

**R. O. J.
PORTLAND COURT NO. 29
1976**

Office Phones . 222-1337 – 222-1349

Director	Eric Christenson
Immediate Past Director	W Page Yaw
Leading Man	Herman C Deane
Tragedian	James J. Harris
Impresario	Earl D Hauck
Treasurer	Willard Christine
Stage Manager	Dr William J Kubler
Leading Lady	Walter B Beebe
Heavy Man	Budd Burnie
Light Comedian	Tom Manning
Soubrette	Wally Youngson
Serio-Comic	I-red Waker
Character Man	Bob Johnson
Property Man	Richard L Greene

REPRESENTATIVES TO THE NATIONAL COURT

Eric Christenson Earl D Hauck
Herman C Deane

OFFICERS OF THE NATIONAL COURT

Royal Director

John J Baker
Suite 1403 – 625 Avenue Road
Toronto, Ontario, Canada

Royal Impresario

Ray Nyemaster
613 Hubbell Building
Des Moines, Iowa 50309

Prerequisites for Membership



- 1 He must be a Shriner in good standing in all prerequisite Masonic bodies and in his Temple.
- 2 He must have rendered some outstanding, conspicuous, unselfish service to his Temple
- 3 He must be able to attend the sideboard with dignity and always be a gentleman
- 4 He must at all times be congenially welcome in the home of fellow Jesters even in their absence
- 5 He must be of such financial ability that his dues, assessments and expenditures incident to his membership, will cause no embarrassment or deprivation to his family, business associates, or any others to whom he may at any time be obligated
- 6 HE MUST NOT be informed that he has been proposed for membership, but notified by his proponent, ONLY after his election by all members present at a legally constituted meeting of the committee for the election of candidates



The Royal Order of Jesters is a *luxury organization* for only those who can qualify and who can afford it

Creed of a Jester



Laugh and the glad world laughs with you
Weep and the sad world will sigh!
Mirth is our life's true elixir,
It shows you're a "regular guy"
There's nothing so banishes worry, nor puts
such a big crimp in sin,
Nor smooths out the wrinkles of trouble,
like a jolly old Jester-man's grin!
It rolls off the years from your shoulders
You'll forget that you've grown to be men!
Your youth turns once more to embrace you
For you've grown to be school-boys again!
So, if you've got grouches, don't bring 'em,
It's your laugh and your joke that we need,
For mirth is the doctor of trouble,
And laughter, the Jester-man's Creed!

FOREWORD

The name, "Royal Order of Jesters," is not original with us apparently as there is evidence of an Order amongst the Monks through a bejeweled dagger inscribed, "Royal Jesters," which was presented to the National Court in the custody of our late Royal Director, Uncle Bill Brown, by Jester George F Foye of Oakland Court, who obtained it from a Monk when traveling in the Far East. The Monk told Jester Foye that it was of ancient origin and very valuable. So, we may say, we are a perpetuation of that Order, at least in spirit, for both stand for the perpetuation of Fun, Laughter and Mirth, as well as Good Fellowship, without which latter no Order may survive.

To Noble A M (Bill) Allison of San Francisco Court No 4 must be given the credit of conceiving and bringing into being this Royal Order of Jesters and also for the original Book of the Play, copies of which are preserved in the archives in the Royal Impresario's office. The Book of the Play or Ritual, has been revised several times. The present ritual as rewritten and carried with it a new lineup of officers and cast more in conformity with the theatrical profession whose titles we assumed.

The Billiken was adopted as Mascot



HISTORY OF THE ROYAL ORDER OF JESTERS

In August, 1910, Noble James S McCandless, with Past Illustrious Potentate George Filmer of Islam Temple, San Francisco, Calif, met with Imperial Potentate Fred A Hines at the Palace Hotel San Francisco, and decided on the period of February 15th to March 7th 1911, as the time of the Imperial Visitation to Aloha Temple and the Hawaiian Islands. Noble George Filmer agreed to act for Imperial Potentate Fred A Hines, and was designated by Aloha Temple to act for them in all the matters pertaining to this pilgrimage.

At the personal solicitation of Noble James S McCandless, the new and palatial steamer, "Wilhelmina," of the Matson Navigation Company, was chartered for the trip with Noble Peter Johnson, of Aloha Temple, as her commander. Noble A M Allison, of Islam Temple, was appointed Historian of the Pilgrimage.

On the voyage over, Manager and Director George Filmer, and a number of Nobles, together with Captain Peter Johnson, arranged many games and sports to while away the hours. An idea occurred to Noble Allison to start a new order to be known as the "Royal Order of Jesters," and this was suggested to Noble George Filmer, who enthusiastically approved of the idea. Noble A. M. Allison personally prepared the Ritual or Book of the Play, and arranged all of the details of the first initiations.

