



AAHMES NEWS

FALL 2025

Nobles, Ladies, and Friends,

As we pass the halfway mark of the year, I am grateful for all that we have accomplished together thus far. From our well-attended Stated Meetings to the many parades, fundraisers, and social gatherings, the enthusiasm and commitment of our members have kept Aahmes Shrine strong and vibrant. Each event has been a reminder of the fellowship we share and the important mission that unites us.

I encourage each Noble to stay engaged as we move into the final months of this Shrine year. One of the best ways to experience the full joy of Shrinedom is by joining a Club or Unit—or even starting a new one. The fellowship, camaraderie, and opportunities to serve are invaluable. Please take a moment to review the flyer included later in this newsletter for a list of existing clubs and units and information on how you can get more involved.

There are still many exciting events ahead in the coming months. I hope you will join us for the September Stated Meeting, our always-enjoyable weekend in Fort Bragg, and the upcoming Official Visit in Modesto in November. These gatherings are wonderful opportunities to strengthen friendships, celebrate our work together, and represent Aahmes Shrine with pride.

In addition, I ask for your continued support of the Potentate's and First Lady's special projects – The BikeFit Program and the Rehabilitation & Therapy Program at Shriners Children's Northern California - as well as the Aahmes Transportation Fund. These contributions directly impact our ability to help children and their families receive the specialized care provided by Shriners Children's. Your generosity ensures that our mission continues for generations to come.

The most valuable commodity we all have is our time. With that, I am asking for all Nobles and their ladies/spouses to participate in the support of other Masonic bodies. There is so much to gain from participating in these concordant and appendant bodies. You only get out what you put in, so participate!

Thank you for your dedication to Aahmes Shrine. Together, we are honoring our traditions, building for the future, and keeping the needs of the children we serve at the heart of all we do.

Yours in the faith,
Leo F. Bautista, Potentate
FBO (For the Benefit of the) Children

POTE'S TRIP

Hawaii Here We Come!

TRIP SUMMARY

Join Illustrious Potentate Leo F. Bautista and First Lady Joann on a trip to Hawaii. Build the trip to suit your schedule. Arrive early, stay late. Leo and Joann will arrive on September 18 and depart on September 23. Explore at your leisure or with others on the trip. There are two planned experiences that Leo and Joann invite you to attend:



HOTEL INFO

 Hilton Hawaiian Village Waikiki Beach Resort
2005 Kalia Road, Honolulu

 808-949-4321

 www.hilton.com

- Room rates start at \$354 per night before taxes
- Includes \$55 resort fee

FLIGHT INFO

- Hawaiian Airlines
- Oakland International Airport
- Depart - September 18 @ 7:22 a.m.
- Arrive in Honolulu @ 9:50 a.m.
- Leave Honolulu - September 23 @ 11:45 a.m.
- Arrive in Oakland @ 7:56 p.m.

ALOHA SHRINERS BEACH CLUB SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 21

Spend the day relaxing at this beautiful facility, enjoying fellowship and sandy beaches!



SHRINERS CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 22

Experience a tour of the hospital specializing in pediatric orthopedic care.



BikeFit 2025 *Shriners Children's*

For the ninth consecutive summer, **Shriners Children's Northern California** transformed its parking circle into a training course where patients experienced the life-changing joy of riding adaptive bikes. Thanks to generous community support, BikeFit 2025 set a new participation record with 35 graduates – each receiving a custom trike and the priceless gift of independence.

“BikeFit is one of the most amazing programs at Shriners Children's Northern California,” said Senior Director of Philanthropy Alan Anderson. “It's an opportunity we have to help kids be independent on trikes. This would not be possible without our generous donors.”

Pedaling Toward Possibility

For six weeks, patients practiced on trikes customized with:

- Easy-steer handlebars and hand brakes
- Adjustable seats and trunk supports
- Safety flags and personalized accessories

Physical therapists and volunteers – including Sacramento State physical therapy students and Sacramento police officers – guided riders through chalk-drawn courses, building skills through repetition and celebration.

“The program means so much to me as a physical therapist because I get to see the independence, the strength, the camaraderie that this program brings.

It's a whole community endeavor.” said Laura van Houtryve, BikeFit coordinator and Shriners Children's Northern California physical therapist. “It's really amazing to see patients doing something new, parents meeting each other. The whole staff comes together to support this program, and then the kids get to take their bikes home and ride in the community with their friends and family. It's something they truly wouldn't be able to do without the BikeFit program.”

