### July 2024 Communicator

Sun City Center Shrine Club Communicator

# President's Message

My Fellow Nobles and Ladies,

On July 4th, as we gather to celebrate Independence Day, we are reminded of the profound significance of freedom. This day marks not just a historical event, but a timeless ideal that resonates deeply within each of us. Freedom, in its essence, embodies the fundamental rights and liberties that are intrinsic to human dignity and flourishing.

At its core, freedom is the ability to act, think, and speak without constraint or oppression. It is the foundation upon which societies are built, enabling individuals to pursue their dreams, express their beliefs, and contribute to their communities. The Declaration of Independence, with its bold proclamation of unalienable rights to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness, serves as a testament to humanity's enduring quest for freedom.

Freedom is not merely the absence of tyranny or coercion; it is also the empowerment of individuals to shape their destinies and participate actively in shaping their societies. It is the right to dissent, to question, and to innovate. It fosters creativity, diversity, and resilience, enriching the fabric of our collective experience.

However, the journey towards freedom is often fraught with challenges and setbacks. Across history and

around the world, countless individuals have fought and sacrificed to secure and protect this precious gift. Their courage and determination remind us that freedom must be cherished, defended, and renewed by each generation.

Today, as we commemorate July 4th, we reflect on the ongoing pursuit of freedom for all. We recognize the importance of upholding human rights, promoting justice, and fostering inclusivity in our communities. True freedom requires us to confront inequality, prejudice, and discrimination wherever they exist, ensuring that every person has the opportunity to thrive and contribute their unique talents to society.

Moreover, July 4th invites us to celebrate the diversity of perspectives and experiences that enrich our nation and the world. It is a time to come together as one people, united by our

shared commitment to freedom and equality. As we enjoy parades, fireworks, and gatherings with loved ones, let us also recommit ourselves to the values that define us as a nation: liberty, justice, and the pursuit of a more perfect union.

In conclusion, July 4th is more than just a date on the calendar; it is a reminder of the enduring importance of freedom in our lives. It calls upon us to honor the sacrifices of those who came before us and to work tirelessly towards a future where freedom and opportunity abound for all. Together, let us uphold the ideals of independence and liberty, ensuring that they continue to shine brightly as beacons of hope and progress for generations to come.

My only request to you is please have fun in everything you do! It was why the Shriners were created in the first place. Fun and laughter is very contagious... it attracts others!

Do it Because You Can!

Thank you and God Bless each one of you and your families.

# Chaplain's Corner

Judges 1:1-2; 2:1-4; 16

### **CONFRONTING A NATIONAL DISASTER**

Intro: It does not take very long to discover that the book of Judges is not a very pleasant book. In fact, it one of the darkest books in the Bible. It describes a period in Israel's history when they were without a strong, godly leader. Perhaps the times and the book are best summed up by Judges 17:6, "In those days there was no king in Israel, but every man did that which was right in his own eyes." When man is left to himself, it will not be long before he finds himself in deep trouble. This was the case in Israel as well.

God had birthed them in the furnace of grace and had delivered them from the horrible of slavery in Egypt. He had led them through the wilderness giving them blessing on top of blessing. They were a favored people. They were the chosen ones of the Lord God Almighty. He led them; He fed them, and He protected them. Eventually, He led them into the land of Canaan. This was their Promised Land. It was a land flowing with milk and honey, and it was given to them by the sovereign will of God. All they had to do was enter the land, destroy the people who were living there and take up residence.

God had given Israel Himself; He gave them a Lord. God led Israel into Canaan; He gave them a land. He also handed to them His commandments; He gave them a Law. But, Israel denied the Lord, defiled the land and defied the Law. As a result, God was forced to judge this people He loved so very much.

But, Israel's saga is not limited to their experience. Looking back through the corridor of time, one can see nation after nation that had a great beginning, achieving tremendous success only to suffer a horrible fall and a tragic end.

Today, we stand on the eve of our nation's 248th anniversary as a free, sovereign country. There is no doubt that America had an amazing beginning. Our great nation was forged on the anvil of truth with the hammer of the Word of God by men who held tightly to their convictions and who were held in \the strong grip of their faith in Almighty God. There is no

disputing the fact that America was founded, not as a religious nation, but as a Christian nation! There is no question but that God Himself had His hand in the formation of this country.