Upon the evening of February 20, 1911, Noble Allison called a number of Nobles together in the Captain's office, aboard the S. S. Wilhelmina, and went over the tentative program of founding and arranging for the "Royal Order of Jesters," establishing its name and birthplace as within the jurisdiction of Aloha Court, Honolulu, the Mother Court of the Realm, and those present at this preliminary meeting, and the parts which later were allocated to them in the Original Royal Cast, were George Filmer, Royal Director, James S. McCandless, Royal Heavy Man, William M. Beamish, Royal Serio Comic, J. Benton Leggat, Royal Tragedian, A. M. Allison, Royal Impresario, D. E. Perkins, Royal Light Comedian, Frederick R. Smith, Royal Leading Lady, William S. Brown, Royal Soubrette, A. C. Brode, Royal Property Man, George H. Green, Royal Constable, Peter Johnson, Royal Master Transportation, Fred A. Hines, Royal Censor, and Lou B. Winsor, Royal Censor. There was no real initiation, except the reading of excerpts of the Ritual which afterwards were embodied in the Book of the Play, and the banding together of the above named Nobles as the nucleus of the Royal Order of Jesters.

On the return trip Thursday, March 2, 1911, the first interpretation of the "Book of the Play" of the Royal Order of Jesters was given on board the S. S. Wilhelmina, in mid-Pacific in the Captain's office, by the original Royal Cast, under the name and style of "Aloha Court, the Mother Court of the Realm," with a completed ritual or Book of the Play, containing the obligation, and six acts fully worked out with their lines and histrionic business, lessons, axioms, and symbols. Everything being now complete and the stage set, the Acts were played out before two Nobles, Nelson Lewis, of Nile Temple, Seattle, Wash., and James A. Sorenson, of Islam Temple, San Francisco, Calif., who fully appreciated the performance, criticised at will, caught their cues, sang the roles in fairly good style, and learned the lines well. The fun was genteel,

excruciating and enjoyed by the candidates as much as by the Court itself

As the play of the Royal Order of Jesters had taken so well and interest in the secret performance aboard ship was becoming so general, another performance was called

Under the Ritual or Book of the Play, any two original members of the Mother Court, being present could form a subsidiary Court in any city where a Temple of the A A O N M S existed, and under this authority, Royal Director George Filmer and Royal Impresario A M Allison, of Islam, San Francisco, convened a meeting of the Originals holding membership in Islam Temple, at the Union League Club, in that city, on the 4th of May, 1911, and after a banquet gave a performance of the Book of the Play, and instituted San Francisco Court Royal Order of Jesters, at which 18 Nobles participated in the First Performance

Seven other Courts were instituted or held their first meeting in 1911 and 1912 and on June 25, 1917, the National Court of the Royal Order of Jesters was formed at a meeting in St Paul, Minn., of the first eight subordinate Courts. At the first annual meeting in 1918, a resolution was adopted assigning numbers to the first eight Courts in the order in which they were originally recognized as subsidiary Courts. Thereafter, the Courts were numbered consecutively according to the date of their charter

A REMINDER TO ALL JESTERS



The National By-Laws that restrict our membership numerically subject us to the possible envy of many good Nobles who, although well qualified, have not been invited to join our organization.

All Jesters—and their Ladies—should be careful therefore to neither embarrass non-members nor invite their possible criticism by discussing Jester Social Affairs in their presence.

The Business of the Court definitely should be discussed only with other Members, in complete privacy.

—*King Mirth.*

PAST DIRECTORS

*Julius L. Meier	1920-24
*Frank S. Grant	1925
*Hugh J. Boyd	1926-27
*Russell Hawkins	1928
*Ernest L. King	1929
*Gus C. Moser	1930-33
Homer Goehler	1934-37
*Reuben R. Adams	1938-55
*Tommy Luke	1956-57
*Len Fuller	1958
*Earl Riley	1959
Capt. Homer T. Shaver	1960
Clarence Phillips	1961
Alton Alexander	1962
Willard Christine	1963
Dr. Ray Mangels	1964
Lyle W. Hammack	1965
Flavel Temple	1966
Paul Harbaugh	1967
Fred Meyer	1968
Lyman W. Slack	1969-70
Ernest G. Helms	1971
T. M. (Morey) Braden	1972
R. E. (Dick) Kriesien	1973
George H. Baker	1974
W. Page Yaw	1975

PAST IMPRESARIOS

*W. J. (Bill) Hofmann	1920-24
*Harvey Wells	1925-55
Fred C. Reed	1955-59
*Al Vaughan	1960-72
Lyle W. Hammack	1973
Earl D. Hauck	1974

*Deceased

LEST WE FORGET . . .

