

Welcome -

**26th ANNUAL
MIDWEST
MAHRAJAN**

SEPTEMBER 2-3-4

1961

WICHITA, KANSAS

KANSAS ★ NEBRASKA ★ MINNESOTA
SOUTH DAKOTA ★ IOWA ★ NORTH DAKOTA
ILLINOIS ★ MISSOURI ★ WISCONSIN



To my most beloved brothers and sisters in Christ gathered here for this 26th Annual Midwest Mahrajan: greetings in the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

Can there be any doubt in the mind of anyone that this "gathering of the clans", though not a religious convocation, is essential to the spiritual prosperity of our various Christian communities?

Any assembly of Christian people which fosters goodwill and understanding, not only among those of the same ethnic origin but also among the various religious denominations, becomes a stumbling block for all misanthropic forces.

Thus, it becomes my Christian duty and privilege to welcome into our midst all of the participants of this grand occasion. It is my hope and prayer that your visit to Wichita, during this centennial year, will be one which will never be forgotten.

May the blessings of our Lord Jesus Christ be upon you always.

Archpriest George P. Lambros
Pastor, St. Mary's Orthodox Church
Wichita, Kansas



I extend my warmest greetings to all members and friends of the Mid-West Mahrajan, and to our host city, Wichita.

This year, 1961 commemorates the 26th Annual Convention of the Mid-West's Arabic Ancestors and Arabic Speaking People. I pray that every year, following this reunion of friends and relatives, will prove growth both in unity and strength of our people, and the new generation.

I sincerely hope that the new generation will carry on the work that we have put forward for our preservation as people.

Every Member of this rewarding organization should mark it's Annual meeting. It gives us all something to look forward to during the year.

May God grant your every good wish, and may His blessings be upon our unity.

Your Very Truly,
E. J. (Tony) Nassif, President
Mid-West Mahrajan
Cedar Rapids, Iowa



On behalf of the officers and members of your host, St. Mary's Orthodox Church, of Wichita, I am privileged to extend a warm welcome to each of you gathered here for this twenty-sixth annual Midwest Mahrajan. I pray that all assembled here may cultivate new friends, renew the old ones and enjoy, together this weekend program prepared for your enjoyment.

I am gratified with the wonderful support and efforts of our executive committee and all those who have devoted their services toward a successful Mahrajan.

If we can be of any service to you, in making your stay with us more enjoyable, please do not hesitate to call on any member of your host.

Respectfully yours in Orthodoxy,
Roy Stevens
President, St. Mary's Orthodox Church
Chairman, Kansas Mid-West Mahrajan



It is my sincere pleasure to extend a cordial greeting to the 26th Annual Mahrajan.

We look forward for September, the Midwest Mahrajan, visiting with friends, enjoying social functions, of being warmed by wonderful hospitality and the feeling we are welcome. Our many workers have pledged their best efforts to accomplish this and make your visit to our city one that long will be remembered.

As you depart, I pray that God will watch over each of you on your journey home.

Co Chairman

1961 Midwest Mahrajan

Mrs. Raymond Lamone

MAHRAJAN EXECUTIVE BOARD



Front Row — Left to Right — Eli Yanney, Sam Laham, Frank Stevens, Very Rev. Lambros, Ernest Namee, Donna Namee, Secretary, Sis Kallail.

Back Row — Left to Right — Delia Laham, Roy Stevens, Chairman, Schafer Abraham, Lois Stevens, Don Kallail, Sis Lamone, Co-Chairman, Ray Lamone.

Not Pictured — Charles Shaheen

ST. MARY'S BOARD OF DIRECTORS



Front Row — Left to Right — Schafer Abraham, Roy Stevens, President, Frank Stevens, Don Kallail.

Back Row — Left to Right — Ernest Namee, Dr. Bob Laham, Secretary, Kenneth Kallail, Ray Lamone, Treasurer.

ST. MARY'S LADIES AUXILIARY



Front Row — Left to Right — Lorraine Kallail, Mrs. Frank Ferris, Lasema Kallail, Delia Laham, President, Mamie Ellis, Ann Kallail, Freda Stevens.

Back Row — Left to Right — Mrs. Chas. Wehby, Virginia Ellis, Mabel Abraham, Anita Stevens, Very Rev. George Lambros, Mrs. E. G. Stevens, Egenie Stevens, Selma Kallail.

Not Pictured — Mrs. Esa Laham, Nadine Baba, Rose Aboud, Eva Solomon, Mrs. Eli Laham, Mrs. A. B. Laham, Mary Ann Laham, Mrs. Joe Namee.

THE BELLES OF ST. MARY



Front Row — Left to Right — Shirley Ellis, Lorraine Kallail, Julia Yanney, Lydia Nassif, Lois Stevens, President, Anita Stevens, Helen Stevens, Virginia Ellis, Esther Lamone.
Back Row — Left to Right — Dehlia Laham, Lola Lamone, Pat Shaheen, Joyce Laham, Mabel Abraham, Very Rev. Father Lambros, Donna Namee, Sadie Namee, Terry Ferris, Eugenie Stevens, Margarite Lippincott, Geneva Stevens.
Not Pictured — Amelia Shaheen

ST. MARY'S YOUNG ADULT GROUP



Front Row — Left to Right — Shirley Ellis, Ann Kallail, Very Rev. Lambros, Don Kallail, President, Sandra Stevens, Eugenie Stevens, Lydia Nassif, Anita Stevens.
Back Row — Left to Right — Dr. Bob Laham, Joyce Laham, Dr. Tom Ellis, Jerry Laham, Virginia Ellis, Joan Aboud, Donna Namee, Ernest Namee.

