



The Scimitar

Operating Under A Charter Granted By Medinah Shriners, Chicagoland

March 2014 Issue

From the Desk of the President



Here it is the beginning of March and our first parade is a week away. Hopefully, the snow will all have melted by then (not a snowball's chance of that happening). But I am excited to get the parading started. I would like to build on last year's experience with different types of maneuvers. The crowds seem to enjoy the "Flip." This maneuver is one that I think we can build on and expand with. So I

would like to hear from the club members. Can you suggest some new types of driving maneuvers that we can experiment with? I am shooting for some type of routine that we can do at the parade's reviewing stand.

As I stated at the January meeting, I want the club to grow in membership. I have challenged every member to bring in two new members to the club. The club needs to have new members to continue. Here is an incentive: For anyone bringing in two new members to the club, I will pay for that member and one guest to attend this year's OV. I hope that means I will be paying for everyone that is attending the OV this year!

As President of the club, I am planning on having three regular Ladies' Nights this year. I have planned the first one for April 16th. It will be at Tipsters Village Pub located at 8839 W. Cermak Road in North Riverside. This restaurant has been featured on the WGN TV show "Chicago's Best." I have eaten here numerous times and always had a good meal. So mark your calendars for this night and come join us. *See flyer on page 6.*

For the second Ladies' Night I am planning to go to White Fence Farm for some chicken. This event will be during the summer months. For the third night I have to keep with tradition and go for Bohemian food. I am looking for suggestions as to where to go. This will happen in the fall. So let me know of your favorite places to go. There will also be the Christmas party at the end of the year.

In October or November, I am planning to have an Appreciation Party. What I am planning is an outing to an indoor go-cart course, for a night of racing and food. I want to thank those that have taken an active part in the club for the year. What I want to do is reward those members that put forward the most effort. So I have come up with a system that

you can earn points toward this party. These points will then be used to determine how much the club will be paying for you to attend the Appreciation Night.

So if you earn:

- 65 points or more, you and guest will be free;
- 50 points, you are free;
- 30 points, the Club will pay for 50% of the cost;
- 25 points, the Club will pay for 25% of the cost.

If you do not earn 25 points, you are more than welcome to come to the party but will have to pay for yourself. So how do you earn these points? Well, here is how:

- 1 point for attending monthly meeting
- 1 point for attending a Medinah Shrine Ceremonial
- 1 point selling onions for one day
- 2 points for each parade that you attend
- 2 points for selling onions two days
- 3 points for selling onions three days
- 3 points for attending Potentate's Ball
- 4 points for selling onions four days
- 4 points for days working on cars (other than on parade days)
- 5 points for bring in a new member

I will be the one tracking how many points each member has earned. So get out there and start earning your way to the Appreciation Party. I think that this will be a great event.

I will see you at the parades.

*Fraternally Yours,
President Chuck "The Cliutch" Graening*

Deadline for the
May Issue of *The Scimitar*
Is Thursday, May 15

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Website

www.westsuburbanshrineclub.org

Living Past Presidents

1957 – Edward B. Novak
1959 – John Williams
1967 – Robert H. Lynn
1968 – Richard A. Kallal
1970 – Vern A. Young
1971 – Warren F. Mara
1981 – Robert G. Munyer
1982 – Calvin Tazelaar
1984 – Bert DeLegge
1987 – Emil Denemark
1989 – William Cummings
1991 – Robert T. Beebe
1993 – Howard Aschburner
1995 – George Cepek
1998 – Walter Miles, Jr.
2000 – Thomas Hastings
2001 – Weston “Bud” Parker
2002 – Nicholas Sasuta
2004 – Richard J. Hurbanis
2005 – Petey Papadogianis
2006 – William Macak, Jr.
2007 – Michael E. Velko
2008 – Dan Smith
2009 – James Lyman
2010 – Keith Olson
2011 – David Wray
2012 – Ray Bernard
2013 – David Huffman

Editor's Column

A new year means a fresh, new issue of *The Scimitar* (**finally**). And it's only March so it is still a new year!

