



THE MAZOL ANCHOR

Vol.1 Issue No. 1

A Message from your Potentate



Many have asked who is Brian Peckford, especially now that visitations have been postponed and your Divan is unable to meet with the Clubs.

I was initiated into the Blue Lodge January 28, 2008, raised in February 2008 and received the Sublime Degree of a Master Mason October 2008, I have held most offices in the Lodge, including Master.

My education includes several university certificates in Economic Development, Local Government Management, Management, Management and Supervision, Business Management, Genuine Prospector, as well as MUN BSc Biology / Geography.

I spent 25 years working for the Government of NL. Other employment included working as a Wildlife Enforcement Officer, Offshore Fisheries Observer, guide and cook at big game hunting lodges. I have extensive training and diplomas in all levels of Emergency Management, Occupational Health and Safety, Economic Development, as well as thirty years union experience at the local and provincial level. I am currently the CAO / Town Manager for the Town of Lewisporte.

I have considerable community involvement, approximately 200 community volunteer years, most working through the ranks to Chair. Ranging from Town of Lewisporte as Mayor and Councillor, community events, Auxiliary Cst. RCMP, youth organizations, founder of Notre Dame Kids Foundation (100 Million Dollar Club), economic and tourism development, school council at academy, intermediate and high schools, volunteer First Aid Instructor with Scouts and Guides, minor hockey, figure skating, NAPE local and provincial committees, Scouts Canada Leader, senior hockey, I am also a NCCP Intermediate Coach, NRCP Level III Referee, Certified Open Water Scuba Diver, and a First Aid/AED Instructor.



My interests and hobbies include first and foremost my family, my girls are my life; followed only by helping children as a Shriner. I also enjoy prospecting, hunting, fishing, fly tying, and camping. I have a strong sense of community and I feel I should give of my time and dedication, as exemplified by my extensive volunteer experience.

Nobles, we are living in unprecedented times. 2020 began with a state of emergency, and we overcame the challenges and had a great installation weekend. It was so encouraging to hear all the positive comments, and the commitment by everyone to turn things around. Lady Cheryl and I were so thankful, and humbled by the tremendous support we received, without which the weekend could not have happened. Since then it has been so pleasant to talk with Nobles across the province as we planned the year.



Nobles and Ladies, regardless of the international attention, this is but a mere blip on the radar in terms of the local rebuilding that is happening. Mazol and Shriners International serve a much greater cause, that of helping children.

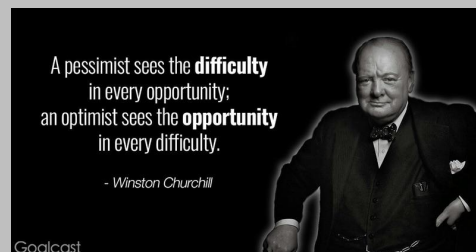
This will not stop us in our efforts, it should only make us more determined to do more once we are back to whatever normal may look like.

Shriners help children, we help our community, and we will do both better than ever. Most of the travel / visitations were already scheduled; not the end of the world, we will reschedule for the fall. I'm asking the clubs to be accommodating when asked to host the Divan. It is important for the Divan to meet the Nobles and their Ladies who are doing such tremendous work for our children, and Mazol's future leadership needs your support, and the personal contact at the club visitations is crucial for future success, and we are still looking forward to getting together.

Remember our Masonic grand principles of Brotherly Love, Relief and Truth – while you may be doing fine there could be Brothers who are having difficulty during these trying times so please reach out to a Brother in need. I thank you each and every one of you for the support; 2020 in spite of the two crises will emerge stronger than ever before full of Nobles and Ladies helping our children. After all that's what's important. Nobles, stay positive, stay committed, stay focused and most important stay safe.

PS. Essential workers and first responders go to work for us, we should stay home for them.

BE THE CHANGE!



First Lady Cheryl's Message



As First Lady of Mazol Shriners, I would like to take this opportunity to say hello and thank you all for an unforgettable installation weekend. I think I speak for many when I say it was a weekend filled with comradery and an abundance of memories.

We battled a state of emergency and we won. The installation weekend was just the beginning of the many great plans we had for the upcoming year. Unfortunately, due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, many of those plans have been paused. However, rest assured when we regain a sense of normalcy, we will get things back on track again. This too will pass, and Mazol will rise again as the great temple it is.

