



The Desert of California

*Ancient Egyptian Arabic Order Nobles Mystic Shrine of
North and South America and its Jurisdictions Inc.*

51st Desert Conference Minutes

May 26 - 27, 2011
San Mateo, California

June 25, 2011

OPENING: The 51st Desert Conference/Gala Day was called to order and opened in ritualistic form at 1:30 pm by Illustrious Potentate Isiah Draine of Menelik Temple #36 host temple.

Roll call of Temple officers: All officers for Menelik #36 were present.

Sickness & Distress: Noble William Grissom Isis Temple #102 suffered a heart attack while on his way to Desert Conference Gala/Day.

Roll Call of Temples: All Temples were present:

- | | |
|------------------------|---------|
| 1. Egyptian Temple #5 | Present |
| 2. Menelik Temple #36 | Present |
| 3. Thutmose Temple #74 | Present |
| 4. Muharram Temple #95 | Present |
| 5. Sheik Temple #98 | Present |
| 6. Isis Temple #102 | Present |
| 7. Saphar Temple # 117 | Present |
| 8. Alcazar Temple #179 | Present |
| 9. Alooma Temple #212 | Present |

Illustrious Potentate Isiah Draine gave the welcome on behalf of Menelik Temple #36.

The response was rendered by Desert Chief Rabban Gerald Stringer. Illustrious Potentate Isiah Draine then passed the gavel over to Imperial Deputy for the Desert of California Terrell A. Gray, Sr. who asked that the Desert Program Agenda be accepted as printed. It was moved and second (M/2nd) by P/P Rollie J. Paul Jr #36 and Chief Rabban Corey Giddens #36 that the Desert Program Agenda be accepted, passed to record - MC. At this time the Deputy of the Desert, Terrell A. Gray Sr. announced the committee assignments; adding that a copy would be in his address tomorrow May 27, 2011. Deputy Terrell A. Gray Sr. then asked for the first Temple report from Menelik Temple # 36.



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Temple Reports: Illustrious Potentate Isiah Draine read Menelik Temple report, it was M/2nd by Chief Rabban Corey Giddens and Assistant Rabban Micah Jones of Menelik Temple # 36 to receive the report and pass it to record - MC.

Imperial Deputy Gray asked for Alcazar Temple # 179 to be prepared to conduct a work shop on their mentoring Program; Imperial Deputy Gray said he had observed it and thinks it will help other Temples conduct similar programs.

Imperial Deputy Gray advised that more reports would be presented tomorrow and that now we would have the IRS Workshop conducted by P/P Boggs #179

P/P Boggs advised that if we (Temples/Desert) did not file a tax report in 3 years you could lose your tax status. You must file a 199N E Postcard for period 1 January 2010 thru 31 December 2010 if you have less than \$25,000 within 3 years. If you have over \$25,000 you must file a 199N and it must be submitted by 15 May of each year. \$50,000 or less files 990EZ/990.

PP Boggs completed the IRS workshop at 2:30pm; it was well received by all. Imperial Deputy Gray advised that he wanted all committee chairmen to meet in his room 3100 at 3:00pm. He also advised that a joint town hall meeting would take place between 6:00-8:30pm. He also advised that we will take pictures at 8:00am tomorrow morning in the Summer Dress Uniform and that the Desert hospitality will be at Thutmose Temple starting at 7:00pm.

The 51st Desert Conference / Gala Day was called off at 2:45pm, the session will reconvene at 8:30am on May 27, 2011.

Desert Conference/Gala Day May 27, 2011

The Desert Conference session resumed at 8:10am May 27, a group picture was taken by Desert Photographer PP Smith #212.

At 8:25 AM Illustrious Potentate, Isiah Draine of Menelik Temple # 36 opened the Desert Conference in due and ritualistic form, and turned it over to the Desert Chief Rabban to receive the Deputy of the Desert. The Desert Chief Rabban Stringer explained to the Nobility how we will receive the Imperial Deputy of the Desert, Terrell A. Gray Sr.

