the Public Opening of the Annual Meeting of the FSA. Dr. Jerome F. (Jerry) Jacobs, the Sec. / Treas., was then called upon to give the Benediction.

The Public was excused and the Business meeting was about to begin.

Invocation was given by Dr. Jacobs, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to our Flag.

Roll call of the member Temples was done by Dr. Jacobs and it was established that we did indeed have a quorum present.

The last meeting minutes were called for by Pres. Phillips but a motion was made to accept the minutes as approved, as published, on our web site.

The financial report was given by our Treasurer, Dr. Jacobs. He stated that the 2006 dues were paid by all of the member Temples on a timely basis and all of the 2007 dues have been paid except for three Temples and I am expecting them momentarily. We have on hand in our banking account the sum total of \$4,840.86, additionally I have a received a check this morning making the grand total of \$4,953.36. A motion was made to accept this report as read and it was accepted unanimously.

Dr. Jacobs was then called upon to give the Annual Report of the FSA. Dr Jacobs stated that the FSA is alive and well although we are struggling with some issues, such as the Web Site. We are having problems also with some of the Units but these are hopefully being worked out. We have had an active year and Dr. Jacobs, along with our incoming Pres. Ill. Sir, Doug Tomlinson, P. P. and our V. P. , Ill. Sir Stan Mykytka P. P. attended the Imperial Association Seminar in Tampa which was put on by Imperial Sir Jack Jones and the Imperial Staff. We were able to pick up many ideas and our incoming President Doug Tomlinson is going to put some of the ideas together for the FSA.

President Phillips then asked for the Necrology Report so that we could honor those of our members who have passed on during this past year. We lost a total of 628 Nobles last year. May their souls, rest in peace, in the Kingdome of Heaven, forever and ever.

President Phillips asked for any unfinished business, there being none President Phillips asked for new business. There being none he went on to his comments. President Phillips thanked Egypt Temple for all of their help in getting this session off the ground. He also wished Sahib Temple good luck with their year under Ill. Sir Doug Tomlinson, P. P. as the next President of the FSA. President Phillips reiterated the by-law change of two years ago wherein we have approved the Units to have two voting members each, to the FSA. We had hoped that the Units would take heed of this by-law change and send at least two members each to our business meeting. Hopefully, the various Units will do this for our next meeting, as there were only a few Delegates from the Units present at this meeting.

The next report was that of our incoming President, Ill. Sir Doug Tomlinson, P. P. The plans for our meeting in Mid-Winter is still up in the air but as of this minute here they are: The headquarters Hotel will be the Sheraton Orlando, North which is ½ mile from the Bahia Shrine. The majority of the meetings and activities will be at the Bahia Shrine in order to cut costs. Friday night will be a party with the theme of Country and Western. Thurs. dinner will be the Bahia Shrine's famous Corned Beef and Cabbage. The various Units will be encouraged to use the facilities of the Bahia Shrine for their competitions and Banquets. There seemed to be a great deal of resistance to this proposal from the various Units and although the idea seems to work well in other Associations, if the Units don't want to change their way of doing their competitions and Banquets, then they will have the right to do it their way. Saturday night there will be a BBQ put on by the Bahia Shrine Horse Patrol for \$10.00 per person. Pres. Tomlinson's lady will be working on some activities for the ladies. The Motor Corp will have its competition about 15 miles from Bahia Temple. We will not be having a parade, as the cost is prohibitive. Sunday morning we will have a pancake breakfast with eggs and all of the trimmings at the Bahia Shrine, the cost will be \$3.00, it will be a sit down breakfast and you will be served. The preliminary agenda is out but there will be some changes. Pricing of program ads and Market Place space will be available as well.

The next report was by V.P. Illustrious Sir Stan Mykytka, P. P. Stan says that Key West is out as they are too expensive. He is working on other locals. He also feels that the Units should consider joint Banquets and presentations.

The next report was from Morocco Temple and they have reported that Noble Jimmy Holderfield, High Priest and Profit will be the Director General for 2010.

President Phillips requested that if anyone has any ideas or desires they should convey them to FSA so that we can act on them.

Lunch today, at Bahia Temple. Tonight there will be a Hillbilly dinner at Bahia Temple. Market place opens today at the Hyatt Hotel. Presidents banquet Friday night at Bahia Temple. There will be a parade today and a Ladies Luncheon, at the Hyatt Hotel.

Imperial Sir, Jack Jones will do the installation of the new officers. Prior to the installation Imperial Sir Jack Jones related a serious rift between the Arizona Grand Master and a local Shrine Club. Thankfully, the situation has been resolved and everyone is happy again.

The two candidates for Imperial Office were invited to speak and they both gave inspirational speeches. Florida's own Ill. Sir Gary Berganske, P. P. and Ill. Sir Jim King, P. P.

Gary thanked everyone for helping him in his quest for Imperial office. He started out 18 months ago and has visited over 40 Association meetings. He attended several Association meetings wherein the Units had a joint venture and they were quite successful. Gary gave some back-ground of his service to the Shrine and it was quite impressive. Gary felt that there are three areas of importance that we have to strive to succeed in order for the Shrine to succeed. The three areas are: 1. Leadership development. 2. Masonic Relations. 3. Membership Growth, which will occur if we accomplish 1 and 2. Gary also stressed that there are different levels of commitment to the Shrine but the most important level is to be passionate about your commitment to the Shrine and what it does.

Imperial Sir George Mitchell, HP&P gave an address and showed a DVD from Shrine Headquarters which showed what it is to be part of the Shrine. The actors in the DVD were all with the Shrine.

Meeting was adjourned at 2:07 P. M.

Respectfully submitted,
Dr. Jerome F. (Jerry) Jacobs, Secretary/Treasurer

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