We know what you're thinking And, yes; *The Scimitar* HAS been off-track for some time. No excuses. Now we are back, thanks to prompting and prodding by President Chuck! We've also adjusted our publishing schedule, which will hopefully also keep us on track. We have moved from six issues per year to five: March, May, July, September, and December. We're hoping this more closely aligns with our annual parade schedule, meaning we'll have more timely 'news' and events to report in each issue.

In this issue: President Chuck has some interesting propositions for club members on page 1. Also, check out page 3 to see what 1st Vice President Shawn Fizer, 2nd Vice President Rolla Sullens, and new 3rd Vice President John Kirkman, have to say about this year and their plans. See your usual Roaring '57s updates on page 4, but also check out page 7 to review the Rules of Parading and Operating Procedures for the '57s. These documents are a must-read for all new '57s drivers but are also a good refresher/reminder for even our most senior parade participants.

Fraternally,
Petey Papadogianis



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by the
West Suburban Shrine Club

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A Message from the 1st Vice President



I like to start off by saying thank you to everyone for electing me to be 1st Vice President. As your Chief Entertainment officer, we will be doing a couple of outings this year. I am still checking into a play and dinner at Fireside. If you have any ideas on outings for the club just let me know.

Just a reminder, please call or email 3rd Vice President John Kirkman about dinner at the meeting to make sure we order enough food.

We need volunteers to help sell onions. It may be cold and snowy in Chicago but in Georgia it is warm and dry; perfect for the growing of Vidalia onions. Yes; it's that time of year to get out and hawk onions. It looks like the onions are going to be harvested and delivered to Chicago the first week in May. This year the club has ordered 500 bags of onions. We will have three locations to sell the onions. So please make some time to come out and help with this fundraiser for the club. Also get out there and take pre-orders for the onions. Prices for the onions are \$11 per 10 lb bag; \$6 for 1/2 a bag (5 lbs) and \$20 for two 10 lb bags. The more we sell beforehand, the less time we will need to be out selling at the locations. We will have pre-order forms for you at the next meeting.

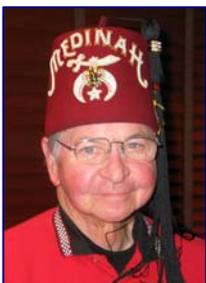
I'm hopeful that everyone had a good time at the Past President's Party. Marlo and I enjoyed the food and fellowship, as always. I want to thank all of the past presidents for their service to the club and welcome David Huffman to the 'club' as our Baby Past President. These men are the ones that have made this the premier club to be part of at Medinah.

On a sad note, we'd like to extend our sympathies to Cal Tazelaar and his family on the loss of his brother Florian on February 5.

See you on the streets.

*Shawn Fizer
1st Vice President*

A Message from the 2nd Vice President



Sorry for the delay in submitting article for Scimitar but I have been traveling since Monday 2/26/14 and I am just catching up on email. I am also trying to learn and use the new addition to our family: the iPhone. So far here's the progress I have made: I have been able to engage in the lively art of conversation with "SIRI," even though

most of the time she doesn't give a crap what I have to say (just like another lady living here)!!

The day before we left on our trip, Shirley and I attended the Past Presidents' Party and really enjoyed the food and, of course, the comradery.

Finally, I am once again working with the Donations Coordinator at Shriners Hospitals for Children to coordinate donations on behalf of W.S.S.C. Please see [page 8](#) of this issue for a list of PRIORITY items needed by the Therapy Department. If you can help with any of these items, please let me know. You can contact me at: rollasullens@aol.com or 224-535-9266.

*Rolla Sullens
3rd Vice President*

A Message from the 3rd Vice President



Thank you for the honor and opportunity to serve as your 3rd Vice President. Shawn has passed me the menu; now it's official. As much as I like the fried chicken I promise not to order it every month.

It was a lot of fun last year parading and I look forward to this year's schedule. I continue to be impressed and humbled by everyone's commitment to the club and putting these cars in a parade.