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OFFICIAL PROGRAM

OF THE

1961 MIDWEST MAHRAJAN



FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 1, 1961

8:00 P. M. Pre-convention registration and social hour for early arrivals,
Walnut Room - Lassen Hotel

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 2, 1961

9:00 A. M. Registration, Lassen Hotel
1:30 P. M. Trip to Centennial Frontier Town
2:00 P. M. Arabic entertainment - Colonial Room
Cocktail Hour.
6:00 P. M. Dinner and Meeting for Midwest Mahrajan Board
8:00 P. M. Arabic entertainment - Colonial Room
9:00 to 1:00 P. M. Informal dance and Social Hour - Ballroom
Music by Bobby Day

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 3, 1961

9:00 A. M. Registration continues
Morning Church Services
St. Marys Orthodox — Maple and Martinson St.
2:00 P. M. Show with Frontier Can Can Girls and Featuring
Doc Holiday — Ballroom
3:00 to 5:00 P. M. Cocktail hour and Arabic Entertainment
in Colonial Room
6:30 P. M. GRAND CENTENNIAL BANQUET and BALL in the Ballroom
ARABIC ENTERTAINMENT in the Colonial Room
(See Complete Program on Next Page)

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 4, 1961

11:00 A. M. BRUNCH — St. Marys church undercroft — Sponsored by
The Belles of St. Marys
1:30 to 4:00 P. M. Arabic Entertainment in Church undercroft

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 3, 1961

6:30 P. M.

GRAND CENTENNIAL BANQUET, Ballroom Lassen Hotel

STAR SPANGLED BANNER — Led by Merdith Stevens
Accompanied by Sandra Stevens

INVOCATION — Very Rev. George Lambros

DINNER

INTRODUCTION OF TOASTMASTER
Charles Shaheen by George Ferris

MUSICAL SELECTIONS DURING DINNER by Sandra Stevens

INTRODUCTION OF SPEAKERS AND GUESTS, Including:

Mrs. Sam Laham, President of St. Mary's Ladies Society
Don Kallail, President of Young Adult Club
Tony Nassif, Chairman Midwest Mahrajan Board
Mrs. Roy Stevens, President of the Belles of St. Marys
Mrs. Raymond Lamone, Co-Chairman 1961 Mahrajan
Bishop Mark K. Carroll
Very Rev. George Lambros
Roy Stevens, Chairman 1961 Mahrajan
President, Board of Trustees, St. Marys

GUEST OF HONOR AND PRINCIPAL SPEAKER:

Lynn Whiteside, Management Development Director
The Boeing Co.,

BENEDICTION — Very Rev. George Lambros

8:30 P. M.

GRAND CENTENNIAL BALL - Ballroom, Lassen Hotel
Music by Bobby Day and His Orchestra

Colonial Room - Lassen Hotel
Arabic Music by Amer and Sana Kadai

Series 8-D-2-C-2



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27th ANNUAL

MIDWEST MAHRAJAN

CO-HOST:
ST. MARY'S ORTHODOX
CHURCH

CO-HOST:
PHOENICIAN
CLUB

AUGUST 31 - SEPT. 2

1963

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OMAHA, NEBRASKA



TOM BESHARA
President, Midwest Mahrajan Board

We of Omaha wish to extend to all the delegates and guests of the 1963 Midwest Mahrajan a most hearty and heartfelt welcome to this convention.

It is a most pleasurable and happy opportunity that you have extended in permitting us to be your hosts for this occasion. All of us hope that you will have a most festive and enjoyable time, and that this convention will be one of the most memorable and outstanding that you have ever attended.

We wish to thank all the members of the various committees for their outstanding and tenacious support and effort in making this gathering the great success that it is.



CHARLES G. SHADA, JR.
*General Co-Chairman
for St. Mary's Orthodox Church*

Welcome

On behalf of Mrs. Bashara and myself, I wish to extend a sincere welcome to you here at the Omaha convention.

Our purpose in the Mahrajan has always been to meet and enjoy ourselves with our friends.

We hope when this convention has come to a close that you will take home many happy memories.

God bless you and be with you as you journey back home.



EMIL F. SODORO
*Co-Chairman for 1963 Mahrajan.
Representing the Phoenician Club*

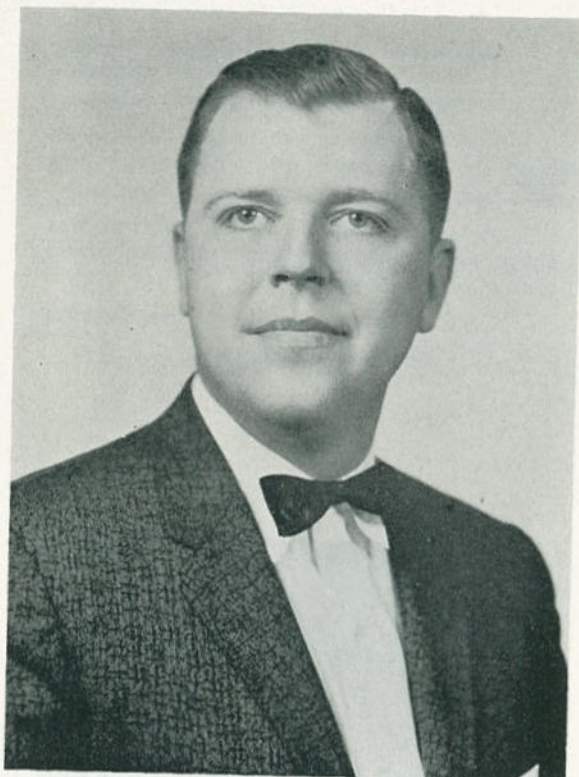
WELCOME to each and every one of you!!