Community Power Behind the Pedals

This year's expansion was fueled by:

- Ben Ali Shriners' First Lady Aubrey Beecher's fundraising leadership
- Key supporters like Eppie's Great Race Foundation, Jerome & Wanda Hart Fund, and [Ben Ali Shriners](#)
- 600+ volunteer hours

“AMBUCS donates half the cost of the bikes, and the rest of the program is supported by our donors and volunteers,” said Alan. “Together we ensure that every child learns how to safely be independent and gets to be a child when they go home with their trike.”

With custom adaptive trikes averaging \$2,000 each, donor support remains crucial. Plans are already underway to keep participation high in 2026, ensuring more children can experience this transformative milestone.

Article published on www.shrinerschildrens.org on the News and Media Page dated August 7, 2025.

[Click Here for Full Article and Photos](#)





AAHMES SHRINE SPECIAL RELOCATION COMMITTEE UPDATE

The relocation committee is working diligently on gathering information, developing plans and talking with professionals. **A short membership survey** will be emailed out to the membership before the next stated meeting. The goal of this survey is to collect data on current and future needs for the Shrine. The survey will focus on the needs of each member, their family, the units, and clubs. Please reach out to me if you have any questions.

**There also will be paper surveys available at the next stated meeting for members.

Again, the **committee requests** your support in keeping rumors to a minimum during this process. Please refrain from starting or passing along rumors regarding the Shrine's relocation plans. We understand this is an emotional and challenging time for Aahmes Shrine. Together, we are committed to making thoughtful, informed decisions for the future.

Our current lease agreement with the Church runs through June 2027. Our goal is to have this entire process complete in the next 6 to 12 months, allowing us extra time if needed.

Final Reminder: This committee does not have the authority to make any decisions regarding the relocation. The membership will always have the final approval.

*Brad Rupert, Chief Rabbah
Chairman, Relocation Committee*

Nobles,

This is a friendly reminder the annual dues assessment for 2026 will be coming out late in the fall. If you have not yet paid your 2025 dues, now is the perfect time to take care of that obligation.

Staying current with your dues helps support the important work of Aahmes Shrine and ensures your membership remains in good standing.

Watch for the 2026 dues invoices later this year - and thank you for your continued dedication and support.

You can check your membership standing by visiting the online membership tool WebFez. If you haven't yet registered to use this site, visit webfez.shrinenet.org and follow the easy registration instructions.

FROM THE RECORDER

DUES
Reminder

**2025
DUE NOW!**

*Gary Charland, PP
Recorder*

WE NEED YOU!



Get Involved! Join an Aahmes Shrine Club or Unit Today

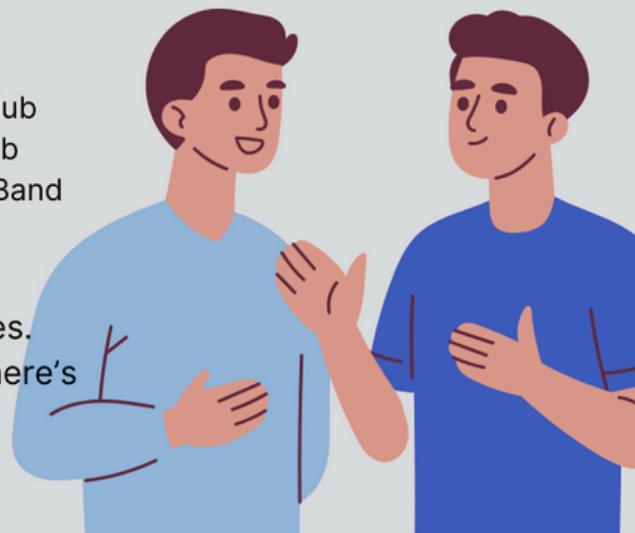
Are you looking to get more out of your Shrine experience? Now's the perfect time to connect with your fellow Nobles and have some fun while supporting the mission of Shriners International. Aahmes is proud to offer a wide range of Clubs and Units — there's truly something for everyone!

Whether your passion lies in service, adventure, music, or simply good fellowship, our Clubs and Units provide meaningful ways to get involved, build lifelong friendships, and strengthen our Shrine community.

UNITS AND CLUBS

- Legion of Honor
- Motorcycle Patrol
- Mounted Patrol
- Purveyors
- Contra Costa Shrine Club
- Fort Bragg Shrine Club
- Modesto Shrine Club
- Oakdale Shrine Club
- Islanders Club
- Past Masters
- Redwood Shrine Club
- Westside Shrine Club
- Wine Club
- Sonoma County Shrine Club
- Sonoma Rod and Gun Club
- Sonoma County Arabian Band

Each Club and Unit is unique, offering a mix of social events, parades, community outreach, and fun activities. Whether you're new to Aahmes or a longtime Noble, there's a place for you to plug in, participate, and make a difference.



