

Oriental Guide
By Travis Freeman



Greetings from your Ahmed Shrine Oriental Guide. "I'm Leaving on a Jet Plane" (who wrote it?) First person who emails me with the correct answer will win a Shrine Prize that I'll bring back from Tampa. Email travis@sovcomm.net. I'll have the answer and winner in our May-June Ahmedian) attending Oriental Guide Leadership Conference, taking place March 8th through the 10th at Tampa Airport Marriott Hotel. Sarah and I also signed up for a tour of our Tampa Headquarters that will take place on Wednesday March 7th . They tell me conference is a work session that will impart as much information as possible, in a 3-day period, to assist me in becoming a better officer and leader of our temple. I'm looking forward to learning, growing and meeting my counterparts from around the United States and beyond.

My Great Grandfather Joseph T.



Freeman will be on my mind, and our family will go full circle, as he was my family's first Shriner,

becoming a member of Tampa Shrine July 26, 1947. He affiliated with Ahmed Shrine later in his life, since he spent the summers in Engadine and wintered in the Tampa Bay Region. I'll have a full report of the Oriental Guide Leadership Conference in a forthcoming next Ahmedian Newsletter.

I've had a few members ask me about dues in the past few weeks. A great way to stay up to date with what's going on with Shriners International and to pay your dues is to sign up on www.shrinersvillage.com. You can view your membership profile as well.

A reminder, our Winter Ceremonial is coming up soon, March 17th at the U.P. Masonic Center in Marquette. Our Illustrious Potentate has a great day planned. For those who don't know March 17th St. Patrick's Day is his favorite holiday, so I think it's fair to say it's going to be an extra fun event. If you have a Brother Mason that would like to join Ahmed Shine let me know and I'll email you a petition to forward on to your Brother Mason. We have a membership goal that's aggressive but realistic. Now is a great time to join Ahmed Shrine. Look forward to seeing you soon! Warm Regards in the Sunshine of Ahmed Shrine, *Travis Freeman*