It has been my pleasure to act as general co-chairman of this year's Mahrajan.

I hope that all of you find three fun-filled days and nights of pleasure and enjoyment as that has been the sole aim of our entire gang.

I want to here and now publicly thank each individual who has worked so hard for so long to make this Mahrajan the success that I know it will be.

For all of our guests, I have but one wish:
HAVE FUN!!!



CITY OF OMAHA
EXECUTIVE OFFICE
JAMES J. DWORAK, MAYOR

July 26, 1963

To the Members and Delegates
27th Annual Mahrajan
In Convention Assembled
Omaha, Nebraska

Dear Friends:

As Mayor of the City of Omaha, it is my pleasure
to welcome you, the delegates to the 27th
Annual Mahrajan, to our city.

I am certain that you will find Omaha's tradition-
al friendliness and hospitality will help to make
your Mahrajan pleasant and rewarding. We are
happy to have our neighbors from other parts of
Nebraska and Kansas, Iowa, Minnesota, Oklahoma,
North Dakota, South Dakota and Canada visit
Omaha and we hope too, that you have an opportunity
to tour the many points of interest within our
area during your stay with us.

Again, we are happy to have your distinguished
group meet in Omaha and hope that in the future,
we may again be selected as host city to your
annual Mahrajan.

Best wishes to all of you!

Sincerely yours,

James J. Dworak
JAMES J. DWORAK
Mayor

FRANK B. MORRISON
GOVERNOR



STATE of NEBRASKA
EXECUTIVE OFFICE
LINCOLN

August 1, 1963



Greetings...and Welcome to the
27th Annual Midwest Mah - Ra - Jan!

It is a real pleasure for me, as Governor, to welcome you
to the Mah - Ra - Jan, which I understand is a happy
gathering!

What a wonderful way to renew your relationships and
associations and, best of all, to blend the customs and
heritage of the Old World with music and entertainment
of today.

Best wishes for the best Mah - Ra - Jan ever!!!

Sincerely,

Frank B. Morrison
Frank B. Morrison
Governor



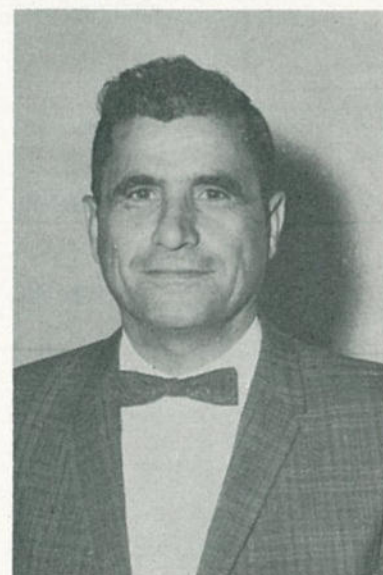
Dear Friends:

As Host Pastor of St. Mary's Syrian Orthodox Church of Omaha, it is my privilege and pleasure to welcome you all to this City to participate in this great—the 27th—Annual Midwest Mahrajan.

On behalf of the congregation of the St. Mary's and all of the Syrian and Lebanese people of Omaha, Nebr., we welcome you most heartily.

A special thanks to all the delegates and guests who have come from far away to be with us, and I pray to our Lord, Jesus Christ to save you all, and to keep you with your families, and may God bless you all.

Yours in Christ,
VERY REV. ZACHARIA NASR



GILBERT GIBREAL
President, Phoenician Club



JOHN SHADA
President, Board of Directors
St. Mary's Orthodox Church

It is a privilege to extend a hearty welcome to each of you, in behalf of the members of the Phoenician Club of Omaha. It is our fervent hope that your stay in Omaha during the convention will be most pleasant and memorable.

I want to extend a hearty welcome to the delegates, visitors and guests to this 27th annual Mahrajan.

Speaking for all the members of St. Mary's Orthodox Church, I want you to know that we are all both pleased and proud to serve as your hosts this year.

Our entire membership have worked diligently to provide you with a convention program which we hope proves to be one of the best ever.

Chairmen of Committees



Front row—left to right, Mary Farho, *Registration Chairman* (Mrs. Mary Farho); Laurice Gibreal, *Entertainment Chairman* (Mrs. Gilbert Gibreal); Mike Gibreal, *Bar Chairman*; Eva Nasr, *Reception Committee Chairman* (Mrs. Eva Nasr).

Back row—left to right, Jimmie Hiykel, *Treasurer*; Helen Hiykel, *Secretary* (Mrs. Jim Hiykel); Sadie George, *Brunch Chairman* (Mrs. Albert George); George Hathoot, *Program Book Chairman*.

Inset—Jerry and Phillip Abdouch, *Bulletins Co-Chairmen*.

Not Shown—Helen Shada, *Banquet Committee Chairman* (Mrs. John Shada).

