

Local Nemesis Shriner receives National Honors



Left to right: Robert “Bob Galland is awarded National Director Staff Member of the Year plaque from the Director of Nemesis Shrine Director Staff JB Campbell

Nemesis Shrine Director Staff of Parkersburg WV, conducts an annual appreciation dinner to thank all the members of the Director Staff for their efforts in supporting the Children of our local area. This dinner had an added feature that one of our member’s family of four generations was invited to see their Dad, Great Grandfather, Grandfather and Uncle receive an outstanding Award from Shrine International as the Shrine Director Staff Member of the year for 2018. Robert “Bob” Galland of South Parkersburg was this year’s recipient for this prestigious award.

As more and more family members began arriving Bob was trying to figure out what was happening at this dinner. Bob had been visiting the day of the dinner with his wife, who was having a temporary medical condition and could not attend the dinner. Bob had determined that he was not attending the appreciation dinner without his wife. Bob had called the Director, JB

Campbell, the night before the dinner and told him that he would not be attending the dinner since Donna could not be there. But all the family, especially Donna, his daughters and nieces were in on making sure that Bob attended this Dinner knowing what was going to happen at the dinner. Bob Galland has been a member of Nemesis Shrine since 1972. He joined the Shrine along with three of his brothers some forty-six years ago. Bob has a lot of accomplishments which he does not often speak about. His family, which comes first with Bob, have all been involved in Bob's career in the Shrine and his Masonic endeavors. Bob has been the past Worshipful Master for Blue Lodge 169, Parkersburg in 1977- 1978. Bob joined the Ben Bey Grotto in 1975 where he was nominated as the Monarch in 2013-2014. Also, in years 2014-2015 Bob was nominated as the Director of the Nemesis Shrine Director Staff, which is for a period of two consecutive years.

During all the support that Bob has provided to the Masonic organizations and Nemesis Shrine, Bob was still working full-time up to the age of 72 at Borg Warner Sabic. Bob accumulated 39 years of service to these companies. But that is not all Bob Galland has accomplished through his lifetime. Bob enlisted in the West Virginia Army National Guard at the rank of Enlisted One or E-1 in February 1964. Bob retired from the West Virginia Army National Guard 40 years later in February 2004 at the rank of Chief Warrant Officer 4 from the 1092 Headquarters Logistic Maintenance Company.

Giving back to the communities and to the children is how Bob Galland lives his life. Bob has been a huge fan and supporter of Parkersburg South High School and West Virginia University in Morgantown, Bob donated over 4000 hours of volunteer time helping build the Parkersburg South Erickson Field. Bob still attends many functions and or fundraisers conducted by the kids from Parkersburg South. If you see a yellow Volkswagen running around town with West Virginia Mountaineers and Big 12 emblems plastered on it you know that will be Bob headed to assist someone or help out with some type of volunteer project. The last two Christmas' Bob has volunteered with the Nemesis Shrine Director Staff to work the day of passing out the gifts from the Angel Tree Project for the Salvation Army. Bob has enjoyed every minute being able to support that event and sheds a little tear now and then when he sees the smiling faces of the children receiving the gifts.

The Nemesis Shrine Director Staff has three major fundraisers for the year and Bob is the Chairman of two of three of the events. If you have been by the Shrine Director Staff Christmas Tree Trailer lot located at McDonalds on South Side and purchased a Christmas Tree Bob has waited on you. When the Tree Lot is open Bob is there to make sure each child that enters that lot receives a Tootsie Pop sucker regardless if a tree is purchased or not. Bob continuously reminds each and everyone of us working the tree lot, before he leaves his shift, that we are working for the children. Make sure that the children get their suckers and before you run out of suckers go get more.

Bob's family, has been the backbone of Bob's careers, masonic, volunteer support to his community, military and the Shrine. Bob's wife Donna is a current member of the Eastern Star, his two daughters Cheryl Ann Barker and Sue Lynn Ellison have been members of the Jobs Daughters. His niece Becky and their company Seckman Pest Control supports each and every fundraising event that the Shrine Director Staff is conducting. Bob buys a handful of tickets to the fundraising events and makes sure all his family have on their calendars to attend the Director Staff events.

Bob has two grandsons Marc and Andrew that live and work in the Morgantown area that he is very proud of. When Marc was a child, he needed help from the Lexington Shriners Hospital for his legs. The Lexington Shriners Hospital performed surgeries and repairs and Marc is able to walk upright today with little to no difficulty. Marc and Andrew are following in their grandfather's footsteps. Both Marc and Andrew have completed the required degree work of becoming Master Masons with grandfather Bob right in the middle participating in the conduct of the degree work on each one of the grandsons. Both Marc and Andrew have joined the Osiris Shrine in Wheeling, West Virginia. Andrew has been selected by Osiris Shrine to represent Osiris Shrine on the Board of Directors of the Philadelphia Children's Hospital which is supported by Osiris Shrine.

Bob Galland has never met a stranger and would help anyone in need. There is no other person more deserving of this award than Robert "Bob" Galland. If you have ever met Bob or have known him for quite some time, you know his motto is "Making a Difference one Child at a time" and Bob has made quite a difference helping the children in his 44 years of being a Shriner.



Names for picture from left to right: Suzy Ellison(daughter), Mike Ellison (son in law), Cheryl Barker (daughter), Stephanie Phillips (wife of grandson Marc Phillips) Samuel Phillips (great grandson) Marc Phillips (grandson Osiris Shrine) , Bob Galland, Becky Seckman (niece), Andrew Galland (grandson Osiris Shrine) Melody Galland (wife of Andrew Galland), Amanda Seckman (niece)