I started my Masonic journey in Des Plaines Lodge #890 on February 15, 2006 receiving my first degree. On August 11, 2007, I was raised to the 3rd degree in his home lodge, Dundee #190. Both my father and grandfather were Masons. In November 2008, I joined both Medinah Shrine and the Marshalls Unit. I also belong to the Elgin Lodge of Odd Fellows.

I work for McNichols Co., a steel service center as the Midwest Sales manager, with 16 locations across the nation. I've been with them for 19 years.

I live in Streamwood with my wife Debby. My son Derek teaches in Kuwait. In 2006 our daughter Darleen, who was a beautiful, energetic honor roll student and Homecoming Queen, was diagnosed during her senior year with Ewing's sarcoma cancer. She lost her battle in 2008. She inspires me every day. She always kept a positive attitude and never made it about her.

I am a big fan of Sinatra and NASCAR.

*John Kirkman
3rd Vice President*

News from Pit Road



As you all know this past winter was the third coldest and the fourth snowiest in recorded history here in the Valley of Chicago. Okay; enough of that!

Who's ready to parade? Well, we're starting on Friday, March 7 at Medinah with the 2014 parade meeting and 2013 parade appreciation party. At the parade meeting we will be handing out the tentative schedule for entire 2014 parade season.

And guess what? The next day (March 8) is our first parade: the traditional St. Patrick's Day parade in Forest Park. This parade kicks off our parade season each year and it's always a lot of fun.

On Tuesday morning, March 4, I took a picture of the parade truck. Take a look below. You'll be surprised. Later in the day, I took a second picture (below). You'll be even more surprised. The second picture is the result of the good offices of Noble Rich Dolejs. Thank you, Rich.

Okay Nobles; let's have a great parade season for 2014!

*Your Roaring '57s Pit Crew Chief,
Dave Wray*



March 4 'Before' and 'After' Pictures; Wow!



Beyond the Checked Flag



My Dear Nobles and Fellow Fez Heads and Supporters:

The kick-off for the 2014 parade season finally commences! The St. Patrick's Day parade season starts as usual in Forest Park on Saturday, March 8 and proceeds to Palatine on Saturday, March 15! Even though we will be wearing red, all of us will also be wearing honorary green!

Why do we parade? Yes; it's about having Shriner fun and Masonic fellowship, entertaining the crowd, and spreading goodwill for Shriners International. The most important reason, of course, is that each parade in some small way ultimately benefits The Kids! Sacrificing a few hours on the weekend is a valuable investment that pays many dividends for our Chicago Hospital, as well as the other 27. Please do whatever you can to make yourself available for this most important personal sacrifice of time that can change many children's lives for the better!

I just want to remind our members that no other club offers so much fun for so little cost. Your yearly membership of \$20.00 allows you UNLIMITED use of the fabulous Roaring '57s during parade season, with no direct cost of ownership, maintenance, gasoline, or transportation of the cars. NO OTHER CLUB OFFERS YOU THIS BENEFIT! We need to share this benefit with all the incoming new Nobles from the Ceremonials as well as our fellow Masonic brothers! Just get yourself to the parade, bring a prospective member, drive for free, and experience unlimited amounts of fun! Our Roaring '57s unit is the heart and soul of this club. Remember, this is a multiple award-winning parade unit!

*Ray Bernard, AKA, 'Speed-Ray-Sir'
Assistant Pit Crew Chief*

Upcoming Events

- April 2 – W.S.S.C. Meeting, Shrine Center (*Stag*)
- April 16 – Dinner with the Ladies, Tipsters, North Riverside
- May 7 – W.S.S.C. Meeting, Shrine Center (*Stag*)
- June 4 – W.S.S.C. Meeting, Shrine Center (*Stag*)
- Summer TBD* – Dinner with the Ladies, White Fence Farm
- July 2 – W.S.S.C. Meeting, Shrine Center (*Stag*)
- August 6 – W.S.S.C. Meeting, Shrine Center (*Stag*)
- September 3 – W.S.S.C. Meeting, Shrine Center (*Stag*)
- Fall TBD* – Dinner with the Ladies, *Location TBD*
- October 1 – W.S.S.C. Meeting, Shrine Center (*Stag*)
- Fall TBD* – Appreciation Party, *Location TBD*
- November 5 – W.S.S.C. Meeting, Shrine Center (*Stag*)
- December 3 – W.S.S.C. Meeting, Shrine Center (*Stag*)
- Winter TBD* – W.S.S.C. Christmas Party, *Location TBD*