New Club Alert!

We're excited to announce that Past Potentate Alan West is launching the Aahmes Rod and Gun Club. If you enjoy the outdoors and want to connect with fellow sportsmen, this is the club for you! To learn more or express your interest, please reach out directly to Alan West.

Not sure where to start?

Ask a fellow Noble about their Club or Unit experience, visit an upcoming event, or attend a meeting as a guest. You might be surprised by how much you enjoy it — and how much you're needed. Let's keep the spirit of fellowship alive and thriving at Aahmes — join a Club or Unit today!



FROM THE AAHMES ARCHIVES

The idea of creating a Shrine Temple in the East Bay took root in 1907, when a group of Nobles returning from a ceremonial of Islam Temple in San Francisco decided to pursue forming a new Temple in Oakland. The Alameda County Shrine Club was soon established, led by Frank W. Bilger, and its membership grew quickly.

In April 1910, after determined efforts by Bilger, Ben Johnson, and others, a dispensation was granted to form a new temple. Following a probationary period, the charter was issued on July 12, 1911, and “Aahmes” Temple was born, named after two Pharaohs whose name means “the moon is born.” Bilger served as Aahmes’ first Potentate from 1911 to 1913.

The early years saw Aahmes without a permanent home, meeting first in Oakland buildings and later moving to The Wigwam in 1915. By 1920, the Temple purchased the Defenders Club at 13th and Harrison Streets for \$46,250, remodeling it into a home that served for over 40 years. The first ceremonial took place at Oakland’s Dewey Theater, initiating 75 candidates, and ceremonies were later held in amusement parks, civic auditoriums, and cities across California and Nevada. Beginning in 1953, ceremonials were even conducted in Europe, where nearly 6,000 candidates were initiated.

Aahmes has been led by 111 Potentates since its founding, including the most famous, Earl Warren—District Attorney, California Governor, and Chief Justice of the U.S. Supreme Court. Originally covering Alameda and Contra Costa counties, Aahmes’ jurisdiction expanded over time to include many Northern California counties, though some were later transferred to other Temples. The Temple began with three units—Patrol, Band, and Chanters—and eventually grew to 17 uniformed units and 25 Shrine Clubs. Its newsletter, first called the Aahmes Shrine Courier in the 1950s, became the Aahmes News in 1958.



FROM THE AAHMES ARCHIVES - CONTINUED

In 1960, Aahmes moved into its building on School Street in Oakland, where membership surged, peaking at 9,400 in 1963. In 1970, Aahmes secured the Oakland Coliseum for the East-West football game, donating \$413,000 from its proceeds to Shriners Hospitals. By 1978, however, the School Street building was sold, and the Temple relocated to a rental in San Leandro.

The 1980s brought challenges, with membership declines across the Masonic fraternity. Seeking stability, Aahmes built its current home in Livermore. Groundbreaking began in 1989, with construction completed in 1990, and the building was formally dedicated in July 1991.

Though membership had declined to 1,540 by 2012, Aahmes Shrine remains proud of its legacy. From its beginnings in 1911, through its period of peak growth, to the establishment of its present home, Aahmes has played an important role in both the East Bay and the wider Shrine community—carrying forward the work of brotherhood, fellowship, and support for Shriners Hospitals for Children.



THE AAHMES HILLBILLIES

At the June 25th stated meeting, Potentate Leo Bautista and many Nobles dressed as hillbillies, reviving memories of Aahmes' own Hillbilly Shrine Club. Did you know that Shrine Temples across the U.S. and Canada have "Hillbilly Clans," complete with a "Master Hillbilly Degree"?

Aahmes formed its Hillbilly Clan in 1990 under Potentate Aaron Snyder. According to Aahmes News, Snyder traded his fez for overalls and a floppy hat at a Hillbilly dance attended by more than 300 people. That night, 92 Nobles and 92 ladies became charter members of Clan #105 and its Gals Auxiliary. Officers included Cuzzun Hank Hamilton, Keeper of the Cob; Tom Ledford, Guardian of the Still; and others with colorful titles like Bard, Hat Fitters, and Revenue Watchers.