These are the symbols I talked about during the luncheon with my fellow Ladies in January, and I believe they are ever more applicable now in our current situation today. I am very much looking forward to being able to continue with my project, the work of Mazol, and helping the children. I hope you are all staying safe and healthy, and please feel free to connect with us at any time.



Ladies may not wear a fez, but we do wear everything else associated with the Shrine. We are the support structure for our Nobles, we are part of everything Shriners, don't ever underestimate how valuable you are, how important you are, the contribution we are making to Mazol and Shriners International, and as the Potentate stated, we are the Ladies who will never stand behind anyone – be proud of what we do and we stand side by side and the children is why we do it.

We are on a path of rebuilding, it's time to concentrate our efforts on "bee-ing the change" we are all seeking, it's time to have fun again, and it is heartwarming to hear from some many Ladies with messages of hope for a better tomorrow, hope for the next event when we can come together and celebrate what we do, Covid-19 did nothing more than provide us with a time to step back, focus on what is important, and instill in everyone a desire to get back to work helping our children – it's all about the children.

During these unprecedented times, it is important we maintain hope and positivity, and not to forget the core values of what brings us all together. Perseverance, fellowship, community and happiness are but a few of the ideals that are encompassed by the honeybee and the sunflower.

I could not have got through the installation without your help, and I will never be able to get through this year without you.



I thank each and every one of you because what was once names on a list have now become names embedded in my heart as true friends –

God bless my Beloved Ladies!

To all Members COVID-19 Update

The health, safety and well being our members, employees and patrons is of paramount concern of the Management Board of your Mazol Shrine Centre (MSC).

The evolving Covid-19 Virus pandemic can best be contained through prevention. Your leadership team has been closely monitoring the advice of medical professionals. We wish to be proactive.



To that end effective immediately and continuing indefinitely:

- Bingo is suspended
- We are recommending to all internal user groups that they suspend all activities including meetings, fundraisers and gatherings of all kinds.
- We will be contacting all those with whom we have rental contracts to discuss their plans and assist them with alternatives. We must be sensitive as to how this may impact their activities, but as mentioned above the health and safety of our employees and members is without question.
- We will conduct a deep clean of our facility and sanitize all hard surfaces.
- We ask that you only visit the building if necessary.
- These measures will stay in effect until a minimum of May 15th ..
- We will monitor developments daily and manage the risk. We will not take any chances. We will keep you informed.



We also ask that you take personal precautions, that if you visit any publicly accessible building during this time that you use caution. Wash your hands frequently, keep your hands from your face.

We have absolutely no reason to suspect anyone with this virus has been even near our facility and were not trying to scare anyone.

You, your family and friends are important to us and we want when this is all over to be able to say, “Maybe we overreacted but everyone is safe“

Yours in the faith
William (Bill) Radford
Chair – Mazol Shrine Centre Board

Mazol Installation 2020

Illustrious Sir Brian Peckford and his Divan were installed at ceremonies which took place at the Holiday Inn on January 25, 2020. Despite a State of Emergency with

mountains of snow, it turned out to be a fantastic weekend with lots of fun, friendship and memories!

"We started this journey 5 years ago and we are so excited and eager for the upcoming year to work for our Shrine Children", said Ill. Sir.



Thank you to all who helped in any way , and thank you to everyone who attended the events to demonstrate your support.

"We truly appreciate each and everyone. Remember... we do it for the children" !

Be The Change !!

Shriner of the Year !

Noble **Gerald Mayo** of the Boot Shrine Club was named Shriner of the Year for 2019 during this year's Installation Banquet. Congratulations Noble Gerald for your hard work and dedication! Pictured here is Noble Gerald accepting the award from Ill Sir Herman Walters, Chair of the selection committee.



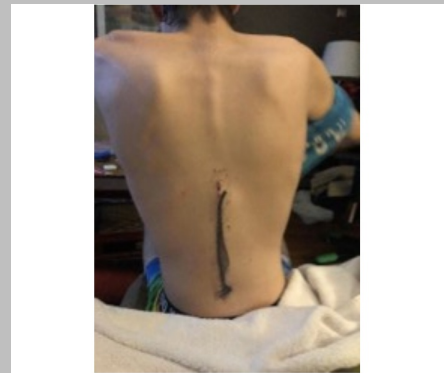
For further details please go to the Mazol Webpage-<http://www.mazolshriners.com/shriner-of-the-year/>

A Miracle Surgery in Philadelphia!