Desert Chief Rabban directed the Desert 1st & 2nd Ceremonial Masters to go outside and escort the Imperial Deputy of the Desert Terrell A. Gray Sr. to the Altar. Imperial Deputy Gray was escorted to the Altar and introduced by Desert 1st Ceremonial Master AT Hornbeak #74. At this time the Desert Chief Rabban Stringer invited the Imperial Deputy to work in for the benefit of the Nobility. Imperial Deputy Terrell A. Gray Sr. worked in; in full to the satisfaction of the Nobility. Imperial Deputy of the Desert



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Terrell A. Gray Sr. was then given honors and escorted to the East and was given the Gavel of authority. Imperial Deputy Gray advised that we have much work to do today and invited those to be honored to exit and be received. He requested a volunteer to occupy the Captain of the Guard station, and Noble Benjamin Reid volunteered.

The Desert 1st & 2nd Ceremonial Masters escorted Imperial Auditor, George Blue #179 to the Altar. Desert 1st Ceremonial Master A T Hornbeak introduced him to the Imperial Deputy Gray, who received him with honors and escorted him to the East.

The Desert 1st & 2nd Ceremonial Masters escorted Dr. Donald R. Ware #5, Imperial 1st Ceremonial Master & Illustrious Grand Trice Master of Royal & Select Masters of California to the Altar. PP AT Hornbeak, 1st Ceremonial Master introduced Dr. Ware to Imperial Deputy of the Desert Gray who received him with honors and directed he be escorted to the East.

The Desert 1st & 2nd Ceremonial Masters escorted Noble Carl D. Parker, #212 Imperial Assistant Rabban to the Altar. Desert 1st Ceremonial Master AT Hornbeak introduced him to Imperial Deputy Gray. Imperial Deputy Gray received him with honors and directed he be escorted to the East.

Imperial Deputy Terrell A. Gray Sr. requested the Most Worshipful Grand Master Tommie E. Phillips and Grand Lodge Officers to assemble outside that they may be formally received. The Desert 1st & 2nd Ceremonial Masters escorted the Grand Master and his entourage to the altar where they were introduced by Senior Grand Deacon Robert Washington. Imperial Deputy Gray received them gave appropriate honors and directed that MWGM Tommie E. Phillips and Deputy of the Orient Billy G. Harrington be escorted to the east. At 8:55am while continuing with receiving dignitaries MWGM Tommie E. Phillips became ill and was taken out of session by Imperial 1st Ceremonial Master Dr. Ware.

The Desert 1st & 2nd Ceremonial Masters escorted Past Deputies of the Desert of California, Nobles Samuel Barlow #179 & George H. Garlington Jr. #212 to the Altar. Desert 1st Ceremonial Master, AT Hornbeak introduced them to the Imperial Deputy of the Desert Terrell A. Gray Sr. Imperial Deputy Gray received them with honors and directed that they be escorted to the East.

The Desert 1st & 2nd Ceremonial Masters escorted Noble Rochelle Rick Julian of Magnus Temple #3, Imperial Chief Rabban to the "Altar. 1st Ceremonial Master AT Hornbeak introduced him to Imperial Deputy Gray. Imperial Chief Rabban Julian worked in for the benefit of the Nobility, was received given honors and directed to be escorted to the East.

At 9:05am Imperial Deputy Gray asked the Desert HPIP to render a prayer for MWGM Tommie E.



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Phillips. Desert HP&P Reginald Black gave a fervent prayer for the MWGM Tommie E. Phillips.

Official Proclamation: The Official Proclamation was given by Imperial Deputy of the Desert Terrell A. Gray Sr., proclamation was confirmed by Desert Marshal Zachary Johnson #212.