For detailed parade unit information, contact Petey or go to our website www.westsuburbanshrinecl



Past Presidents and wives in attendance



1st Vice President Shawn Fizer and Marlo Moss



George & Anne Cepek



Baby Past President David Huffman & Brandi



3rd Vice President Rolla Sullens & Shirley



Keith Olson

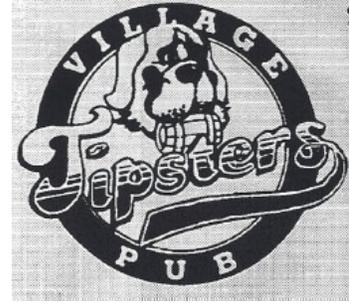


David Huffman receives his Past President jewel



Past Presidents in attendance

W.S.S.C. Dinner With the Ladies



Tipsters Village Pub

Date: *Wednesday, April 16, 2014*
Time: *Dinner starts at 6:30 PM*
Place: *8839 Cermak Road
North Riverside, Illinois 60546*

- *As featured on WGN's "Chicago's Best"*
- *Casual dress; no fez*
- *Please R.S.V.P.*

**** Menu ****

- Garbage Salad
- Spaghetti with Marinara
- Meatballs
- Neckbones
- Chicken Vesuvio

Served With: Coffee/Tea/Soft drink
and Dessert.



Questions? Contact: Chuck Graening at 708-218-1031 or ecgraening@gmail.com

Proceeds benefit West Suburban Shrine Club and are not tax deductible.

Please send reservations/payment to:
Chuck Graening
4822 Creek Drive
Western Springs, IL 60558

Cost: \$20 per person
Checks payable to W.S.S.C.
Deadline: April 13, 2014
Sorry, No Refunds

Name: _____
Number of people attending: _____ Amount enclosed: \$ _____

The Rules of Parading

These are the Rules of Parading as a member of the West Suburban Shrine Club Roaring '57s. These directives for parading are not negotiable or all-inclusive. Common sense and a level-headed understanding of the situation at hand must always prevail.

1. There will be absolutely no physical contact with the crowd *while a parade is in progress*. More specifically, this means no giving of high-fives, no doing knuckles, no giving of rides, etc.
2. It is necessary to maintain speed and distance while a parade is in progress. We perform tight maneuvers with the cars in close proximity. It is necessary to stay in formation and maintain a constant speed. In the event of a disruption of our performance by a pedestrian or other obstacle, if an evasive or erratic maneuver is necessary, it is better to hit one of our parade vehicles than to go off-course and into the crowd. Safety is of the utmost concern and importance. Too big a gap or too little a gap is a hazard.
3. There will be no maneuvering with less than 10 feet of clearance between the Roaring '57s and the crowd. Vehicles should proceed single file or double file only, as directed by the designated parade leader.
4. There will be no passing of the leader. The leader will direct the speed of the performance at all times.
5. There will be no passing in front or behind our escort vehicle. Stay behind the lead car and in front of the trailing (full-sized or mini) escort vehicle. When the banner or marchers are part of the unit, the banner is the 'leader' of the unit.
6. Once the unit is at the line-up position, all vehicles whether full-sized or mini, become part of the Roaring '57s parade offering, and as such, are governed by Imperial rules and regulations. Transporting W.S.S.C. ladies to and from the parade route should be done in full-sized vehicles only. Absolutely no ladies are permitted to ride in a parade (*at this time*).
7. Every member of our unit has the duty to stop a parade performance by raising his arm with a closed fist if he sees something he believes is unsafe or a potential hazard.
8. Road rage, arguing, inappropriate language, or inappropriate gesturing of any sort, will not be tolerated under any circumstances. We receive an honorarium to perform as professional entertainment and each member of the unit is a representative of the Shriners and Shriners' Hospital for Children and must maintain brotherly decorum at all times.
9. We are a professional parade unit, and as such, are expected to act appropriately. No camel's milk or libations will be tolerated pre-performance. Post-parade, camel's milk should only be consumed when the beverage is in a can cooler.

