



GizehNEWS

June 2021



www.bcshriners.com



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Thank You Shriners!

DEAR GIZEH SHRINERS: I am writing on behalf of my entire family to tell you how much your organization helped us access medical treatment for our daughter JC, who is 14.

At 12 she was diagnosed with severe scoliosis. Her spine had two large curves, the largest measured at about 80 degrees. Little did we know at that time that there is a multiple-year waitlist for scoliosis surgery in B.C. In almost two years JC moved from number 35 to number 32 on the waitlist at BC Children's Hospital.

As we watched her curve grow over that time we did everything we could think of to try and get some help for her. We hit so many walls, it was so distressing to not be able to help her get fixed.

That changed when Sheila Lundell got in touch with us after a story appeared on the CBC about JC's plight. We were aware of the Shriner's as an organization but had no idea how to apply for treatment at one of the hospitals.

Sheila walked me through it and within two weeks of contacting the hospital in Portland, we had an appointment for a consultation. A month after that we had a surgery date.

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JC had her seven hour spinal fusion surgery on March 11 by Dr. Robert Bernstein. She was provided the absolute best care at the hospital, she is recovering well and we can't even express how grateful we are for everything you have done.

You paid for our hotel following the surgery, our flights to Portland and provided so much support that we have no idea how to properly say thank you.

My husband says that you "saved our family" and he is right. Having a child in desperate need of health care that simply wasn't being offered in BC was stressful on all of us and we are finally able to move on. JC no longer has pain and she grew two inches during the surgery.

If it wasn't for you and your generosity, JC would still be languishing on a waitlist while her scoliosis progressed. Growing up is hard enough and no child should have to live like that.

So from the bottom of our hearts, and from our extended family and our friends and mostly from JC - thank you for the work you do and thank you for having such a positive impact on your community.

We will be supporters and donors for life, and we will never forget all of you and what you did for us all.



A visit from the family along with Noble Paul Pressney, Noble Troy Bell (Oriental Guide) and Sheila Lundell, CS Administrative Assistant.

Thank you for your assistance!

Thank you so much to Shriner's for generously assisting with funding for my son AT's gait trainer. Being a full-time wheelchair user, it is so important he spends time in an upright position, both for proper skeletal development, and socially.

Government funding rarely covers the full cost, and in the case of this gait trainer we were left with a few thousand dollar deficit that Shriner's so graciously covered. Both AT and his twin were patients at Shriner's hospital in Portland for several years earlier in their childhood, and the care they received was phenomenal from all medical professionals and staff - not to mention all of the extras the hospital considers like free parking, snacks for the kids, and even coffee for tired parents! It was genuinely a pleasure to visit, which cannot often be said for a series of medical appointments!

We could visit the Portland hospital knowing every detail, including travel and accommodations, was taken care of. We have continuously been amazed by the level of care from any interaction with Shriner's and are so thankful for everything they have provided to our family.

Gizeh Shurtah Club #21 needs you!

Gizeh has many Clubs of which you have heard of or had the pleasure to witness.

One Club that you may not be aware is the Gizeh Shurtah Club. Shurtah is the Arabic word of Police. This Club's Charter was granted by Ill. Sir Jim Druchet on 07 February 2009.

Their purpose is to promote friendship and fellowship among its members and all Shriners in the great tradition of Shriners International. It is also to perpetuate the memory of those Law Enforcement Officers, within the jurisdiction, who have died in the line of duty and to foster a spirit of patriotism of love of country for which all members of the Club have served.

Membership consists only of Nobles that are in good standing as a Noble of a Shrine Centre. They are or were a member of a recognized federal, provincial or municipal law enforcement agency for at least one year with the powers of arrest or have been an auxiliary or special police member for a period not less than three years.

The Club meets up to four times a year with all funds and donations are donated to Gizeh Shriners of BC and Yukon.

If you are or have retired from a Law Enforcement Agency, such as a Peace, Customs or other Enforcement Officer, further information about the Shurtah Club can be obtained from our Scribe, Noble Peter Boddy at pboddy50@hotmail.com



Having fun as a Shriner!



