

Order of Alhambra

SANCHO CARAVAN #261

NOVEMBER 2019 NEWSLETTER

*Our Next Meeting is Thursday, November 14th, 7PM
at Bakers Streetcar Bar in Hamtramck*

Stan Anthony Leon 1929 - 2019

Sancho Caravan Sir Noble Stan Leon passed away on October 27, 2019. Born in Hamtramck on April 26, 1929, he was 90 years old. Stan was predeceased by his wife Theresa and his sister Lottie. He is survived by his son MO/PGC Michael S. Leon and Sultana Toni and his grandson SN Michael A. Leon.

Stan was initiated into the Malaga Caravan in June, 1986 before transferring years later to Sancho Caravan. He was also a member of Moose Lodge #1670. As a member of Sancho Stan volunteered at nearly every function, especially those where he would man the tables to sell raffle and 50/50 tickets.

Outside of Alhambra Stan enjoyed golf, vacationing in Oscoda, and attending every sports function that his grandson participated in. He also sang with the choirs at St Florian, St. Hyacinth, and St. Stanislaus. As a choir member Stan sang for Pope John Paul II when the Pope visited Hamtramck. At Halloween Stan would set up a pumpkin on his porch with a speaker hidden inside so that he could talk to the kids from inside his house. "Don't forget to brush your teeth" he would say. It was the hit of the neighborhood. Stan's talking pumpkin.

We will all miss Stan's ever-present smile and easy-going style.



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SANCHO #261 TO CELEBRATE 20TH ANNIVERSARY

In November 1999 the International Order of Alhambra granted a charter to Sancho Caravan #261. The charter was issued to a group of roughly 18 men who had regularly gathered at Baker Streetcar Bar on Jos. Campau in Hamtramck. The first Grand Divan consisted of Grand Commander Richard Sosin, Vice Grand Commander Leo Osinski, Grand Scribe Robert Wojtylo, Scribe of the Exchequer Lenny Elgin, and Grand Advocate Leo Wojtylo. Their supporting cast included Russ Agosta, Mike Witkowski, Mike Leon, Stan Leon, Ron Osinski, Richard Radtke, Joe Faron, Larry Geromin, Mark Moszczenski, Mark Uminski, John Kendzior, Robert Wozniak, and Paul Whitehead.

From 18 men in 1999 Sancho grew to 93 members in 2015 and today we have a steady 72. After GC Sosin seven others have served as Grand Commanders: Leo Osinski, Mark Thomas, Mike Leon, Eric Griffin, Gary DeCarlo, Ron Sanford, and Joe Barone. Megan Osinski became Sancho's first Lady Noble in 2013.

I've only been a Sancho member since 2010 so I know just a little of our caravan's early history. We'd like to see you on **November 14th at Baker's** to remember the good ol' days, embellish the memories and share some camel's milk & pizza. Sociability, old & new!

GS Marvin Bielec

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OCTOBER MEETING NOTES

On Grand Divan election night seventeen members attended the October meeting. No written financial report was available however GCH Osinski stated that the caravan account balance topped \$32000. Two more members have paid their 2019 dues leaving just three in arrears.

Caravan business expenses totaled \$207 covering additional costs for the SFC dinner in September (\$40) & oasis food costs for the October meeting (\$167).

GC Leo Osinski noted that ceremonials are planned for October 16th in Canton and November 10th in Jackson.

Incoming monies included \$1029 as Sancho's share of the Ted Bates Scholarship Golf Outing rebate and a \$500 distribution from the Region VI Alhambra House.

MO/PGC Mike Leon is negotiating prices for over 400 duffle bags for Christmas gifts at Bovenschen, Wilde, and Eppler schools and 30 bowling shirts for the ARC Raiders. GS Bielec will handle Flickinger school again.

Our 2020 Mark Thomas Bowling date will be April 4th. Gary DeCarlo will serve as overall & lane sponsor chairman with Mike Leon handling on-site raffle tickets, Joe Barone the prize table and Leo Osinski bowler sign-up. An \$8000 budget was approved for the major raffle prizes and \$4000 max for prize table expenditures.