Today we are Jovial Jesters
Devoted to mirth and fun,
But now we must remind ourselves
Before the feast is done
That our heritage still is Masonry,
As through this life we plod,
Our trust is in our fellow man —
Our faith is still in God.

The square and compass rules our ways,
We subscribe to others needs,
Through sacred rites and allegories
We sanctify our creeds.

Before we entered this Jester realm,
We were honored by the Shrine
Our parent lodge of brotherhood
And most humans design.
So 'ere we close festivities
And the annals are duly filed,
Let's dedicate ourselves once more
To the lot of the Crippled Child.

— J. D. Manley Treece
Past Potentate
Al Kader Temple

THE BADGE OF A JESTER

*By the Emblem of our Order
which you wear from day to day,
You proclaim that you're a Jester —
you have seen the famous play!*

*It's a symbol that your fellows
have abiding faith in you,
They believe that you are worthy
and they trust in all you do*

*But I wonder fellow Jester
as I meet you here and there,
If you've really caught the meaning
of this little badge you wear.*

*By this token you are wearing
it's my honor to report,
That a Shriner gains in stature
when he joins a Jester Court*

*And the man who wears this emblem
has his fellows guarantee,
That a gentleman of honor
he is known and pledged to be*

*And should someone fail that standard
by a foolish word or whim,
Then Jesters the wide world over
shall be put to shame by him*

By the Billiken, fat and jolly,
which so proudly you display,
You are bound to live and travel
in a bigger and better way.

You must dignify this Emblem
so that none whom we may know,
Shall call the Jesters shallow –
be he either friend or foe.

You must play the man at all times –
you must keep your conduct fair,
And be worthy of this Emblem
of a Jester that you wear

A paraphrase of the "Badge of a Shriner"
by Edgar Guest

– by J D Manley Treece
Past Potentate
Al Kader Temple

BY-LAWS
of the
Portland Court No. 29
of the
Royal Order of Jesters



ARTICLE 1
(Name)

This Court shall be known as Portland Court No 29, Royal Order of Jesters, and exists by virtue of a Charter granted June 14, 1920, by the National Court of the Royal Order of Jesters from which body is derived all its powers and privileges and to whose Constitution, By-Laws and Edicts implicit respect and obedience shall ever be paid by its members

ARTICLE 2
(Meetings)

Section 1. Meetings shall be held at least three times per year. At least two of these meetings will be for the selection or election of candidates and for the initiation of selected Tyros. The book of the play shall be enacted at least once a year. The annual meeting for the election of Officers shall be held in the month of December or January of each year. Additional meetings may be called at the discretion of the Director. Notices of all meetings shall be given ten days previous to said meeting.

Section 2. Thirteen Jesters shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.

ARTICLE 3
(Officers)

Section 1. The officers of this Court, their rank and style, shall be as follows

- | | |
|-----------------|------------------|
| 1 Director | 7 Leading Lady |
| 2 Leading Man | 8 Heavy Man |
| 3 Tragedian | 9 Light Comedian |
| 4 Impresario | 10 Soubrette |
| 5 Treasurer | 11 Serio Comic |
| 6 Stage Manager | 12 Character Man |
| 13 Property Man | |

Two representatives to the National Court and two alternates

Section 2. The first five officers, the two representatives and two alternates to the National Court shall be elected by a majority vote of the Court, at the annual meeting each year. The remaining officers together with the dramatic personnel for such cast as may be desired shall be appointed by the Director.

(Duties of the Director)

Section 3. The Director shall be the Executive Officer of the Court and shall preside over all meetings. He shall be an Ex-Officio member of all standing and special Committees. He shall select the time and place for all meetings of the Court. He shall approve all bills and expenditures of the Court before being paid by the Treasurer, and perform such other duties as usually pertain to the chief executive officer. In the absence of the Director, the next ranking officer shall fulfill the duties of the Director.

(Duties of the Impresario)

The Impresario shall keep the records of membership, the attendance, fees, dues, and all other monies received, and turn same over to the Treasurer and take his receipt therefor. He shall keep the minutes of the meetings of the Court, send out all notices of meetings, and other communications to the members. He shall present all bills to the Director for his approval and sign all checks for their payment. He shall submit a report to the annual meeting and such other times as the Director may require. He shall submit to the Director all communications from the National Court and furnish all official reports required by the National Court. He shall be Custodian of all jewels, records, seal, emblems, and all other property of the Court except that which is used by the Cast. The Impresario's records and books shall be open at all times for inspection by the Director and Auditing Committee.