The Nobles of the Chetwynd Shrine Club #51 have dug their Parade Snake out the snow and are getting it ready for summer parades(hopefully). Pictured are Nobles D Walker, Canning, Mounsey, Phillips, Maisey, Buckley and Surerus.

I'm registered for 2021 are you?

I was working at crowd control on the 16th Tee box. It was my first tournament. I had noticed that amongst the players making quite a name for himself was a young pro named Ricky Fowler. As I stood waiting for the next group of golfers to arrive, 2 or 3 teenage girls came over to me and asked, "sir, can you tell us where Ricky Fowler is?" I don't think they knew much about the game of golf, but they sure knew who they wanted to cheer for!

Little one arm golfer Tommy Morrissey – One arm golfer. We had the opportunity to hear him, and other Shrine Kids speak at the volunteer dinner. What an inspiration. This young fellow was doing consulting to the pro's! I had the chance to speak with him briefly. Truly inspiring.

One of the Pro's, (sorry I don't remember which one) takes time for a chat with one of our Shrine Kids after his round. The players know what Shriners are all about, and they are great around the kids.

Remember the three "F's". Fun, friendship, philanthropy. Come and join the action. Start adding your photos to the album.

Questions? Please feel free to contact me directly via email: shrinerdave@shaw.ca

~ Noble David Hill





Gizeh Hospital Chairman and Club Hospital Representative

NOBLE PAUL PRESSNEY

Together with the members, to actively search for children which can be helped by our organization.

To inform the Club Members of the activities of the Shrine Club, Shrine Centre, and Shrine Hospitals in a timely manner.

Together with the Members, to actively promote the Shrine within the Community, and to follow up on children assisted in the Community.

Gizeh Shrine Centre Assistance

The Hospital Chairman for Gizeh Shriners of BC and Yukon, Noble Paul Pressney can be contacted at 604-466-3044 or email tuscan138@telus.net, and will answer your questions as they arise. I will be working closely with our two Hospital Board members Ill. Sir Harold Wallace of Portland Hospital and Noble Tony Mulder of Spokane Hospital and will be communicating with the Montreal Hospital directly.

Sheila Lundell at Gizeh Shriners (services@bcshriners.com) or 604-291-7707 ext. 2, takes care of the applications for Shriners In Your Community Fund (SYCF) and can assist you or the family for applying for funding for medical equipment, and initiating the process for using the Montreal, Portland, and Spokane Hospitals.

Club Hospital Representative Responsibilities

If a child is coming from your Community, you are expected to liaise with the parents to assist them in their process and maintain contact to report to the Club Members.

Sheila will provide you with a timely summary (monthly) of the disbursements made under SYCF, and report on the progress of the Club's children, if any.

Part of our responsibility will also be in contact with local News Media which is

critical to promoting our services, and the Shrine is developing a News Release format to assist with Local Media, so it will be your responsibility as Hospital Representatives for the Club to contact the Media and provide a photo to accompany the release. Some of these will also be posted on our website or the Gizeh newsletter.

IMPORTANT: For any kind of media coverage (photos, names, news articles, etc.) an Authorization to Share Information Form MUST be completed by the lawful parent and/or guardian(s) of the child PRIOR to contacting the Media.

If the club has active community fundraising, the Club can actively seek children with special needs by showing past assistance rendered to both local and worldwide children. (material is available on request from Sheila at Gizeh Shriners)

The FEZ is probably the most recognized symbol of our fraternity, and most of the time people are interested in what we do, so be prepared to answer questions, and have something that relates to "the here and now" and is "LOCAL".

Participate in local events whenever and wherever possible and have fun doing it.

Remember smiles are contagious and we need to spread them every chance we get.

