

Confessions of A Red Canner

By JAMES I. STARRATT

WE sing "Proud to be a Shriner" with gusto at our Ceremonials. But there are many ways to prove it in addition to attending Ceremonials, joining a unit, marching in parades, serving on committees, and volunteering at our hospitals to name a few.

One of the most rewarding experience proving I am proud to be a Shriner, I have found, is Red Canning for the Aleppo Shriners Children's Transportation Fund, the program managed by the North Shore Shrine Club under the direction of Nobles **Leon Golden** and **Daniel Nager**.

If you have never "Canned" you are missing out on an experience that you will long remember, and be proud of. The comments I have heard from my experience canning are to numerous to mention however I would like to share a few as follows:

A lady walked right by me once, and returned saying "Oh, I have to give to the Shriners". I replied "You don't have to give to the Shriners, but we appreciate what ever you can do." "Oh yes I do" she replied, as she rolled up her sleeve showing the results of a severe burn suffered as a young child, and was treated at the Shriners Burns Hospital.

Another person said to me "Am I glad to see you, I was here last week when the Shriners were canning, and did not have any small bills, so I'm glad you're here today" as she deposits funds in the can.

I always thank people when they contribute, and they usually say "No. Thank you." On one occasion the reply was "No. Thank you for volunteering your time to do this for the Shriners."

I have had people leave the store only to promptly return for the sole purpose of putting funds into the Red Can.

I have seen customers come into the store, deposit funds in the Red Can,

and leave with groceries costing less than the amount they donated.

I often tell people that "Nobody asks me what the Shriners do," and they always reply "Every body knows what the Shriners do."

People you would not expect to contribute such as employees from the stores, including the carriage boys have contributed.

Canning is easy. We always work inside, you don't have to beg, or ask for a donation, or block their exit. Just stand, or sit there wearing your Fez, Unit Jacket or some symbol indicating you're a Shriner, along with a smile, and more people than not will donate to the cause. As a matter of fact at the end of a shift upon emptying the receipts into a bag for safe keeping I have had people reach over, and put funds into the bag.

Show you are really "Proud to be a Shriner" and volunteer some time Red Canning by contacting Leon Golden at (H) 781-334-3754 or (M) 617-548-7971. It is a rewarding experience you will not forget, and look forward to doing again.



Bartenders Wanted

Aleppo Shriners Auditorium is seeking additional experienced volunteer bartenders for events held in our Fez Room and Auditorium.

Must have current ServSafe Alcohol, TIPS or other recognized serving training as well as knowledge of various drink menus.

Must show integrity and have a responsible service ethic at all times and follow standard point of sale procedures.

Those interested please contact the Records office at 978-657-4202 ext. 213. All interested Nobles will be considered.

In Memoriam

Rag Top Motor Unit Noble Solon Anezis

THE Rag Top Motor Unit has been saddened by the news of the passing of our Noble, **Solon Anezis**, who was taken by the Black Camel on April 30, 2015 at the age of 78. Noble Solon was a lifelong resident of Peabody. He was the son of the late **Arion Anezis** and **Mary (Hatzigeorgiou) Anezis**; along with his two brothers, Noble **John Anezis** of the Aleppo Motor Patrol, and the late **Charles Anezis**.

Solon attended Peabody High School and was drafted into the Army in 1955. He served his country for two years in an armored tank division stationed in Germany. Upon returning from his tour of duty, Solon and his brother John became plumbers, running their business together for close to 30 years as well as investing, managing and developing various real estate properties in Greater Boston.

Solon was a member of St. Matthew's Lodge, A.F. & A.M. of Andover; Aleppo Shriners in Wilmington (since 1977) where he was member of the Rag Top Motor

Unit since 2005; and the Sahib Shriners Club of Sarasota Florida. He was also a devoted member of St. Vasilios Greek Orthodox Church, and their Men's Club, serving as club president for several years. He also spent much time with family and friends boating, golfing, enjoying his classic car, and spending winters in Florida with his wife.

The condolences of the Rag Top Motor Unit are extended to his beloved wife of 54 years, **Margaret (Prevenas) Anezis**; and to his family members - three children and their spouses - **Mary (Anezis) Lanning** and her husband **Jack**, **Arion Anezis** and his wife **Candace**; and **Gia (Anezis) Zolotas** and her husband, **John**; as well as his six grandchildren, **Alexis** and **Ava Lanning**, **Solon** and **Flora Anezis**, and **Cassandra** and **Gregory Zolotas** and his fiancé, **Marissa Mallas**; along with his brother, **John Anezis** and wife, **Helen**; sister-in-law, **Ellie Anezis**, wife to predeceased brother, **Charles Anezis**; and many cousins, nieces and nephews.

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rider.

The unit offers its congratulations to our members on their recognitions for the time and service they provide to Aleppo Shriners and our many causes throughout the year. As in the past, the Rag Top Motor Unit remains a very active unit at Aleppo - and these efforts are being continued into 2015. Small in membership numbers (21 members) this unit provides great impact on shrinedom's daily activities. Of the many activities the unit is involved in, all require additional people to give of their time and energy so that these programs are a success for Aleppo Shriners.

The Rag Top Unit is always in search of new members. The Rag Top Unit is open to all members of Aleppo Shriners. Motorized, street-legal vehicles are to be personally-owned and cared for by the members. Production convertible-top or a vehicle altered by its owner to be a convertible-style are recommended; but, the Unit will entertain membership from Shriners with antiques, classic, muscle cars, etc. for participation in the Unit.

As the vehicles are privately-owned, the vehicle owners are obligated to carry an umbrella policy liability rider on their insurance - as directed by Shriners International (Tampa).

The Rag Top Unit continually solicits members to be "riders" - any Shrine member who would like to be a member of the unit without owning a vehicle for the sole purpose of riding in one of the member's cars in parades and official tours of duty.


Stop by the Unit Room during one of the ceremonials, or at any of the Aleppo-sponsored membership drives and talk with any of our members about your interest in joining the Rag Top Motor Unit.

Any Nobles with an interest in joining the Rag Tops as a car owner/operator or a riding member may contact any of the following members:

- Captain Roger Metcalfe
(978) 657-9626; or rmmcs@aol.com
- Lt. Paul Watts, Secretary
(781) 245-8020; or watts.pauld1@gmail.com
- Lt. Henry Gilhooly, Treasurer
(978) 658-8527; or capecod747@verizon.net



BOAT SHOW



FRIDAY - OCTOBER 2

SATURDAY - OCTOBER 3

SUNDAY - OCTOBER 4