(Duties of the Treasurer)

The Treasurer shall receive from the Impresario information on all funds paid into the Court and a statement of all bills approved by the Director. He shall make a report at the annual meeting of the Court and at such times as the Director may require.

ARTICLE 4

(Fees and Dues)

Section 1. The fee for initiation shall be not less than ninety-nine dollars and ninety-nine cents

Section 2. The fixed annual dues shall be thirty-three dollars and thirty-three cents effective as of December 11, 1964 due on or before January first of each year, and any assessments as may be voted by seventy-five per cent of the members present at any regular meeting of the Court which has a quorum, to meet necessary expenses, provided however, that the membership shall receive written notice at least ten days prior to the meeting at which the assessment will be voted upon

Section 3. A Jester who is a member of Portland Court may apply for a demit for the purpose of assisting in transfer to another Court or as provided herein, and same shall be granted, provided that all dues and assessments have been paid for the current year and there are no charges standing against him

A demit may be issued by the Director and the Impresario between sessions of the Court if deemed necessary. A record of a demit so issued must be made and reported to the Court at its next regular meeting

A Jester holding a demit from his Court and who is desirous of re-affiliation may do so by petitioning this Court with the original demit from his Court's Impresario attached to the petition and be restored to our membership by a unanimous vote of those present at the meeting he is balloted on. He shall have been a resident of this Jurisdiction for at least six months. Secret ballot shall prevail

There shall be no charge of issuing a demit. The fee for affiliation, or re-affiliation, shall be thirty-three dollars and thirty-three cents. The applicant's name shall be submitted to the members of the Court by the same method as those of proposed new members.

Section 4. A Jester to gain admission to a session of the National Court or to this Court must exhibit his membership card for the ensuing or current year signed by himself and the Impresario of his Court. He should wear his jewel at all Jester functions as a part of his dress

ARTICLE 5

(Jurisdiction and Membership)

Section 1. The jurisdiction of this Court shall be as prescribed by the National Court, Constitution, and By-Laws

Section 2. The membership of this Court, as prescribed by the National Court By-Laws shall be confined to the initiating and making of **not more than thirteen** Jesters a year, and must be by invitation only and from members in good standing of **Al Kader Temple of the A.A.O.N.M.S.**

Section 3. The Director shall appoint a Committee of three whose duty it shall be to make a careful report of proposed initiates, using some Credit Agency for this purpose Said Committee shall then divulge to the Director any information which the reports may reveal which might make the proposed initiate ineligible for membership It then shall be the duty of the Director to request the party who proposed the name of the initiate to withdraw the name

Section 4. All candidates are to be elected by the unanimous secret vote of the committee representing the order to consist of the following This committee shall consist of five voting members, three to be appointed by the Director and the other two to be the last two surviving past Directors In the absence or incapacity of two past Directors, the Director shall appoint a substitute The Director and the Impresario shall be ex-officio members of this committee in addition to the five selected above but shall have no right to vote The Director, however, shall have the right to veto any selection made by the committee, provided this veto shall be upon reasonable grounds which may affect the proposed member's eligibility or personality or habits which in the judgment of the Director would not permit him to participate in the proceedings of the order in harmony with other members It shall not be exercised for personal spite or animosity

No more than thirteen shall be selected for initiation in any one year, provided, however, that this shall not prevent the acceptance of a new member demitting from another court

The total membership shall be limited to 160 active members Non-active members shall be those who on account of illness, personal or other reasons do not participate in the proceedings and meetings of the

order with reasonable regularity This shall not affect the membership or the right to vote or other rights in the order of any such non-active member but they are not to be counted in determining the limitation upon the membership The purpose of this is to enable the order to have a maximum membership of 160 who are reasonably active in the proceedings of the order The Officers of the Court by unanimous vote shall determine the status of active and inactive members

Section 5. The renewal of a nomination of one who has been rejected cannot be made until after the lapse of one year from the date of the said rejection

Section 6. Proposed Tyros shall be balloted upon at a meeting held not less than **30 days prior to the ceremonial** at which they are inducted

Section 7. Should any member remain in **arrears for twelve months**, he shall stand suspended Any member so suspended may make application within six months of the date of his suspension accompanying his application with **funds to cover all** arrearages and he may be reinstated by a favorable vote of two-thirds of the members present Should any member remain suspended for more than six months he shall be automatically dropped from membership