Noble Paul Pressney
Tuscan138@telus.net 604.466.3044

Mother's Day GIVEAWAY WINNERS

- 1st Prize:** NOBLE JAN LOOS (Red fez, gold medal)
- 2nd Prize:** NOBLE EDDIE LEIGAN (Red fez, silver medal)
- 3rd Prize:** NOBLE LOU SURERUS (Red fez, bronze medal)
- 4th Prize:** NOBLE WILLIAM ANTHONY (Red fez, blue medal)

A BIG THANK YOU TO EVERYONE WHO ENTERED! KEEP YOUR EYES OPEN FOR THE UPCOMING FATHER'S DAY CONTEST!



25 Years and Going Strong

Illustrious Sir Darren Chruikshanks presents Noble Dale Phillips of Chetwynd Shrine Club #51 with 25 year pin and certificate.



Gizeh News Submissions

NEXT EDITION: September/October 2021. For possible inclusion in the next edition of the GIZEH NEWS, please send your articles and photos (.jpg) to one of the following email addresses:

EMAIL: oedc9196@gmail.com
EMAIL: administration@bcshriners.com

“Death is a black camel that kneels unbidden at every gate.”



The Divan and Nobility of Gizeh Shriners are saddened by the passing of their Nobles during the period.

NOBLE'S NAME	RESIDENCE	DATE OF PASSING
George Eldon Woods	Penticton	Dec. 18, 2020

FEBRUARY 1 - MAY 31, 2021

NOBLE'S NAME	RESIDENCE	DATE OF PASSING
Glen Comstock	Penticton, BC	Feb. 23, 2021
Donald M. Thomson	North Vancouver, BC	Feb. 26, 2021
Aleksander Resanovic	West Vancouver, BC	March 5, 2021
Arthur Balfour	Kitimat, BC	April 6, 2021
Albin Nichol	Qualicum Beach, BC	April 15, 2021
Monte Engelson	Duncan, BC	April 18, 2021
Les Little	Vernon, BC	April 21, 2021
Michael J. Brisley	Nanaimo, BC	May 6, 2021
William Baird	Port Moody, BC	May 8, 2021



Springtime at Gizeh in April

We are lucky to be immersed in the true beauty of the annual Cherry Blossom bloom and to enjoy the stunning displays all around the Lower Mainland. Gizeh is surrounded by these exquisite blooms and was fortunate to have the beautiful weather of blue skies to match these beauties in early April.

The neighboring streets of Gizeh has trees lined up to showcase a canopy of cherry blossoms in full bloom as we look up and become lost in their beauty which the Gizeh staff enjoyed for 2-3 weeks. *Photo courtesy Dixie Pukanich*



CANADA POST – GIZEH POSTAGE STAMPS AVAILABLE

Yes, Gizeh Postage Stamps are now available and selling for \$25/book. Gizeh Postage Stamps are available from any Divan member as a cash sale, or from the Gizeh Shrine Centre Office (Dixie) 604-291-7707 with a credit card.



Alec Cabacungan, spokesperson for Shriners Hospital for Children

Shriners of BC & Yukon Child Services Society (“CSS”)

Current Statistics

FEBRUARY 3, 2021 - APRIL 30,

Shriners Hospitals for Children

Portland	Sacramento	Montreal
2	1	1

Transportation Costs

(Includes expenses from families, hotel and air fare)

\$7,117⁰⁷

* Approximate figures based on patient averages and quoted travel and accommodation costs.

Shriners in Your Community Fund

(“SYCF”) Applications: 50 approvals

\$60,599⁷⁰

TOTAL DOLLAR AMOUNT

** SYCF figures are from quotes received and the summary of approvals.



Noble Alex Bobsien of the Peace Arch Shrine Club #23 made a truckload deposit of recycling for our Return-It fundraiser

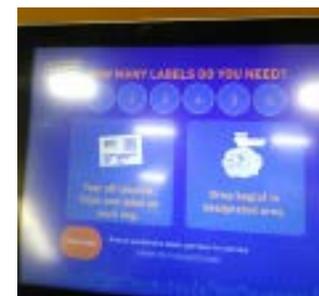
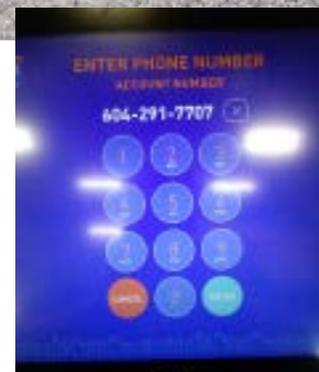
Recycle and Fundraise!