By 1991, Hillbilly Clubs existed in 124 Shrine Temples with over 43,000 members who had donated more than \$3 million to Shriners Hospitals. Aahmes received its Hillbilly charter on April 4, 1991, but sadly turned it in by 1997 due to a lack of officers, despite many active members.

The tradition lives on elsewhere—Imperial Potentate Richard Burke himself was initiated into the Hillbillies in August 2024.

*Both Articles Submitted by:
Jim Westfall, Aahmes Historian*



Dear Nobles, Families, and Friends of Aahmes Shrine

For decades, Aahmes Shrine has proudly supported the life-changing care provided by Shriners Children's Hospital – Northern California. A critical part of that support is our Transportation Fund, which assists families with the cost of traveling to and from the hospital so their children can receive the specialized medical care they need and deserve.

Our Transportation Fund is at a dangerously low level. Without immediate support, we are unable to continue offering financial assistance to families who rely on us during one of the most challenging times of their lives.

Imagine being told your child needs specialized care—but you're not sure you can afford to get them there. That's the reality for some of the families we serve right now.

Your support can make a real difference! Please consider mailing a check to the Shrine office at **170 Lindbergh Avenue, Livermore, CA 94551**, and be sure to note **"Transportation"** in the memo line. If you'd like to contribute electronically, or need more information, please call us at (925) 373-4880.

Every gift ensures that no family has to choose between financial hardship and their child's medical needs. Together, we can continue to fulfill our mission of faith, compassion, and care.

Thank you for your generosity and your commitment to helping children and families in need.

Leo F. Bautista
Potentate



UPCOMING EVENTS

9/17

Stated Meeting - 6 pm Social | 6:30 pm Dinner

9/18-
9/23

Potentate's Trip to Hawaii - See flyer for details

9/20

Shriner's Showdown at Pay Pal Park

10/12

Ladies Luncheon Honoring the First Lady and the Ladies of Aahmes Shrine

10/24-
10/26

Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of California

11/17

Modesto Shrine Club Official Visit of the Potentate

11/19

Aahmes Social Event at Richmond Masonic Hall

12/10

December Stated Meeting - Election

1/7/26

January Stated Meeting - Installation

1/10/26

Aahmes Shrine Presentation Celebration

VISIT THE AAHMES SHRINERS WEBSITE AT

www.aahmesshriners.org

FOR INDIVIDUAL EVENT FLYERS AND DETAILS TO REGISTER

★ AAHMES SHRINE - SAVE THE DATE ★

LABOR DAY PARADE Weekend



FORT BRAGG SHRINE CLUB
OFFICIAL VISIT | PARADE | LABOR DAY WEEKEND ACTIVITIES

Saturday, August 30, 2025
Redwood Shrine Club
Pre-Labor Day Fish Fry Potluck

Pomo Campground Meeting Hall
17999 Tregoning Ln, Fort Bragg
5 p.m.
Please bring a side dish to share
Donations at the door

RSVP to:
Scott Reinsmith
(707) 498-1895
scottconstructs@gmail.com

Sunday, August 31, 2025
Fort Bragg Shrine Club
Picnic Lunch

Picnic Grounds
Westwood Drive off Odom Lane
North of Fort Bragg
Social 1 p.m. | Lunch 2 p.m.
\$35 per person

Menu:
Tri tip, Chicken, Beans, Salads
Garlic French Bread & Assorted Desserts
Beer, Wine, Soda, Water

Dress: Patriotic (Light jackets suggested)
RSVP REQUESTED BY AUGUST 24, 2025: (707) 964-0811

PARADE ON MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 1, 2025

Aahmes Shrine STATED MEETING

Wednesday, September 17, 2025

6:00 p.m. - Social

6:30 p.m. - Dinner

7:30 p.m. - Stated Meeting

Agenda:

Balloting on Petitions
Cold Sands

Dress in full Clown Costume and the Potentate will personally pay for your meal!

\$20 per person

Pre-registration for dinner is required.

Please RSVP so the Purveyors know how much food to prepare for everyone.

Email: kim@aahmes.org

RSVP by September 12



SEPTEMBER 20
PAY PAL PARK
SHRINERS SHOWDOWN
ONE STADIUM. ONE FRATERNITY. ONE EPIC NIGHT!

JOIN BAY AREA'S BIGGEST MASONIC TAKEOVER!

Fezzes, fellowship & fútbol!
Whether you love soccer or just love a good time, this is the night for you!

QUAKES

SCAN HERE

Hundreds of Shriners & Masons, one goal-take over PayPal Park with fezzes, food & fun! Bring your Lodge, your family & your energy for a night to remember!