ROLL CALL OF OFFICERS:

		P	A	E
DEPUTY OF THE DESERT	NOBLE TERRELL A. GRAY, Sr.(74)	✓		
DESERT CHIEF RABBAN	NOBLE GEARLD STRINGER (212)	✓		
DESERT ASSISTANT RABBAN	NOBLE ROBERT WASHINGTON SR (102)	✓		
DESERT H.P. & P.	NOBLE REGINALD BLACK (95)	✓		
DESERT ORIENTAL GUIDE	NOBLE MOSES PALMER (102)	✓		
DESERT TREASURER	NOBLE LOUIS J. THOMPSON (179)	✓		
DESERT RECORDER	NOBLE ROBERT E. STOKES (212)	✓		
ASSISTANT RECORDER	NOBLE RON DUNLAP (102)			✓
DESERT 1 ST CERE. MASTER	NOBLE A.T. HORNBECK (74)	✓		
DESERT 2 ND CERE MASTER	NOBLE JAMES TRICE (179)	✓		✓
DESERT CAPT. OF THE GUARD	NOBLE DARRELL BYRD (179)			✓
DESERT OUTER GUARD	NOBLE JAQUIN MALLET (102)			✓
MARSHALL	NOBLE ZACHARY JOHNSON SR (212)	✓		
DESERT MUSICIAN	NOBLE REGINALD BLACK, Sr. (95)	✓		

ROLL CALL OF TEMPLES

	PRESENT	Y	N
EGYPTIAN TEMPLE #5	_____	✓	
MENELIK TEMPLE #36	_____	✓	
THUTMOSE TEMPLE #74	_____	✓	
MUHARRAM TEMPLE #95	_____	✓	
SHEIK TEMPLE #98	_____	✓	
ISIS TEMPLE #102	_____	✓	
SAPHAR TEMPLE #117	_____	✓	
ALCAZAR TEMPLE #179	_____	✓	
ALOOMA TEMPLE #212	_____	✓	

Reading of Minutes for the 2010 Desert Conference. It was motioned by Noble's George Garlington



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#212 and Victor Perry #212 that since each Temple was mailed a copy of the 2010 Desert Conference/Gala Day minutes that the minutes be accepted as printed and passed to record with the necessary corrections and/or additions -MC.

Communications:

1. Letter received from Noble Jaquin Mallet Isis #102; he will not be able to attend this session but is willing to serve if nominated, appointed and/or elected.
2. Letter from Noble Mayfield, #212; he cannot make this session but I am willing to serve if nominated and/or elected.
3. Letter from Deborah Hampton, I am one of your scholarship applicants for \$1000, and have graduated with a BS in Social Work. Thank you very much for your assistance.
4. Rahotep Alkkobulah, a student at Howard University and on the Deans list with a 3.71 GPA thanking us for our contribution toward his education.

The Imperial Deputy of the Desert, Noble Terrell A. Gray, Sr. #74 read his address at 9:05am:

Deputy of the Desert Address – Terrell A. Gray, Sr.

INTRODUCTION

I give honor and praise to Allah for the blessed privilege of meeting to celebrate our 51st Anniversary of this Desert Conference.

Fraternal greetings to the Desert Conference Divan, Past Imperial Deputies of the Desert, Imperial Officers both Elected and Appointed, Past Potentates, Illustrious Potentates, Rabbans and Nobles of the Constituent Temples, of the Desert of California, Ancient Egyptian Arabic Order Nobles Mystic Shrine of North and South America and its Jurisdictions, Inc., and guest.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I would like to express my thanks and gratitude to the host Temple and Court Menelik Temple #36 and Menelik Court #53, the Convention and Registration Departments, the Desert Divan, Desert Committees, Deputies of the Oases, and Nobles for your support over the past year. Last but not least a special thanks goes to my family for their support and patience during the past year.



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I would also like to welcome representatives from the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of the State of California Inc., MWGM Tommie E. Phillips, Sr., the Deputy of the Orient for California and Hawaii, SGIG Billy G. Harrington, and officials from all other Masonic bodies that are present.