Meet **Ryan Hayden**, a 17 year old boy from Tors Cove. In February his mother was visiting his cousin at our Shriner's Hospital in Philadelphia. While there , she advised Hospital staff of Ryan's spinal curvature issue. The Philadelphia medical team felt that they could do something to alleviate or start to treat this problem. X-Rays of Ryan's spine were sent to the Hospital, the case was reviewed by Hospital Doctors, and it was recommended that surgery be performed. Ryan and his mother traveled to Philadelphia for the surgery. The accompanying photographs clearly show the before and after condition of the patient. What is amazing is the photo of Ryan's back showing the neat straight incision line along his spine. It is hard to imagine that major surgery which was conducted through this small opening.



This surgery has changed Ryan's future dramatically. The sky's the limit. Ryan and his mother traveled to Philadelphia on their own expense, but after the surgery Mazol accepted responsibility for his travel expenses to return home. A future trip back to Philadelphia for reassessment will be necessary. Ryan now has been home for a while and is thrilled with the results of his experience with the Shriners. To say his mother, Sheila, is on cloud 9, would be an understatement. In a recent email she indicated a strong desire to help Mazol 's fundraising or in whatever way possible.



Oriental Guide Seminar



The Shriners International Education Foundation conducted the annual Oriental Guide Seminar and Leadership Training session from March 5-7, 2020 at the Marriott Hotel, Tampa Airport. Lady Ruth and I were pleased to represent Mazol Temple at this conference. The seminar was a great learning experience, planned and conducted by a committee of Nobles and Ladies, including Imperial Sirs Jeff Sowder (Lady Cheryl), Bill Bailey (Lady Debby), Ed Stolze, and Brad Koehn. Nobles and our Ladies were treated to a busy and

informative learning experience offering plenty of opportunities to meet and network with our colleagues within our regional Shrine Associations and other Temples.

The leadership training, during the first day and a half, focused on building capacity to lead through Servant Leadership. In short, this means putting the needs of the Nobility, the Temple, and Shriners Hospitals for Children above our own. Lady Ruth and I participated in this training session together and worked collaboratively with other OG couples from the Northeast Shrine Association (NESA), specifically, Philae and Karnak. The program included instruction on Vision and Relationship building, identifying and improving our leadership abilities; and developing and maintaining effective communication. The pace of learning, due to the time restraints of a three day conference, was something like trying to get a drink from a fire hydrant, but we did manage to gather some nuggets to help us grow!

The final day and a half was comprised of separate sessions for Nobles and Ladies on topics of importance. The Nobles received specific sessions on Shrine Law (Ill. Sir Jon Hanson, Chair of Jurisprudence), Finance (Imp. Sir Brad Koehn, Imp. Treasurer), Fundraising (Ill. Sir Jordan Settle, Jaffa Shriners, PA), and “What’s Not In the Book” (Ill. Sir John Piland, Exec VP, Shriners International. The sessions were informative and collaborative and were great learning experiences. However, as a Canadian OG, I found the Finance session contained no information about CRA compliance as it was primarily about dealing with the IRS. Ill. Sir John Piland’s session was a great interactive experience and got into some very practical discussion about how to make it all work “where the rubber hits the road”! Our ladies were given sessions on Fundraising, Communication, the Temple Handbook and their role, and Shrine Protocol. Lady Ruth feels she was trained to keep me in line!

While learning is the primary focus of the Seminar, we also had the opportunity to meet and develop friendships with our colleagues within NESA and other Temples. The social gatherings were fun and relaxed with plenty of activities from the committee, some of which you might see us use with you and your ladies! We had an evening where Noble David Lewis of Philae and I planned a group dinner for NESA delegates. It was a rousing success and we are all looking forward to future NESA meetings (God willing and Covid 19 permitting!) to renew acquaintances!

In closing, Lady Ruth and I want to thank the nobles of Mazol Temple for your confidence in us and for providing us the experience of participating in this seminar. We are eager to apply the lessons learned to improve our practice as we proceed through the line of leadership and take on increasing responsibilities within the Temple. We are looking forward to meeting and serving all of you over the next few years.

Gander Shriners Donate to James Paton Memorial Hospital

Gander Shrine Club President Scott Granville and Noble Ralph Miller recently made a significant presentation at the James Paton Memorial Hospital



as they presented Central Health with two pieces of equipment; a new cast saw at a value in excess of \$6000.00 and a special recliner for obstetrics at a value of \$3000.00

Members of Board of Directors and Staff were present at the presentation; they were very appreciative of the continued support from the Gander Club.