Section 8. The Director shall appoint an Auditing Committee annually to make its report at the annual meeting of the Court

Section 9. A Jester who is a member of another Court, may be created an Honorary Member of Portland Court by a unanimous vote of those present at the time his name is balloted on His name shall be proposed and submitted to the members of Portland Court by the same method as those of proposed new members Secret ballot shall prevail Honorary members shall pay no dues or assessments

Section 10. Any Jester who has been a member continuously in good standing for more than 25 years, by two-thirds vote of the members of Portland Court, may be recommended to the National Court for Honorary Life membership

ARTICLE 6
(Amendments)

Section 1. Proposed amendments to the Constitution and By-Laws may be submitted in writing at any regular meeting of this Court. They shall be referred to the By-Laws Committee and shall be voted upon at the next regular meeting, after due notice to every member of this Court. A two-thirds vote of those present shall be necessary for adoption.

A Copy of these By-Laws and all Amendments hereafter adopted shall be sent to the Royal Impresario for the approval of the National Court before they become effective.

The Impresario shall furnish each member a copy of the By-Laws.

Section 2. All laws, resolutions and amendments or parts thereof in conflict with the Charter and By-Laws are hereby repealed.

ROYAL ORDER OF JESTERS

LIST OF COURTS



Ct. No.	Court	Ct. No.	Court
1	Aloha	38	Pine Bluff
2	Pittsburgh	39	Chattanooga
3	Rochester	40	Peoria
4	San Francisco	42	Calgary
5	Helena	43	Hammond
6	Oakland	45	Terre Haute
7	Cincinnati	46	Des Moines
8	Columbus	47	Tulsa
9	St Paul	48	Chicago
10	Dayton	49	Salt Lake
11	Grand Rapids	50	Capital
12	Little Rock	51	Grand Forks
13	Wheeling	52	Seattle
14	Cleveland	53	Minneapolis
15	Indianapolis	54	Kansas City, Mo
16	Richmond	55	Duluth
17	Phoenix	56	London
18	Panama Canal	57	Knoxville
19	Omaha	58	Erie
20	Springfield, Ill	59	Roanoke
21	Toledo	60	San Antonio
22	Buffalo	61	Binghamton
23	Butte	62	Lewiston
24	Albuquerque	63	Montreal
25	Dallas	64	Crescent
26	Shreveport	65	Spokane
27	Ft Wayne	66	Dimaryp
28	Detroit	67	Fargo
29	Portland	69	Rockford
30	New York	70	Altoona
31	Boise	71	Providence
32	Ft Worth	72	Philadelphia
33	Reno	73	Springfield, Mo
34	El Paso	74	Saginaw
35	Austin	75	Norfolk
36	New Orleans	76	Wichita
37	Newark	77	Albany
		78	Oklahoma City

Ct. No.	Court	Ct. No.	Court
79	Syracuse	124	Sioux City
80	Akron	125	Topeka
81	St Louis	126	Madison
82	Baltimore	127	Birmingham
83	Toronto	128	Allentown
84	Los Angeles	129	Davenport
85	Wichita Falls	130	Memphis
86	E St Louis	131	Louisville
87	Billings	133	San Diego
88	Miami	134	Savannah
89	Tampa	135	Sheridan
90	Jacksonville	136	Houston
91	Atlanta	137	New Hampshire
92	Nashville	138	Denver
93	Kansas City, Kas	139	Cedar Rapids
94	Salina	140	Amarillo
95	Pittsburg, Kas	141	Hartford
96	Montgomery	142	Watertown
97	Galveston	143	Jackson
98	St Joseph	144	Springfield, Mass
99	Muskogee	145	New Bern
100	Victoria	146	Macon
101	Milwaukee	147	Mendian
102	Evansville	148	Rawlins
103	Boston	149	St John
104	Tacoma	150	Bangor
105	Rutland	151	Montpelier
106	Winnipeg	152	Hastings
107	Put Stevens	153	Deadwood
108	Ashland	154	Wilkes-Barre
109	Charlotte	155	Nova Scotia
110	Pueblo	156	Parkersburg
111	Charleston, W Va	157	Fresno
112	Mexico City	158	Greenville
113	Charleston, S C	159	Albany
114	Sioux Falls	160	San Angelo
115	Waco	161	Long Beach
116	Harrisburg	162	Alexandria
117	Cumberland	163	Utica
118	Lincoln	164	Wilmington
119	Sacramento	165	Aberdeen, S Dak
120	Mobile	166	Orlando
121	Lexington	167	Regina
122	Troy	168	Tyler, Tex
		169	Tucson, Ariz
		170	Fr Myers, Fla