



By THE ORIENTAL BAND SCRIBE

CELEBRATING OUR 63rd YEAR

Rehearsals on Thursdays at 6:30 PM
From the First Thursday in January
To the Third Thursday in November

Oriental Band Room
Second Floor

99 Fordham Road
Wilmington, Massachusetts 01887-0578
Exit 39 off Interstate 93

Visit our website at:
<http://www.oband.mysite.com>
<http://www.youtube.com/AleppoOrientalBand>



Band Member, Richard Lemerise, sr. (left) receiving a Certificate of Appreciation from Band Director, Robert Haley (right) on behalf of Aleppo Shrine.

“Everything’s Coming Up Pending For We and Our Pals!”

THINGS seem to be different this year and that is no doubt as a result of people still recovering from the record winter that we had but progress must be made and slowly the burdens of the past have given way to some positive outlooks for the remainder of the year.

We finally had our Annual Business Meeting and that drew out a traditionally large group. It was not a very exciting meeting but we are happy to report that all seems to be in order. Discussion of our long promised pay raises was “conveniently” ignored.

We participated in both of our traditional Memorial Day Parades being the Somerville Parade and the Wilmington Parade. Both were well attended and our performances continued to be impressive and were well received. Somerville seemed to have a smaller than usual number of onlookers and that was a bit disappointing but those who were there made up for this with their enthusiasm and appreciation of our performance. Wilmington seemed to have a larger crowd who were equally enthusiastic and responsive to our efforts and that was pleasing to see especially since

Wilmington is our hometown and these lucky people get to put up with us year round. Memorial Day Parades always have a special air about them given the nature and purpose of the holiday and we are happy to be able to participate in them in order to honor those who the occasion is for and to entertain those who come out to do so as well.

Our next performance came at the Annual Angus Steak/Strawberry Festival Shrine Ceremonial at the Wilmington Shrine Center. Our role in this Ceremonial for this year was a bit abbreviated by plan and that was fine with us though it did create a bit of confusion amongst us as to the nature, size, and composition of the band that was really necessary to do the event. In the end, we chose to not change anything and that appeared to be the wisest thing to do. So, we did have a good turnout and did put on a good introductory performance but, for some strange reason, humidity or weather conditions within the Shrine Center were such that it did a real number on the reeds of our horns and our intermediate and final performances were impacted upon accordingly. Our horns tend to be a bit finicky and things like this do happen once in a while – just our luck that it decided to happen at this time. Overall, the performance was a good one that was appreciated by all and a number of people

(whom we thank for their sentiments) were sympathetic to the freezing of our reeds.

At our June 18, 2015 rehearsal, Band Director, **Robert Haley**, presented, on behalf of Aleppo Shrine, a Certificate of Appreciation from Aleppo to band member, **Richard Lemerise, Sr.** The award was in appreciation of the many things that Rick does in assisting in the transportation needs of Aleppo, through his employer, Crystal Trucking. Rick was also given a Certificate of Appreciation to be presented to Crystal Trucking for the same purpose. The awards were well deserved for assistance above and beyond the normal call of duty and we congratulate Rick and Crystal on being so recognized.

We participated in the Braintree 4th of July Parade which was held on June 27th. Somehow it seems so wrong to have a 4th of July Parade in June or on any day other than the 4th but each to their own. Several years back when we last did the parade we commented as to how poorly it had been planned and executed back then and, quite frankly, despite some improvements, there remains some issue with this parade. We had a nice turnout; all went well; and we hope and believe that all enjoyed our performance.

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TODAY
I met friends for breakfast.

They invited me to try something different: Yoga! So refreshing! I plan to join the class! **Then lunch:** fresh grilled salmon—fabulous, but there is always something different on the menu. For a change of pace in the p.m, I went to the **art studio.** Wait until you see my first watercolor! Jean and George joined me for dinner and we went to hear a bluegrass band. **Every day brings something new since I moved to The Overlook! What a difference it has made!**



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