NECROLOGY

The family of fraternal friendship is the invisible tie which binds us together as Nobles. Since our last session, many of our loyal Nobles were called from labor to eternal rest. We honor the memory of our deceased Nobles and we pray for their families. Our hearts are saddened by the memory of those whom Allah in his infinite wisdom has taken on the last journey to eternal rest. We rejoice in knowing that on that final day, we shall meet again at that Shrine Temple in the Great Beyond.

STATE OF THE DESERT Desert Conference of Temples

I've completed eight of the nine official visits to the Temples within the Desert of California except for Saphar Temple #117. This visit is scheduled for June 18, 2011. During my official visits, all books and financial records of each Temple Recorder and Treasurer were thoroughly examined. I'm pleased to state that the records of these Temples are in good standing and each Temple is financially solvent.

MEMBERSHIP

Our Desert Temples must continue recruiting and reclaiming Nobles. All Temples must also focus on retaining Nobles who have been recruited or reclaimed. It is imperative that Temple meetings, functions, and programs are structured for maximum efficiency. Throughout my visits, I've noticed that some Temple meetings are very lengthy. Illustrious Potentates, I encourage you to understand your agenda and programs prior to opening the Temple. Become knowledgeable of Robert Rules of Orders, and be sensitive to the duration of your Temple meetings. The Nobles that we recruit, retain, and reclaim, should be afforded the privilege of attending a well-organized and efficient meeting.

Desert Financial Status

The Desert of California has remained financially solvent through these tough Economic Conditions. The \$50,000.00 dishonesty bond has been renewed with the Western Surety Company. More detailed financial information will be given in the Treasurer & Audit Reports

DESERT WEBSITE

www.desertofca.org



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The Desert of California website has been in existence for over three years. This communication tool continues to allow Nobles to retrieve pertinent information regarding the Desert of California's mission statement, Desert Divan, Events, Desert registration package, photos, and link to the Imperial Council website. Please visit us on the World Wide Web at www.desertofca.org.

Desert Give-Away Gold Tickets

Last year the Desert of California incorporated the Desert Courts to participate in the Gold Ticket program. Each Temple received 75 tickets, and each Court received 40 tickets. I'm pleased to announce that the courts have taken advantage of this opportunity by purchasing tickets, which has increased our Gold Tickets Revenue over 15%.

Desert Imperial Council Hospitality

The Desert of California is finalizing plans for the joint hospitality with the Desert of California Conference of Temple and Courts. This hospitality is scheduled for Monday, August 15, 2011 in Cincinnati, Ohio. This Desert Imperial Council Hospitality committee has sent a communication to each Temple and Court requesting donations. More information will be provided in the Hospitality Committee Report.

Fraternal Relations

Fraternal relations between the Desert of California and the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of California are no longer strained. Peace and harmony prevails between both organizations.

STATE OF THE IMPERIAL COUNCIL

Imperial Council Sessions

The 118th Imperial Council will be held in Cincinnati, OH, August 12th – 18th

- 2012 Imperial Council City is New Orleans, L.A.
- 2013 Imperial Council City: Phoenix, AZ resubmitted another bid that is very attractive. Although Arizona has critical issues regarding race relations with the Hispanic community on border issues, this will be voted on at the Imperial Council session in August.
- 2014 Imperial Council: Tampa, FL submitted another bid for 2014
- Each city is required to donate \$50,000.00 to the Prince Hall Shrine Foundation.



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Qualifications for Membership – ARTICLE VII

Section 1: Membership requirements of the Imperial Council. No person shall become a member of the A.E.A.O.N.M.S Inc., unless he Is or Was a Master Mason of a Prince Hall Lodge which traces their lineage to African Lodge No. 459, of Boston, Massachusetts, and no other.