AAHMES MODESTO SHRINE CLUB

PAST PRESIDENTS' NIGHT AND OFFICIAL VISIT OF ILLUSTRIOUS POTENTATE LEO F. BAUTISTA ACCOMPANIED BY FIRST LADY JOANN

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 2025
6 PM ~ SOCIAL
7 PM ~ DINNER
TRI-TIP DINNER
\$25 PER PERSON

EVENT DETAILS
Shriners, Masons, and their spouses and friends are invited to join Modesto Shrine Club for food, fun, and fellowship.

Reservations required by:
Thursday, November 14, 2025

DAVE MENSHEW	209.222.1265
PETER DEAN	209.765.7301
ROMY DAMILES	209.324.3966

MODESTO MASONIC LODGE
800 ROSE AVE
MODESTO, CA 95355

**SHRINE NIGHT SOCIAL
WITH
BAY CITIES LODGE**

November 19, 2025

6PM

5050 El Portal
Richmond

Join Potentate Leo F. Bautista, First Lady Joann, and members of the Divan in this opportunity to socialize with the members of Bay Cities Lodge. Invite your family and friends - everyone is welcome!

Stay tuned for more details!



In Memoriam

ARCHIE R. GORE
8/25/1936 - 3/28/2024

BRUCE A. SCOTT
2/24/1938 - 4/17/2024

ROBERT G. REED
5/4/1939 - 6/14/2024

WILLIAM B. EDMONDSON
9/10/1930 - 7/22/2025

CHARLES S. CRANE
2/2/1939 - 8/21/2025

until we meet again



**AAHMES NEWS ADVERTISING
RATE SCHEDULE**

TYPE OF ADVERTISING	PRICE
FULL PAGE.....	\$ 1,500.00
1/2 PAGE.....	\$ 900.00
1/4 PAGE.....	\$ 500.00
1/8 PAGE.....	\$ 300.00

(1/8 page is approximate size of business card in a line border)

The Aahmes News is distributed to over 1,000 Nobles, ladies and friends in the Northern California area.

To place an ad or get further information call the Shrine office at 925 373-4880.



**OUR AAHMES NEWS
SUPPORTERS**



Thank you for your support of our Aahmes News. If you haven't done so, please fill out the donation coupon and send it, along with your check.

We appreciate your support!

✂

ONE LINE (Single Name) - \$15.00 per year

ONE LINE (Two Names) - \$15.00 per year

TWO LINES (Your name and your lady's name on separate lines) - \$15.00 each per year - total - \$30.00

NAME(S) _____

Proceeds from these donations are for the benefit of the Aahmes News only. Mail checks to:
Aahmes Shrine, 170 Lindbergh Avenue, Livermore, CA 94551

Enclosed is my check in the amount of \$ _____

NO MAN STANDS SO TALL



AS WHEN HE STOOPS TO HELP A CHILD

ESTATE PLANNING - - - FAMILY LAW

ALAN D. WEST
Attorney at Law

19992 Redwood Road
Castro Valley, Ca. 94546
Phone (510) 889-6692
Fax (510) 889-5998
email: alan@alanwestlaw.com

(12-23)

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BUSINESS DIRECTORY**



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Shriners Children's Hospital BikeFit Program

Illustrious Potentate Leo F. Bautista's Special Project

Helping Kids Ride with Comfort and Confidence

Shriners Children's Northern California BikeFit Program is a comprehensive service that helps children with physical disabilities ride bicycles safely and comfortably. The expert team at Shriners Children's works with each child individually to ensure they have the right bike and proper adjustments so they can enjoy cycling and improve their mobility and overall well-being.

Join Aahmes Shriners in helping children experience the joy of cycling with your donation to Shriners Children's Hospital Northern California!



Donate Today

925-373-4880

www.aahmesshriners.org

Projects of the Potentate and First Lady

FIRST LADY JOANN BAUTISTA

2025 Special Project

Support the First Lady's
Project!

.2025 First Lady's Project - Donation



**Click Here to Make
a Donation**

The Rehabilitation & Therapy Program at
Shriners Children's Northern California
is the area of greatest need
and it's the focus of the 2025 First Lady's Project.

Help us fund life-changing therapies that give children the
strength to walk, move, and live more fully.

Your support brings hope, healing, and a brighter tomorrow.



www.aahmesshriners.org



AAHMES SHRINE - SAVE THE DATE



LABOR DAY **PARADE** *Weekend*



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