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Convention Program

27th Annual Midwest Mahrajan Convention

SATURDAY, AUGUST 31, 1963

- 10:00 a.m.—General Convention Registration—Town House (all day)
12:00 Noon to 1:00 a.m.—Cocktail and Social Get-To-Gethers—Continuous Arabic Entertainment & Dancing featuring Amer Kadaï & Company (featuring Sana-Kadaï).
The Pool will be open at all times.
9:00 p.m. to 2:00 a.m.—Mixer Dance featuring Jim Mihelick and his Combo (Informal)

SUNDAY MORNING, SEPTEMBER 1, 1963

- 9:00 a.m.—General Registration (all day)
10:00 a.m. 12:00 Noon—Church Services
Syrian Orthodox Mass 10:00 a.m.—Father Zacharias Nasr, Pastor of St. Mary's Syrian Orthodox Church, 52nd & Seward.
Catholic Masses at St. Margaret Marys Church, 61st & Dodge
Masses: 7:00 - 8:00 - 9:00 - 11:00 and 12:15
Catholic Masses at Boystown, Nebr.: 7:00 - 8:00 and 10:15

SUNDAY AFTERNOON, SEPTEMBER 1, 1963

- 12:00 Noon—Dolphin Bar & Pool Open
12:00 Noon and throughout day and evening—Arabic Entertainment & Dancing
1:00 p.m.—Mahrajan Board Meeting (presence of all delegates requested).
2:00 p.m. 4:00 p.m.—Talent Show, plus a surprise feature.
4:00 p.m. 6:00 p.m.—Arabic Entertainment

5:30 p.m. 6:30 p.m.—Cocktail Hour

7:00 p.m.—BANQUET—Grand Ballroom

Presentation of Colors
Ivan G. Abdouch
Ronnie Dubic

Song—Star Spangled Banner—Mrs. Robert Wakin
Accompanied by Mrs. James Hiykel

Invocation—Very Rev. Zacharias Nasr

Master of Ceremonies—Emil Sodoro

Introduction of Guests and Speakers
Rev. Carl M. Reinert, S. J. Pres. of the Creighton
University Development Fund
Honorable Mayor James J. Dworak
Judge Simon A. Simon

Introduction and Welcomes from various officers

Main Address—Frank B. Morrison, Governor of State of Nebraska

Benediction

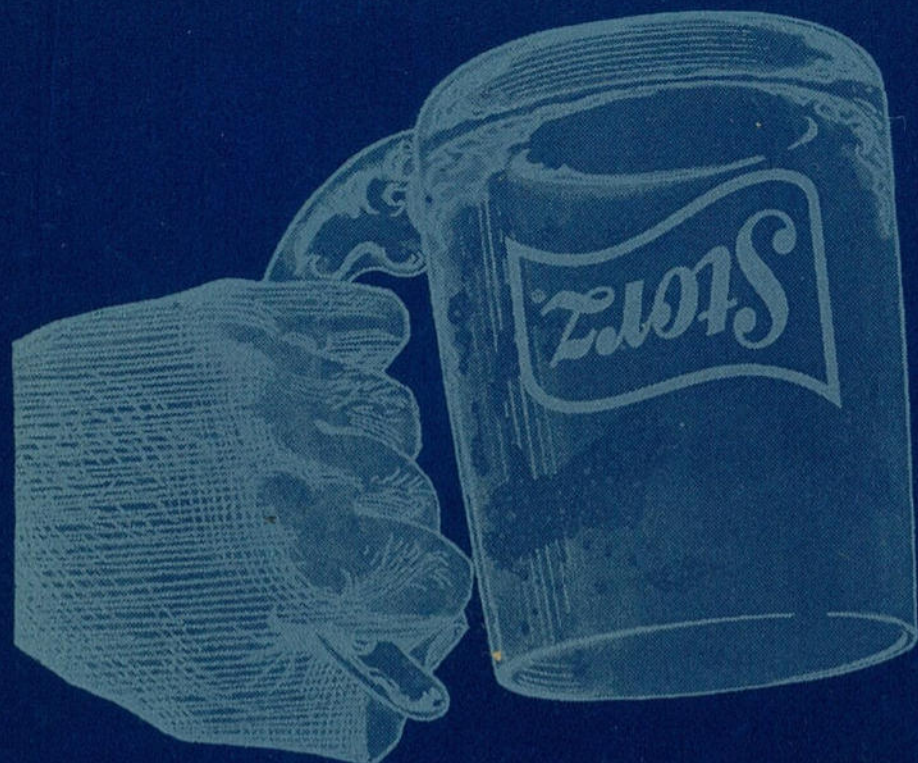
Song—God Bless America—Mrs. Robert Wakin
Accompanied by Mrs. James Hiykel

9:30 p.m. 1:00 a.m.—Grand Ball—Music by Eddie Haddad and his Orchestra

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 2, 1963

11:30 a.m. 2:00 p.m. — Brunch, which is included in the registration fee, Phoenician Club House, 39th & Jones, with continuous Arabic Entertainment—Bar will be open.

2:00 p.m.?? —Send off from Phoenician Club—Salom Aleikum



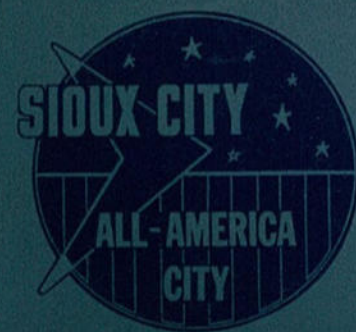
Every glass is as good as the last



and the last is as good as the first

29TH

**ANNUAL
CONVENTION**



Sioux City, Iowa

SEPTEMBER

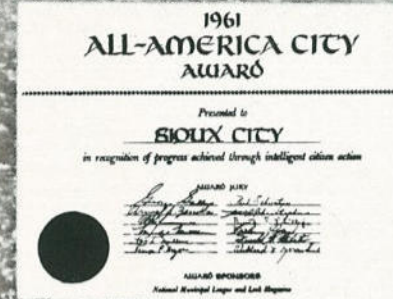
5 - 6 - 7

1964

*Midwest
Makarajan*

Serial 8-D-2-C-2 DONE

SIoux CITY WELCOMES YOU!