Lewisporte Shriners' Valentine Party



The Lewisporte Shrine Club celebrated Valentine's Day in style with their ladies.

Thanks to the Nobles for putting off such a lovely evening.

A great time was had by all !

St. John's Shrine Club Donates to Mazol

In February Nobles and Ladies gathered at the Mazol Shrine Center to celebrate a potentate visitation and the installation of the St. John's Shrine Club Executive for 2020.

During the evening club president Paul Reid presented cheques to Ill. Sir Brian Peckford in the amount of \$26,400 for the Club's assessments for 2019 and 2020: As well as a cheque for \$1,500 for Lady Cheryl's project.



Gander Shrine Club Donates to Mazol

On Feb 21st, the Gander Shrine Club held an "Appreciation Night" to thank local individuals & organizations that have supported the efforts of the Gander Nobles who help children with burns, neurological or orthopedic problems.



President, Scott Granville, presented Ill. Sir Brian Peckford, with a cheque for \$25,000! Nobles and their Ladies, along with members of the community, enjoyed a wonderful evening of fine dining, great music, fraternal fraternization and socialization, while learning more of the wonderful contributions the Gander Shrine club makes to our local community.

Oriental Band News



The Band is adding something new to its repertoire for 2020. In addition to its complement of drums, 6 new xylophones have been purchased. It is felt that this brings a whole new sound to the Band's musical offerings.

In this regard our new xylophone playing Nobles are busy practicing on their new instruments in anticipation of their involvement in the Summer Ceremonial.

Thank you for all that you do !

To All Nobles

These are difficult times we are going through. During volunteer week, it is most unusual for all of us to be staying at home. The Mazol Divan would like to thank you for all you do for our organization. Under normal circumstances we would be going in all directions to complete the various chores for our Clubs and the children we take pride in supporting with their many needs. Thank you for being a volunteer.

**Celebrating
Volunteer Week**



Mazol Shriners News

In spite of this terrible virus, time goes on and we must find ways to adjust. Your Divan has completed two gatherings on Zoom. During the most recent get together we were able to proceed with a scheduled Divan meeting and completed the necessary business. Shrine law dictates that we must hold a stated meeting each quarter and that means we need to plan one before the end of June. Looking at the projections it is most likely this will need to be a Zoom meeting. Having said this, it will be much different than previous stated meetings where Zoom was used. This one will need to be with the Zoom app on your personal device. With the current restrictions we do not foresee any other way. While we have not selected a date for the meeting, we certainly welcome any feedback.

YITF

William W. Smith, P.P.
Recorder

"The Heart of Children"



Shriners Hospitals for Children – Canada and the Quebec Centre for Contemporary Art proudly present *Cœur d'Enfant (The Heart of Children)*.

This sculpture, a work of Art by Asia Zaidi, stands 21' x 12' x 6' and is the symbol of the love that the hospital staff and the Shriners fraternity have for children.

"*Cœur d'Enfant* represents the patient and family-centered care we provide every year to thousands of children. "This sculpture expresses perfectly what we call the Shriners spirit, which translates into the highest quality of care always offered with compassion", explains Jacques Boissonneault, Executive Director of the Hospital.

"The sculpture is associated with emotional and material security, **love, life and joy**. It speaks a universal language all the while retaining its intrinsic mystical facet. It is this **feeling of love** that I wanted to share by using the heart symbol", said Asia Zaidi

Mazol Shriners Mourn with our fellow Nobles, Friends & Families in Nova Scotia

**There are no words to express our sympathy .
Our thoughts & prayers are with you today .
May God Bless you all !**



From the Editors

As editors of our newest publication, The Anchor, Lady Sharon and I would like to thank Ill. Sir Brian for the opportunity to help share news, stories and important messages from your 2020 Divan and our Clubs, from all corners of our great province! Thank you as well to Karen Finn for your technical assistance during the production process.

Given that we are living in turbulent times, we understand that many Clubs are not active these days. Therefore we can only hope that as we continue to listen to the experts and flatten the curve, we will soon be able to get back to doing what we love, and that is helping our children.

In the meantime, thanks to everyone who contributed stories for this issue, if you have news, stories and pictures that you would like to share, please send them to us. Let's make the next edition of the "Anchor" even bigger and better ! This is your newsletter, so please tell us what's happening.

Paul R. Rose, P.P.