Gizeh Shriners of BC & Yukon has a new fundraising project to help fund-raise for Fraternal. Gizeh Shriners of BC & Yukon has partnered with Return-It Express to make donating funds quicker and more convenient. So when it's time to take back your beverage containers. Just follow these four simple steps.

1. **Collect your empty bottles and cans in a clear or clear blue recycling bag.**
2. **Find your nearest Return-It Express depot.**
www.return-it.ca/locations/express/
3. **Type in 604-291-7707 at the Express Kiosk which will print your label.**
4. **Stick the label to your bag of bottles & cans and just put your bag in the designated bin.**

Thank you to all the Nobles and Staff that have donated:
Noble Peter Boddy, Noble Brent Bowden, High Priest & Prophet
Noble Ron Erickson, Oriental Guide Noble Troy Bell, Dixie Pukanich,
and Sheila Lundell

If you have any questions or concerns, please call Sheila Lundell at 604-291-7707 ext. 2 or Noble Ron Erickson at 604-240-5055.





Potentate's Report

ILL. SIR DARREN CHRUIKSHANKS



Illustrious Sirs and Nobles all:

As you are all aware, this year has been a struggle on many levels because of the Covid-19 pandemic but we are still working diligently behind the scenes to keep our temple and the charities that we have viable.

In the coming months, you will be seeing some really heart-warming articles in our Gizeh News from parents of children that we have helped and let me say, we have literally performed magic for these children and changed their lives forever in the most positive and wonderful ways! As a Shriner please keep your eyes open for children in your communities that we might be able to help.

This year we are planning on holding the CASH CALENDAR raffle, unfortunately we don't feel that the CASH FOR KIDS raffle would be successful because of the pandemic situation holding us back from being in the public to do sales during the spring and summer months. Hopefully by fall we will see this mess subside enough for us to get out there and sell our calendars. We are also planning on setting up a major 50/50 draw for some time in 2022, we originally had thought that we could do it in 2021 but an oversight in the marketing plan caused us to pull back and reschedule it. Once the pandemic restrictions are lowered, I am hoping that the temple can partner with the clubs to pull off a community focused 50/50 draw that would be for \$5000.00, this would have a two-fold effect, #1 we would have a reason to get back out there and be Shriners in our communities, smiling and having fun and #2 we would be raising money for our fraternal fund which has been hit hard by the pandemic.

The pandemic travel restrictions have had a devastating effect on our Divan this year and because of it there will not be any Canadian representation at the 2021 Imperial Session in Houston Texas. It has also influenced our plans to visit our clubs and units which is even worse. I am hopeful that the last quarter of 2021 will see us being able to hold meetings face to face and visit clubs again because being a Shriner virtually just isn't what any of us signed up for.

I would like to thank all of the nobles who have participated in our Coffee with the Divan virtual meetings, they have been a really nice way to talk to the nobles and answer the questions that many of us have. I plan on continuing these informal little meeting through the rest of 2021.

The board has revised the Shriners in Your Community Fund policy to help it survive the pandemic and still help the families in BC and Yukon. Most of the changes were simple wording but we did reduce the maximum money that we are able to provide a patient. I think these small changes are much better than what we have seen other charities do which is simply closing their doors to weather out the storm. I feel that our commitment to our communities will continue because of our proactive approach to the future running of SYCF.

I am very much looking forward to the last quarter of our year in hopes that we can all get out and do what Shriners do best, raise money for our charities and have fun! "Together We Can" my brothers!

Darren Chruikshanks
2021 Potentate
"Together We Can."