It is with a renewed sense of civic pride that the Syrian-Lebanese community of Sioux City extends its most hospitable welcome to you, our esteemed visitors.

The achievements of the recent past as a basis for a bright future are now firmly established and operational.

Have a wonderful stay in Sioux City . . .

"Where the three rivers meet and the living is sweet."

HAPPY MAHRAJAN!

On behalf of the Midwest Mahrajan Board and my wife, I wish to welcome you to this 29th Annual Midwest Mahrajan.

I had the pleasure of welcoming you to our first Mahrajan and hope to do the same in years to come.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Midwest Mahrajan Board for the effort they have put forth during the last thirty years in regard to keeping our heritage rich and alive in the hearts of our people. Along with this, thanks should be given to Albert Ferris, his committee, and all the people of Sioux City for their combined efforts in bringing about a successful convention.

We sincerely hope that your visit to Sioux City will be an enjoyable one as well as memorable.

May God be with you as you travel back to your homes.

Sincerely yours,

THOMAS G. BASHARA
Chairman, Midwest Mahrajan Board
Co-Chairman 1964 Midwest Mahrajan



August 24, 1964

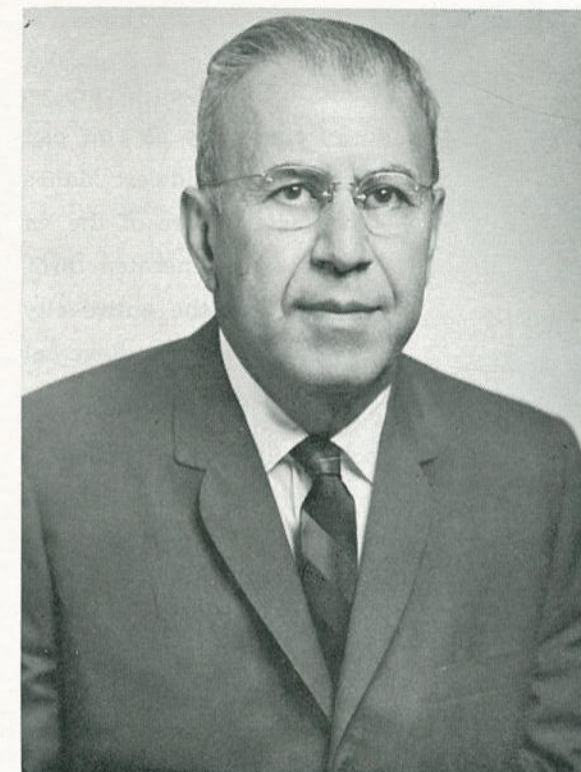
On behalf of the St. Thomas Syrian Orthodox Benevolent Society, I wish to extend a warm and heartfelt welcome to all.

I want to thank our General Chairman, Albert Ferris, and his committee for the many months of hard work and effort to make this 29th Mahrajan Convention a successful one.

We hope your visit to our city will be an enjoyable and memorable one.

May God bless you all.

ABE S. ABDOUCH
President
St. Thomas Orthodox Parish



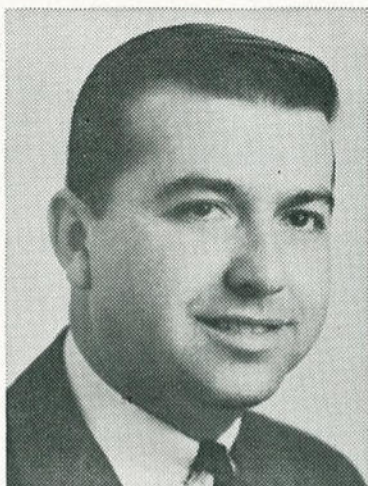
It is with a great deal of pride and enjoyment that I welcome you to our fair city on this, the twenty-ninth annual Midwest Mahrajan.

I hope that when you return to your homes you will feel that you not only had the "time of your life" but that you were able to visit with your friends and relatives.

Let's all continue to attend the Mahrajan wherever the host city may be.

And so until the next time, may God bless you and grant you a safe journey home.

ALBERT FERRIS
General Chairman,
1964 Midwest Mahrajan



Dear Friends:

I extend to you a very warm welcome to our community as you participate in your 29th annual Midwest Mahrajan Conference. I am well aware of the wonderful fellowship that is generated through such a conference, and the entire city government is delighted that you have selected this community as the site of your 1964 conference.

So many of you have made solid contributions in so many areas of endeavor in our community, and it is gatherings of this type that create stronger bonds of fellowship.

I hope you find your conference to be indeed productive and rewarding, and I welcome you to return to our community often.

With every good wish.