Litigation with the MWPHGL of Virginia

There were 77 Nobles & Daughter suspended without trial by the Grand Master of Virginia Prince Hall Grand Lodge, and Grand Worthy Matron of the order of Eastern Star. The Imperial Council and 77 litigants filed a law suit in Richmond, VA against the Grand Master, the Grand Lodge, the Grand Worthy Matron, and the Order of the Eastern Star. This case was settled through court ordered mediation. The jurisdiction of VA had to pay the 77 litigants and the Imperial Council \$300,000.00. This payment has been fulfilled.

Imperial Council Dress Code

The Imperial Divan overturned the dress code at the January 2011 Divan meeting held in Cincinnati. The dress code specified in the Administrative Policies and Procedures Manual will be the guide for proper dress at all occasions, including Temple meetings.

However, if the Illustrious Potentate elects to establish a uniform dress code to Temple meetings, it must be documented and a copy provide to each member. It must comply with the standards identified in the Administrative Policies and Procedures Manual and it must be enforced uniformly.

National Diabetes Initiatives (NDI)

The National Diabetes Initiative (NDI) – NDI is a collaborative effort between Prince Hall Shriners (PHS) and the America Diabetes Association (ADA). The NDI is a 10 year \$1 million dollar fund raising initiative for the PHSF to raise funds for minority research for the America Diabetes Association (ADA). In return, the ADA will supply the Prince Hall Shriners with ample educational and logistical support to Temples and their surrounding communities who are impacted by diabetes. I encourage everyone to continue supporting this major Imperial Council initiative!



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Recommendations

Recommendation #1:

I recommend that Noble Anthony Douglas of Aloom Temple #212, past Desert Advisor to the Daughters of Isis be honored as Desert Advisor to the Daughter of Isis Emeritus.

Rationale:

Noble Douglas was appointed as Advisor to the Daughter of Isis in 2004. He has served with five different Deputies for the Desert, Dt. San Juan, Dt. Milam, Dt. Bell, Dt. Dunlap, and Dt. Flowers. Noble Douglas dedication to the Daughters of Isis over the past seven years has been invaluable.

Recommendation #2:

Increase the current Desert Scholarship assistance from \$4,000.00 to \$5,000.00 annually.

Rationale:

As the United Negro College Fund slogan states “A mind is a terrible thing to waste”. According to the Urban Institute, African-American males are often categorized as at-risk in educational systems, and they often lag behind African-American females and their white male counterparts. Our African American youth are in a crisis, we must continue to reach out and aid in educating as many at-risk youth as possible.

Recommendation #3:

Imperial Chief Rabban, Rochelle Rick Julian becomes an honorary member of the Desert of California.

Rationale:

Noble Julian’s dedication and support to the Desert of California over the past years has been greatly encouraging and cherished.

CONCLUSION

The Desert of California has entered into a second half century of existence. As we continue to travel on our journey within the Desert of life, there will be cloudy and rainy days. Though standing firm on our purpose and beliefs, sunny days are promised ahead. The Desert of California has an exciting future ahead of us. Let’s not settle for mediocrity or become stagnant as a Noble of the Mystic Shrine. We must continue the tradition of building a great Noble organization called Shrinedom! Nobles remain steadfast until we are able to rest at the Temple of Mecca and drink from the well of Zem Zem.



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Again, I would like to thank everyone for attending our 51st Annual Desert Conference/Gala Day Session. May the blessing of Allah continue to be showered upon each of you, and may peace, harmony, and progress continue to prevail throughout the great Desert of California.

Fraternally submitted,

Terrell A. Gray, Sr.
11th Imperial Deputy of the Desert

Desert Chief Rabban, PP Gerald Stringer entertained the motion to accept the Imperial Deputy of the Desert outstanding address. It was M/2nd by Noble Reginald Black and IP Carl C. Corbin of Muharram #95, Desert Asst. Rabban Robert Washington Sr., of Isis #102 that the Imperial Deputy of the Desert address be accepted, recommendations complied with and passed to record –MC.

Imperial Deputy Gray then called for the rest of the Temple reports.

