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### Winter Time...



S I sit here watching the birds feeding at my feeder, as I contemplate the depth of snow outside my window, the thermometer dances between 15 to 20 degrees farenheit. Nobles we are just weeks from the start of our marching season, as hard as it might seem. Time to renew, refresh all of our gear, and to start preparing for our first parade in March. Re-enlistment was just last night, we have heard from our new Potentate. Congratulations to Illustrious Francis J. Mason; may you have a prosperous and productive year. Marching orders are being drawn up. Rest up, me hardee's, resting time is almost over.

Changes; "all things change"; I have stepped back into the shadows of the worthy Nobles whom have gone before. John Wilder is our new Executive Officer, and will take on many of the duties of the Captain this year. After an extensive Executive board meeting, the current leadership model was worked out. Capt. Dick Perry will remain titular head of the Company, John Wilder is now our titular second in Command 1st Lieutenant Executive Officer, with assistance of P.C. Lester Davis. Hope we haven't lost you yet. On the Ceremonial end of things, outgoing X.O., yours truly, will step in, or another past Capt., when Capt. Dick cannot be there. It really is not that complicated, just sounds like it. This was all voted on and approved during the executive meeting on Jan. 28th. We hope for and ask your support of these changes as they were necessary. More items will be explained as we go into the new year. The Company is also in need of a new Secretary/ Ensign Adjutant; John Ralston P.C., will continue as our Treasurer/Ensign Paymaster.

Plans! Our monthly meetings may be changing both into when and format (more to follow). As Musik Master, I will also be taking on the duties of Performance Officer as we have not had one for a few years. Working with our

new X.O., we will be scheduling some drills/rehearsals which will tentatively be on Saturdays. We need to work on the "manual of arms," marching drill, and music rehearsals, more on this later. One of the big items for all of us (for the entire Shrine) will be Recruitment, Recruitment, and Recruitment. There will be some incentive programs coming forth to encourage everyone to be part of the solution to increasing the rolls of the "workmen." Other changes will include, and have already started, refreshing of the Muster room for the unit. Our Quarter Master has already been hard at work, and much more is coming.

We have an exciting season coming, with new additional unit events/parades. Shrine T.O.D. events are supposed to increase as well, though the schedule is still tentative and not yet posted. The famous Aleppo Circus is coming in April, with volunteers needed. The Shrine Circus may end up becoming one of the last bastions of the fine art of circus entertainment, as one of the most famous circuses of all time brings down the tent forever in May (Ringling Bros. & Barnum and Bailey Circus)—a sad day indeed.

Alright you guys, I know you are waiting for it so here's my usual sales pitch. If we do not work hard, and bring in new members ourselves, our "tent" will soon be coming down, just like Ringling Bros. In order to be alive and drive forward, we need new

membership – active membership. My apologies up front



about being so blunt; we need active Masons, not "paper carrying" Masons. Not only for our unit, but our entire Shrine. To help our "Kids," we have to exist. When I was initiated into Aleppo Shrine, our membership was over 16,000 members, 6th largest Shrine Center in America. We are barely breaking 3000 now. Our Shrine ranking I am not sure of, but it is not in the top ten. Our "Kids" need us, our hospitals need us, our "Craft" needs us. Lets get out there and RECRUIT!!!!

Alright, preaching over. At our E-board meeting we were blessed with the presence of past members Ladies. Carol Vere (Bob) joined the ladies as well as Gloria Weinrebe (Buddy). We were also thrilled to see Capt. Dick's lovely Lady Judi able to come visit while the Officers met. On other fronts, five of us made it to the re-enlistment Banquet and Heads of Unit Meeting on February 1. A much smaller contingent than in past years; however, an entirely pleasant night for those of us who came. The Uniform Units Potentate reception will be on April 1st. No tickets will be sold at the door so get your orders in early (hopefully this will be out before the cut off). Well, that's it for now from the frozen north. As always, God Bless all our ailing members, our first responders at home and abroad, a blessing on our Shrine "kids, and may God keep you all in the warmth and safety of his comforting palm. God Bless the United States of America.

Es Selamu Aleikum, Shalom, Peace be with you! Father Time



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## **Brass Band Broadcast**

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in Oskaloosa, and "George Washington's Birthday Party," was penned in remembrance of Worshipful **George Washington**, the "father of our country."

In addition to his involvement in speculative Freemasonry, Bro. Barnhouse was also an operative tradesman. Like the ancient metalworker, Tubal-cain (sic), who, according to the Book of Genesis (4:22), was the "instructor of every artificer in brass and iron." (KJV) and following in his father's footsteps as a blacksmith and machinist in West Virginia, young Charles himself later used these skills to create the iron working tools required to engrave plates for printing music. Moreover, as a prolific composer and cornetist, those printed pages became translated into beautiful music which still survives today.

Bro. Barnhouse laid down his working tools for the last time in 1929, but his rich legacy remains in the company he founded and the music

he produced. "The Messenger" March (1894) is a brilliant composition, a very important part of the library of the Aleppo Brass Band and both a pleasure and privilege to play.



BRO. Charles Lloyd Barnhouse (1865-1929) Photo source: Iowa Bandmasters Clinic (2013) through courtesy of the C. L. Barnhouse Company



ETCHING STAFF lines on a zinc plate preliminary to the engraving of notes, clefs, key and time signatures, etc. (Courtesy of www.musicprintinghistory.org).