Sincerely yours,
STANLEY L. GREIGG
Mayor of Sioux City

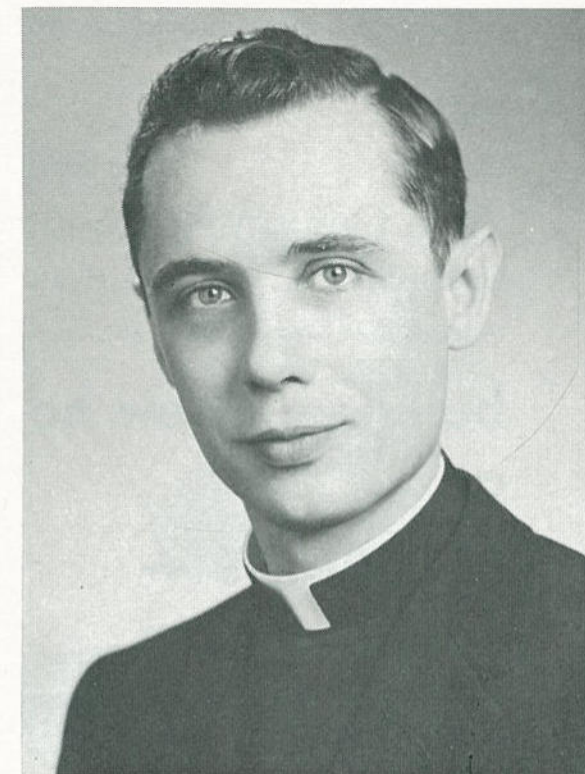
Many Thanks

We wish to express our sincere appreciation to our advertisers whose generosity, now, as in the past . . . contributes so much to the success of these conventions and the worthy results which ensue. They in turn, appreciate our patronage and goodwill.

Father Paul Russell's recent resignation after six years of faithful service to St. Thomas Syrian Orthodox church was accepted with deep regret.

Before leaving Sioux City, he contributed greatly to the success of this convention.

We wish him Godspeed in his present endeavors.



As President of and speaking for the Saint Thomas Ladies Aid Society, it becomes our humble privilege to welcome you and to serve as your hostesses to the 29th MID-WEST MAHRAJAN.

We are sincere in our desire to make this one of your most memorable and outstanding occasions; looking forward to enjoying each other's friendly company and fellowship during this convention.

Wishing you God-Speed and a safe return home.

MRS. TOM STEVENS
President — Saint Thomas
Orthodox Ladies Aid Society

1926

1964

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**INSULATING SIDING**—realistic stone . . . brick . . . and beautiful shadowlap patterns—can be used singularly or combined for exceptionally interesting exteriors. In realistic colors and exciting pastel shades. Goes right over old siding when remodeling. Insulates your home, too . . . makes it warmer in winter — cooler in summer.

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Sioux City, Iowa

On behalf of the Syrian - American League, my wife Louise and I extend our best wishes and we know that you will enjoy yourselves at this Midwest Syrian convention as you have in the past.

JOSEPH E. HANNA  
President,  
Syrian-American League



On behalf of The St. Thomas Crusaders Club (S.O.Y.O.), I wish to extend a hearty welcome to each and everyone of you. We hope that you will enjoy and remember the 1964 Midwest Mahrajan as one of the most unforgettable yet. We will strive to be of any assistance to you during your stay here with us. Have fun and return often. May God be with you on your return journey.