Temple Reports: Illustrious Potentate of Egyptian Temple #5 read his report, it was M/2nd by Nobles Maurice Smith #5, IP Ed Adams #212 that this report be received and pass to record – MC.

Thutmose Temple report was read by IP William G. Shultz, it was M/2nd by Noble Edgar Brown and James Smith #75 that the report be received and passed to record – MC.

Before continuing with reports Imp Deputy Gray announced MWGM Tommie E. Phillips condition is stable and he's in his room recovering well.

Isis Temple report was given by IP Olester Brandon, it was M/2nd by Nobles Dewitt Cole and John Richardson that the report be received and passed to record – MC.

Muharram Temple report was read by IP Carl C. Corbin, it was M/2nd by Noble Billy Harrington and William Brown #95 that the report be received and passed to record – MC.

Budget and Finance: Noble Billy Harrington read the budget report, it was M/2nd by Noble Young #212 and Noble Black #95 and Clifton Smith #212 that the report be received and passed to record – MC.



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Convention Department Report: Noble Doyle Thompson #5 read the convention report and stated that Thutmose Temple #74 will be hosting the 2012 Desert Conference; it was M/2nd by Noble Reginald Black #95 and Corey Giddens #36 that the report and recommendation be received and complied with – MC. Imperial Deputy Gray stated that the Convention Department Committee works the entire year and he thanks them for their labor.

Technology Committee Report: Noble Leroy Burton #179 read the technology report and stated that the Desert web site is up and running, it was M/2nd by Nobles AT Hornbeak and Benjamin Reid #74 that the report be received and passed record –MC.

Hospitality Report: The hospitality report was read by Noble Leroy Burton noting that there will be a joint Hospitality in Cincinnati and that each Temple was requested to make donations by July 15, 2011, it was M/2nd by Nobles AT Hornbeak #74 and John Richardson #102 that the report be received and passed to record and recommendations be complied with –MC.

Audit Report: The audit reports for Desert Conference and Desert Conference / Gala Day for the period of 1 May 2010 thru 30 April 2011 was read by Nobles Pickens #74, Boggs #179 and Burton #179, it was M/2nd by Noble Victor Perry #212 and John Richardson #102 that the report be receive and passed to record –MC.

Desert By-Laws: The Desert By-Laws was read by Noble Boggs #179, it was M/2nd by Nobles AT Hornbeak #74 and Freddie Bradley #179 that the by-laws report be received and passed to record –MC.

Treasurer report: Noble Thompson #179 read the Treasurer report. It was M/2nd by IP Draine #36, Noble AT Hornbeak #74 and Joe Howard #179 that the report be received and passed to audit – MC.

Registration report: Noble Stokes gave a partial report; on-site registration is still open. A final report will be submitted upon completion of Desert Conference and passed to audit. It was M/2nd by Noble Burton #179 and IP Jackson #179 that the report be received and passed to record –MC.

Economic Education and Development: Noble Fredrick B. Young, Jr., presented the Economic Education and Development report. It was M/2nd by Noble Johnson #212 and Black #95 that the report be received and passed to record - MC.

Voter Education Report: Chief Rabban Stringer read the voter education report. It was M/2nd by Noble Dotson, Reid #74 and Hales #212 that the report be received and passed to record - MC.

Recorder Report: Noble Stokes read the Recorder report covering the period of 1 May 2010 thru 30



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April 2011. It was M/2nd by Noble Coleman #74 and Parker #212 that the report be received and passed to record - MC.

Ways and Means: Noble Christopher Stewart read the Ways and Means report It was M/2nd by AT Hornbeak #74 and Noble Vincent #102 that the report be received and passed to record - MC. It should be noted that the Ways and Means program grossed a total of \$22,500.00, and paid rebates of \$6225.00

Charity Report: Noble Roosevelt Pickens #74 read the charity report, it was M/2nd by Nobles Reid and Brown #74, that the report be received and passed to record - MC.