Members approved the purchase of two tickets (\$150) for the Smith Oldtimers Reverse Raffle November 3rd.

Tickets supporting the K of C Oktoberfest on October 25th were awarded to Leo Wojtylo (2), Dick Sosin (2), Leo Osinski (2), Kish, Bielec, Barone, & Steuer one each.

*Lady Nobles, Sir Nobles, Family & Friends,
Our thoughts and prayers go out to the Leon family upon the passing of SN Stan Leon. A memorial paver will be placed at St Francis Camp in Stan's honor.*

As we head into our busiest time of year let me start by saying 'Thank You' for trusting me as your Grand Commander for another year. And I would like to give those members who chose to be on the 2020 Divan and help our caravan a big 'Thank You' also.

The need for our caravan's help gets greater every year. We have five Christmas parties planned for the Special Needs community again this year followed soon after by our main fundraiser, the Mark Thomas Bowling Tournament. So please pick one or two Christmas events to attend and start thinking of prizes & lane sponsors & bowlers.

God Bless you, our caravan & our special kids.

GC Leo Osinski 586.563.8128



YOUR GRAND DIVAN 2019-2020

Congratulations to the following members who ran and were elected as Sancho officers on October 10, 2019:

Grand Commander	Leo Osinski
Vice Grand Commander	Joe Kish
Grand Chamberlain	Ronnie Osinski
Grand Scribe	Marvin Bielec
Scribe of the Exchequer	Joe Barone
Sentinel of the Tower	Al Ostrowski

Master of the Oasis	Ken Ciechorski
Master of the Wardrobe	Mike Leon
Capt of the Bodyguard	Steve Smolinski
Sentinel of the Desert	Megan Osinski
Grand Advocate	Richard Smutek
Immediate Past Grand Commander	Gary DeCarlo

Our elected representatives to the St. Francis Camp Board will be **PGC Charlie Steuer** (one-year term remaining) and **PGC Joe Barone** (two-year term). The caravan's representative for a one-year term to Alhambra House is **SN Russ Smith**.

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EARLY SANTA PARTIES

This is a heads-up. Keep in mind that two of the Santa parties that Sancho hosts occur early in December.

Our annual hot lunch for the 300+ students and staff at Bovenschen Special Needs School takes place on Thursday, December 5th with gift preparation day on Wednesday the 4th. And, the Santa party for the ARC Raider bowlers revs up on Saturday, December 7th. For times and addresses check out page 4 below.

We can never have enough volunteers for these special Christmas parties.

INTERNATIONAL CHRISTMAS RAFFLE

By now every member should have received the “12 Days of Christmas Raffle” tickets from Baltimore. We encourage every Sancho Noble to support the Order buy selling/buying these 2 tickets (or more). It’s a small \$20 investment on your part that helps defray business costs for the International. If you say “I never win”, then go talk to Sancho member Steve Smolinski who won

\$1000 on Christmas day in 2018. He now believes in ‘Sancho Claus’!

REGION VI CHRISTMAS DINNER PARTY

A part of the Order’s Mission Statement reads that we are to promote Sociability among members and beyond. To that end the Region VI Council of Caravans & the Board of St. Francis Camp invite all Lady Nobles and Sir Nobles and their guests to socialize at the annual Christmas dinner party on Monday, December 2, 2019. Details regarding tickets can be found in the *Participation* section on page 4. Sociability will get you into the Christmas spirit....or spirits. Your choice.

SAVE THE DATES

Alhambra Day at the Shrine Circus is February 20th.

Sancho’s Mark Thomas Memorial 9-Pin No-Tap Bowling Tournament is April 4th.

Sancho’s Golf Outing is June 27th.

CAMP FALL CLEAN UP

Friday Nov 29th after work
Saturday Nov 30th all day
Sunday Dec 1st til noon
(come 1, 2 or 3 days)

Meals, drinks, bunks
provided

THINGS TO BRING: Blanket,
gloves, leaf blowers, rakes,
more leaf blowers!