JOHN DAVID, JR.,  
President  
St. Thomas Crusader Club



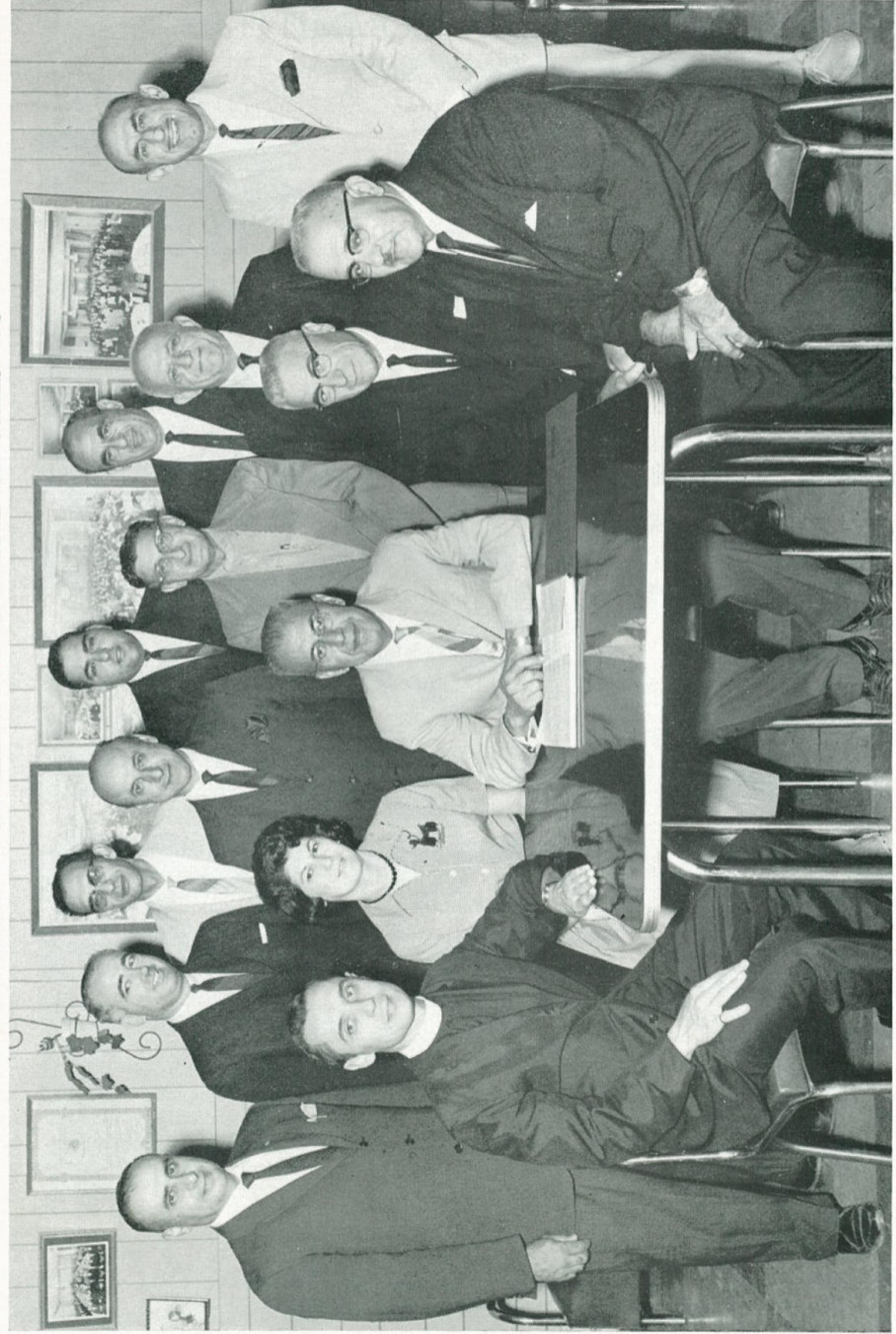
BEST WISHES FROM

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THE 1964 MAHAJAN EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE WELCOMES YOU



Seated: Father Paul Russell, Mrs. Tom Stevens, Albert Ferris, Abe Abdouch, Tom Bashara.  
1st row standing: Abe Skaff, Ronald Carlson, O. J. Nassif, Tom Butrous, Ferris Skaff, Nick Nassif

2nd row standing: Victor Ferris John David, Jr., Joe Ferris

Not present for picture: Ferris Corey, Barbara Nimmer, Jim Yanney, Joe Hanna



*Best Wishes . .*

## For a Most Successful 29th Convention

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your convention thirst with the unique freshness of  
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## *Official Program* of the 1964 MIDWEST MAHRAJAN

Sheraton-Warrior Motor Inn—Sioux City, Iowa

**FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 4, 1964**

8:00 p.m.—Pre-convention registration and social hour for new arrivals.

**SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 5, 1964**

10:00 a.m.—Registration

2:00 p.m.-6:00 p.m.—Arabic entertainment by Amer Kadaj and Sana and Company—Cotillion Room.

4:00 p.m.—Midwest Mahrajan Board Meeting—Iowa Room

8:00 p.m.—Arabic music by Amer and Sana and Company, dancing, entertainment—Cotillion Room.

9:00 p.m.-1:00 a.m.—Informal dance to the music of the Gus Hahn Combo—Ballroom.

**SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 6, 1964**

9:00 a.m.—Registration

Morning—Church Services

St. Thomas Orthodox Church, 11th and Jones Streets  
Matins Services, 10:00 a.m. — Divine Liturgy, 11:00 a.m.  
Rev. Michael F. Massabni, Acting Pastor

Cathedral of the Epiphany, 10th and Douglas Streets  
Sunday masses at 6 a.m., 7:30 a.m., 9 a.m., 10:30 a.m., 5:30 p.m.  
Saturday confessions 3:30 p.m. - 5:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.  
Confessions also one-half hour before each Sunday mass excluding 10:30 mass.

Rt. Rev. Msgr. W. B. Bauer, Pastor

Immaculate Conception Church, Morningside and Ridge Aves.  
Sunday masses at 5:30 a.m., 7 a.m., 8:30 a.m., 10 a.m., 11:30 a.m.  
Saturday confessions at 3:30-5:30 p.m., 7:30 p.m.-9:00 p.m.  
Rev. Frank J. Brady, Pastor.

2:00 p.m. - 3:45 p.m.—Variety Show—Cotillion Room.

2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.—Arabic entertainment—Amer and Sana and Company—States Rooms





David's  
Briar  
Shoppe

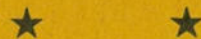
516 Pierce Street

WELCOMES YOU

to Sioux City, Iowa

"AHLAN-WA-SAHLAN"

Hope your visit here will be an  
enjoyable one.



TOY J. DAVID  
Sioux City, Iowa

WAYNE G. DAVID  
Omaha, Nebraska

JEFF DAVID  
Des Moines, Iowa

37TH

MIDWEST

MATRAN

- HOST -

ST. THOMAS

ORTHODOX

SIoux CITY, IOWA

SEPTEMBER 2, 3, 4, 1978

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SOUTH SIoux CITY, NEBRASKA



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SIoux CITY

### BLESSINGS!

Once again, by the Grace of God, it is our great honor here in Sioux City, Iowa to be your hosts for this gala occasion and **Mahrajan**. We are truly elated to open our hearts and our homes to you again as in many times of the past. We pray, that your stay with us will be an inspirational and happy one. As usual, please be confident, that your coming to our city again and again in the near future, leaves us with joy and anticipation.

Very Rev. Archpriest  
**Father Nicholas N. Kobbs, Pastor**  
St. Thomas Antiochian Orthodox Church  
of  
Sioux City, Iowa



It has been a privilege and honor to have served as your **Mahrajan** president these past four years.

On behalf of my board I wish to thank Sioux City for hosting this the 37th annual convention, and hope that all of you have a most enjoyable and memorable time.