Scholarship Report: Noble George Spillman #179 submitted the report from the scholarship committee. It was M/2nd by Noble Cornish #5, Noble Dotson #74, and Noble Adams #212 that the report be receive and passed to record. The following students were selected.

1. Roosevelt Davis VI Egyptian #5
2. Lorenzo L. Coykendall Isis #102
3. Van N. Pollar Alcazar #179
4. Bernard L. Smith Alooma #212

Awards and Recognition: Noble Corey Giddens #36 read the award and recognition report. It was M/2nd by Noble Fucles Jr. #36, Boggs #179 Black #95, that the report be received and passed to record. The following are the results of Awards and Recognition selections:

- **Deputy of the Oasis:** Joe F. Howard #179
- **Temple of the Year:** Isis Temple #102
- **Noble of Year:** Eldra Jackson Alcazar #179

Membership: Noble Garlington gave his report on membership, it was M/2nd by Noble AT Hornbeak and Simmons #74 that the report be received and passed to record –MC.

Comments were received from Imperial Chief Rabban Rick Jullian. We are working on a five year plan to increase membership by 10%. It is important that every Imperial Officer bring in a new member.

Jurisprudence Report: No report was given.

Publicity Committee Report: Noble Victor Perry #212 read the publicity report. It was M/2nd by Noble Chapman #36, and Noble Stewart #98 that the report be received and passed to record - MC.

Religious Works: Noble Reginald Black read the religious works, it was M/2nd Noble Chatmon #36 and AT Hornbeak #74 by that the report be received and passed to record - MC. Additional Comments from Imperial Chief Rabban Rick Julian - that we must lead by example and



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work on reclaiming those suspended and dropped Nobles to increase our membership.

Hall of Fame: Noble George Garlington #212 read the Hall of Fame report. He advised that we have inducted Noble's Harvell, Stokes, and Booker. It was M/2nd by Noble Stewart #98, Smith #212, Brown Jr. #212, and Thompson #98 that the report be received, passed to record, and recommendations complied with. The recommendation was to induct Noble Christopher Stewart #98 at the 2012 Desert Conference; MC. Noble Garlington also stated that the Hall of Fame members will be added to the Web site.

At 11:10am, Imperial Deputy Gray called the nobility from labor to refreshment for the purpose of visiting the Daughter of Isis and having lunch and to return at the sound of the gravel at 2:00 pm.

HP&P Black #95 gave a closing prayer

At 2:35pm Noble Gray sounded the gravel and the nobility was called back from refreshment to labor.

Imperial Deputy Gray called for the remaining reports.

Imp Deputy of the Oasis Jimmie Boatright, Jr. #5 approached the altar and introduced the Divan members from Egyptian Temple #5 who performed the Shrine Memorial Service for the benefit of the Nobility. The Memorial Service was received very well by all who were in attendance and a call for applause was rendered in recognition of their performance. Imperial Deputy Gray stated that the Leadership Training Workshop at the 2012 Desert Conference will be a Jubilee Day Demonstration.

Desert Recorder Stokes was called upon to give the Recorder Workshop. Noble Stokes presented a package of various forms that Recorders could use to help them perform their jobs as Temple Recorders. On the question it was asked by the Desert Chief Rabban Stringer what assistance is being given by Imperial Council. Noble Stokes explained that it is a work in progress. Imp Council Chief Rabban Rick Julian chimed in and stated that the Imp Council is forming an Ad-Hoc committee to look into computerizing many Imperial Council tasks.

At 3:20pm, Noble Garlington approached the altar and presented a report from an Ad Hoc committee which was formed at the 2010 Desert Conference / Gala Day for the future campaign of Imperial Deputy Gray's pursuit for Imperial Outer Guard in 2012. Noble Garlington gave estimates of what it would cost to run an effective campaign. Noble Garlington also recommended that the Desert of California donate \$3,000 to be broken up in 2 payments, \$1,500 for 2011, and \$1,500 for 2012. Noble Garlington stated that the Nobles had already approved 2011 – 2012 Desert Budget which included \$1,500 donation to the campaign for 2011.