10. We were all chosen to be masons, and as just and upright men, first and foremost, we need to respect ourselves and our fellow nobles.

Operating Procedures for the

W.S.S.C. Roaring '57s

As an operator of a Roaring '57 vehicle, you are entrusted with the responsibility of the safe and professional maneuvering of your assigned vehicle to, in, and from all parades or practices. When the rig gets to a parade, everyone is expected to help unload and reload vehicles, distribute cushions, fuel, polish and wipe, inspect tires, and generally ensure all vehicles are ready to parade.

Keys will be handed out at that parade leader's discretion. Not every member that comes to a parade is guaranteed a mini. Rides will be offered to all participants but we reserve the right to ask for marchers. Performing as a marcher, banner carrier, or sword bearer is strictly voluntary.

All Roaring '57s drivers will receive instruction on the safe operation of a mini prior to being allowed to operate a vehicle in a parade.

Post parade, everyone is expected to follow the escort vehicle back to the rig. In the event, that the escort gets lost returning to the rig, we will get lost as a unit, not individually. There is safety in numbers. We are only protected by our escort vehicles; no one needs to risk being a renegade.

Our ladies are in attendance as V.I.P.'s and will be treated as such at all times. If they choose to help pre- or post-parade, it is because they like us, and even if it is greatly appreciated, it is not out of necessity.

Parading is serious. There is a potential for so much to happen, good or bad. Let's do what we do best: have fun showing off and entertaining but let's be safe out there. Our kids in the hospital are counting on **you**.

Since debuting in 2004, West Suburban Shrine Club's Roaring '57s parade unit has dazzled thousands of parade goers in Chicagoland and around the mid west. You are the key to the units success.



List of Needed Items for Patient Use

The goal of the Recreation Therapy/Child Life Department is to provide a positive hospitalization experience for children and their families and promote the growth and development of children throughout their hospital stay. We use play as a tool to help with coping and reducing stress as well as helping them understand their hospitalization and diagnosis. Through generous donations, we provide activities for our children to educate and support them both during and after their stay.

- Books—all ages (also books that make sounds)
- Ping pong nets and paddles; pool cue tips and chalk
- DVD's that are G, PG, and PG-13 rated (No "R" rated please)
- Large DVD binders (5) for our movies
- Air pump needles to inflate our sport balls (we have the pump)
- Small dry erase boards for patients with limited speech
- Tennis balls for our rehab department to put on the feet of walkers
- Hair dryers for our hotel rooms (for family use)
- Guitar strings for our music therapist (light or medium gage acoustic steel)
- Headphones for MP3 players or iPods
- New, unwrapped toys and dolls
- Small toys (yo-yos, dominoes)

- Toys for children under 2 years of age
- Backpacks
- Painting sets, paint brushes and canvases
- Playing cards and card games (Uno and Skipbo; Pre-school card games: Old Maid, Go Fish)
- Latex-free sports balls (basketballs, footballs, volleyballs)
- Board games—all ages
- Coloring books—non violent
- Crayons, colored pencils, markers
- Velvet posters to color
- White and colored chalk for waiting room chalk boards, sidewalk chalk (dust-free)
- Nerf balls
- Playdoh/modeling clay
- Journals/diaries
- Small bottles of bubbles and bubble makers
- 2.5–5.0 pound wrist weights; Pedometers

Shriners Hospitals cannot accept used items or any items that contain rubber or latex. Also, items that come from a smoker or pet household may contain allergens and cannot be accepted. If an item must be refused, we will try to offer an alternative donation site. If you have any questions, please contact Mary McCauley at 773-385-5588.