**Gilbert Gibreal**





The St. Thomas Orthodox Church is happy to be your hosts to the **1978 Midwest Mahrajan**.

To renew old friendships, to make new friends, to have an active participation in keeping alive the Syrian-Lebanese heritage of language, dance, and other customs -- these are the aims of this convention. We welcome you with these aims in mind, and we hope that you return home a little richer in friendships than when you arrived. May your visit with us on this Labor Day be a memorable one.

I wish to thank the Mahrajan Committee for the dedication they have given to make this convention a success.

Have fun and God bless you.

**Toy J. David, President**  
St. Thomas Church Council

To all who are attending this **Mahrajan** in Sioux City, we extend welcome **Ahlan-wa-sahlan**. It is our hope that all of us will enjoy it and that the convention will be an unforgettable one.

Our aim has always been to meet and enjoy the hours of fellowship with one another, and we hope when this years meeting is over, each and everyone would have had an enjoyable time. To the chairmen and all the committees, we say thank you and when it is time to return home, may God keep his hands up on you all as you travel and reach your destination in safety.

**Mrs. Albert Ferris**  
PRESIDENT  
ST. THOMAS LADIES SOCIETY



Seated from left: Mrs. Mabel Ellis, Mrs. Barbara Lammers, Mrs. Mary (Geo.) Stevens, Ferris Corey, Mrs. Katie Hanna, Ed Ness, Mrs. Ag Yanney, Mose Yanney, Paul Lammers, Fr. Kobbs.  
Standing from left: Tom C. Bashara, Gen Johnson, Tom G. Bashara, Art Ellis, Toy David.

#### CHAIRMEN OF CONVENTION

|                                     |                              |
|-------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| General Chairman .....              | Katie Hanna                  |
| Program Book .....                  | Tom G. Bashara               |
|                                     | Ferris Corey, Tom C. Bashara |
|                                     | Ayette Kivlighn              |
| Program Book Co-ordinator .....     | Gen Johnson                  |
| Registration .....                  | Mary (Geo.) Stevens          |
| Publicity Chairman .....            | Art Ellis                    |
| Flyers .....                        | Barbara Lammers              |
|                                     | Dean Lockwood, Ann Lockwood  |
|                                     | Mary Haberer, Lorene David   |
| Secretary .....                     | Mabel Ellis                  |
| Treasurer .....                     | Abe Skaff                    |
| Sunday Entertainment Chairman ..... | Agnes Yanney                 |
|                                     | Ed Ness                      |
| Hostesses .....                     | Gayla Yanney                 |
| Special Assistants .....            | Hazel Ferris                 |
|                                     | Sara Gosen                   |
|                                     | Phil Stevens                 |
|                                     | Mose Yanney                  |
|                                     | Jerry Stevens                |



OFFICIAL PROGRAM

OF THE

1978 MIDWEST MAHRAJAN

MARINA INN

SOUTH SIOUX CITY, NEBRASKA

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 2, 1978

- 10:00 A.M. Convention Registration [All Day]  
Social Get-Together, Free Leisure Time  
Pool Open All Day
- 3:30 P.M. Midwest Mahrajan Board Meeting -- Bridge Room
- 8:00 P.M. - 1:00 A.M. "Disco" Dubkee -- Arabic Dancing  
Carl Keller, "Disco" Engineer  
Featuring "Sa-Fee" and "Ashiya"  
Exotic Belly Dancers
- 11:00 P.M. Derbeki Contest [Bring your drum]

SUNDAY MORNING, SEPTEMBER 3, 1978

- 9:00 A.M. Registration [All Day]

Church Services:

St. Thomas Orthodox Church  
1100 Jones Street  
Matins, 9:00 A.M., Divine Liturgy, 10:00 A. M.

Immaculate Conception Church  
Ridge and Morningside Ave.  
Mass: 7:00, 8:30, 10:00, and 11:30 A.M.

Cathedral of the Epiphany  
10th and Douglas Sts.  
Mass: 8:00, 10:00 A.M., 12:00 Noon

St. Michael's Church  
1400 1st Ave. So. Sioux City, Nebraska  
Mass: 9:00, 11:00 A.M., 12:30, 5:00 P.M.

SUNDAY AFTERNOON, SEPTEMBER 3, 1978

- 2:00 P.M. "Ding Dong Gong Show" - Main Ballroom  
DON'T MISS IT !!!!!
- 5:30 P.M. - 6:15 P.M. Cocktail Hour
- 6:30 P.M. Banquet - Main Ballroom  
Master of Ceremonies..... Rudy Salem  
Invocation..... Very Rev. Nicholas Kobbs  
Priest of St. Thomas Orthodox Church  
Welcome ..... Toy David  
President, Board of Trustees  
St. Thomas Orthodox Church  
Welcome ..... Hazel Ferris  
President, Ladies Club  
St. Thomas Orthodox Church  
Speaker ..... Gilbert Gibreal  
President, Midwest Mahrajan  
President - Elect..... Ted Hazer  
Midwest Mahrajan  
Special Guest Speaker ..... Michael Coury  
President, Midwest Federation  
Benediction..... Monsignor Frank Brady  
Priest, Immaculate Conception Church
- 9:00 P.M. - 1:00 A.M. Grand Ball - Arabic Dancing  
Carl Keller - "Disco" Engineer  
"Sa-Fee" and "Ashiya" Exotic Dancers

Monday, SEPTEMBER 4, 1978

- 10:30 A.M. to 11:30 A.M. Farewell Breakfast (Included in Registration Fee)