Yet, like Israel of old, America has denied the Lord Who formed us. We have defiled the land He gave us. We have defiled the Law, He established us upon. As a result, America is no more a Christian nation. We are no longer "one nation under God." We, like Israel, have turned away from the God Who made us great and we have gone after gods of our own design. We are a nation that has experienced the great and manifold blessings of God in the past; we are a nation that will face God's hand of judgment in the future!

Today, I want to look back into the ancient past. I want to watch Israel as the move away from the Lord and what happened to them because of their sin. I want to observe God as He confronts a national disaster in Israel. Some may wonder what this passage has to do with us.

My friend, in these verses we can see a portrait of our nation as it is today and we can get a glimpse of what lies in store for America, if she does not return to God.

Whether you know it or not, we are facing a real crisis in our nation. We have religion, but there is no fear of God. We have civilization and culture, but they are built on the shifting sands of human philosophy and wisdom and not the firm foundation of the Word of God. I would like for us to look around today, even as we look back. I would like to take these verses and talk for a few minutes on the subject Confronting A National Disaster. I pray we read these scriptures, and remember Judges 1:1-2; 2:1-4; 16

# Monthly Luncheon



July 10th at 12 noon

Please go to the new <u>Luncheon page</u> and fill out the new form for your reservations



### **Ybor Grille**

339 19th Ave NE, Ruskin, FL 33570

July 25th @ 2 pm

Please go to the new <u>Chat and Chew page</u> and fill out the new form for your reservations

## Fun Times

This is something new I am adding to the communicator. It will be different each month. Hopefully you find it funny, interesting, and even educational sometimes. The main thing is whoever reads and completes whatever exercise I have each month and sends me the correct answer, their meal will be no charge for the month. I hope you enjoy!

This month will deal with computer acronyms. Write out what each acronym means, copy and paste into an email and send it to me.

1.	OTP
	PIN
3.	QR CODE
4.	SMS
5.	MMS
	WIFI
7.	GIF
8.	GPS
9.	PDF
	PNG
11.	JPEG
12.	URL
13.	www
14.	PAN

## Auniversaries

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
30	Craig & Donna Wexler	2	3	Rich & Sherill Shelley	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31	1	2	Bob & Ida Jenkins

# Birthdays

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	. Sat
Don Kirk	1	2	3	4	Lorraine Lowell	6
Rhonda Hardy	8	9	Mike Blaine	_ 11	12	
14	Peggy Bierce Thomas Elliot	16	17	18	19	20
21		Steve Drobnis	Ed Davis	_25		_27
Donna Miller	Charlie Conover	30	David Sherrill	Sandra Nunn	2	3

# Thoughts and Prayers

**Bill Bierce** 

**Dores McDonnell** 

Bob & Lee O'Roak

Jon & Janice DeCaluwe

**Sandy Nunn** 

Suzanne Cloore

# Ju Loving Memory

# Upcoming Events

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
30	1 1pm - Board of Directors	6:30pm - DeSoto Lodge	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10 12pm - SCC Shrine Club 7:30pm - Egypt Stated	11	12	
Sands Deadline	15	6:30pm - DeSoto Lodge	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25 2pm - Chat & Chew @	6:30pm - Egypt's 4th	27
8:30am - DeSoto Lodge	29	30	31	1	2	3



President	1 <sup>st</sup> Vice President	2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice President Chaplain	3 <sup>rd</sup> Vice President
Illustrius Sir Dennis Hardy, PP	Noble Robert Leonard	Noble Robert Bennett	Illustrius Sir James Burt, PP
Secretary  Noble James Pete Peterson	Treasurer Noble James Cloore		
Director	Director	Director Quartermaster	Director
Director  Noble Dale Bieber	Director  Noble Donald Churchill		Director  Noble James Porrett
		Quartermaster	

### **Sun City Center Shrine Club**

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Visit our Website @ sccshrineclub.com

# Egypt Events

Click **HERE** to see Events.