On the question several Nobles asked about the funds that were previously contributed to the campaign.



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It was stated that the only funds received was from Noble Howard Perkins and that other funds would be forthcoming. Noble Dotson advised that each Noble was asked to support this effort with a donation of \$100.00 and each Temple was requested to donate \$500.00. Noble Garlington stated that he would like a representative from each Temple to be on the committee.

It was M/2nd by Noble Black #95 and Burton #179 that the report be received and to support the proposed amounts –MC.

A Communication from Alcazar Temple #179 to support Noble George Blue #179 for Imperial Grievance & Appeals Committee was read. It was M/2nd by Noble Black #95 and Brown #74 to support Noble Blue's candidacy –MC.

Veterans Administration Report was given by Noble Britt #212, it was M/2nd by Noble Victor Perry #212 and Tucker to receive the report and pass it to record. MC

Communications: Letter from Imperial Deputy for the Desert Daughter Jimmie Flowers Sheik Court #138 soliciting our support for Dt. Zena Tingle Menelik Court # 53 for Imperial Outside Spy, and requested that we support her with a donation of \$200. It was M/2nd by Illustrious Potentate Isiah Draine and Chief Rabban Corey Giddens of Menelik #36 that we support this effort with a donation of \$200 -MC.

At 4:00pm Imperial Deputy Gray called for the election of Desert officers. He asked Noble Garlington #212, to conduct the election. Noble Chatmon of Menelik #36 made a motion that all officers retain their station; the motion was amended that all officers except for Noble Louis Thompson #179, Desert Treasurer who declined to retain his station. Noble Louis Thompson nominated Noble Leroy Burton #179 for Desert Treasurer and it was 2nd by Desert Recorder Stokes – MC.

Election results:

1. Noble Gerald Stringer #212 retained his station as Chief Rabban
2. Noble Robert Washington #102 retained his station as Assistant Rabban
3. Noble Reginald Black #95 retained his station as High Priest & Prophet
4. Noble Moses Palmer #102 retained his station as Oriental Guide
5. Noble Leroy Burton #179 elected to Treasurer
6. Noble Robert Stokes #212 retained his station as Desert Recorder
7. Noble Ron Dunlap #102 appointed to Assistant Recorder
8. Noble A T. Hornbeck #179 retained his station as 1st Ceremonial Master
9. Noble James Trice #179 retained his station as 2nd Ceremonial Master
10. Noble Darrell Byrd #179 retained his station as Capt. of the Guard
11. Noble Jaquin Mallet #102 retained his station as Outer Guard



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12. Noble Zachary Johnson, Sr., #212 was reappointed as Marshall
13. Noble Reginald Black #95 was reappointed Musician

Note: Noble Darrell Byrd #179 informed the Deputy of the Desert that he will be moving and will not be able to perform as Desert Captain of the Guard. This message was given after the elections; Deputy Gray will appoint a Noble to Desert Captain of the Guard.

Noble Boggs #179 announced that there was one position opened on the Audit committee. Noble Joseph Norfleet #5 and John Howard #98 were placed into nomination for auditor. Noble Joseph Norfleet #5 was elected as an Auditor to replace Noble Leroy Burton #179.

A motion was made by Noble Richardson #102 that the ballots be destroyed, 2nd by Freddie Bradley #179 on the vote motion carried. All officers were duly installed by Imperial Chief Rabban, Rick Julian. Desert Conference was closed in ritualistic form by Imp Deputy of the Desert Terrell A. Gray Sr., on May 27 at 5:10pm.

So ends the minutes for Desert Conference 2011.

Yours in Shrinedom,



Terrell A. Gray, Sr. #74
11th Imperial Deputy of the Desert

Robert E. Stokes

Robert E. Stokes #212
Desert Recorder