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WELFARE & ROSARY *Please remember in your prayers :*

SN Stan Leon passed away on October 27, 2019 at age 90. **SN Ray Okonski** is in rehab following a stroke.

Please contact GS Marvin Bielec (586-944-6840) or VGC Joe Kish (586-822-4109) with any other prayer requests.

PARTICIPATION

- **Council of Caravans Meeting.** **Mon, Nov 4th.** 7:30PM. Monaghan KofC. Livonia. SD Pat Plotkowski. 586.791.3057
- **Red & White Fez Club Lunch.** **Thu., Nov 7th.** Noon. DeCarlos. All invited. RSVP 586.759.6500.
- **Fall Ceremonial.** **Sunday, Nov 10th.** 4PM. Hosted by new caravan St. Louis Guanella #274 (George Walrath Grand Commander), at Our Lady of Fatima Church, 913 Napoleon Rd, Michigan City, MI 49254 (near Jackson). Light lunch to follow. RSVP SD Patricia Plotkowski 586.791.3057.
- **Alhambra House & SFC Board Mtg.** **Mon, Nov 11th.** 6:30PM & 7:30PM. St. Justins. Hazel Park.
- **Sancho Membership Meeting & 20th Anniversary Celebration.** **Thu, Nov 14th.** **7PM.** Venue changed to Bakers Streetcar Bar, 9817 Jos. Campau, Hamtramck.
- **St Francis Camp Fall Clean-Up.** **Fri-Sat, Nov 29-30th.** Work off that extra helping of stuffing with friends. A short dedication ceremony for the new camp playscape will take place at 11AM Saturday. RSVP PGC John Vella at 248.376.1555 or SD Patricia Plotkowski at 586.791.3057.

- **Joint Christmas Dinner MCC and SFC Board.** **Mon, Dec 2nd.** DeCarlos. Open 6PM, dinner 7PM. All Nobles & guests are invited. \$17 adv, \$20 at door. Make checks to *Michigan Council of Caravans*; mail to RT Don Collom, 22674 Heatherbrae Way, Novi, MI 48375 or RSVP Gary DeCarlo 586.436.0121
- **Bovenschen School Santa Party.** **Thu, Dec 5th.** Arrive 9:30AM. 12345 Frazho Rd, Warren. Lunch servers needed. Gift preparation on **Wed, Dec 4th.** Time about 4:30PM. RSVP MW/PGC Mike Leon 586.530.8327
- **ARC Raider Bowlers Christmas Party.** **Sat, Dec 7th.** Arrive 9:30AM. Rose Bowl Lanes. Groesbeck & Martin Rd. Help serve pizza lunch & prep & distribute gifts. RSVP MW/PGC Mike Leon 586.530.8327.
- **Red & White Fez Club Christmas Dinner.** **Date TBA.** DeCarlos. RSVP Gary 586.436.0121
- **Sancho Membership Meeting.** **Thu, Dec 12th.** 7PM. Bishop Murphy KofC.
- **Flickinger Elem Special Needs Santa Party.** **Wed, Dec 18th.** 9AM. 45400 Vanker, Utica. (n. of Hall Rd., e. of Van Dyke). Help the coolest 3, 4, & 5 year old kids. RSVP GS Bielec 586.944.6840
- **Wilde Elem School Autism Program Christmas Lunch.** **Thu., Dec 19th.** 11AM. 32343 Bunert, Warren. Need volunteers to help serve a hot lunch for 70 students & staff. RSVP PSS Gary DeCarlo 586.436.0121
- **Eppler & Malow Schools Santa Party.** **Date TBA.** Utica. RSVP SN Bill Ibianski 586.491.9900

Visit the new Sancho Caravan website: sanchocaravan.org

Shot my first turkey today....

scared the crap out of everyone in the frozen food section....

nothing but awesome!