



Alabet Temple No. 31

# Daughters of the Nile

7910 Newburg Road Rockford, Illinois 61108

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## Queen's Message

### “A Few of My Favorite Things”

I am delighted to be serving as Alabet 31 Queen for the ensuing year. It is a privilege to serve our wonderful philanthropy in this way and to seek out programs, fundraisers, and activities that can help us work together for the Foundation.

I just became a member of Alabet No. 31 in February of 2011 and feel very much like a new member much of the time. I was asked to become Badoura immediately upon initiation and was installed a month after my initiation in March of 2011. True to my nature, I took it as an opportunity to learn and grow, and went to Supreme in Tampa to get a better and bigger view of Daughters of the Nile. I met some wonderful women, learned a great deal, and in year two I continued my learning curve in Portland, OR where I was elected Chaplain of Marsha's Shining Stars. Helping to motivate and inspire with frequent messages has been a great deal of my work as Chaplain. It has helped me by working with the very ideas I need to help me with my steep learning curve and preparation for leadership.

In seeking programs and fundraisers I have drawn upon past experiences, contacts, and networking to put together the plans for this year. I would subtitle this year as “A few of my favorite things” because I have included some of my favorite people, activities, and events in this

year's plans. I hope you can participate in many of the events planned and help Alabet No. 31 enjoy a successful year. I will be a 'hands on' leader, so I will be working for the goals set forth every day and night that I possibly can. Because I tend to get so busy, if you have the time to participate in planning, preparation, or presentation of any of the upcoming events, feel free to contact either myself or someone you know to be a part of upcoming event planning. "Many hands make the work light" is a motto I ascribe to and there are always tasks to be done.

Let's have a terrific year!

In Nile Love,

Queen Pat

### *Princess Badoura Words*

It never occurred to me that a chance encounter with a group of Shriners entering a restaurant in Sycamore when my husband Paul and I were leaving would lead to a very fruitful addition to our lives. Paul spoke to one of the Shriners and within a week he had joined the Shriners. I attended the picnic in August with Paul and met many friendly women who asked me about joining Daughters of the Nile. After learning about this organization and what it does, it seemed to be a great way for Paul and I to share in an endeavor. While I had supported Paul in his membership in Masons for five or six years in Maine, I had no involvement other than attending family events. I was pleased that there was an opportunity for me to belong to a women's group with auxiliary goals to Shriners. My application was submitted and in November I was initiated into Daughters of the Nile.

I have been welcomed into Daughters in a way I have not been into any other groups to which I have belonged. Many of the members have made me feel welcome and encouraged me to become involved with the activities of the organization. In my short tenure with Daughters of the Nile it has been rewarding to be included in the activities. Being asked to become Princess Badoura is an honor and I hope to be able to serve in a way to repay the confidence in my ability to serve.

A bit about me: My husband Paul and I have three daughters and three and a half grandsons {Our youngest daughter is expecting in May.} Both of us are retired, but have many interests that keep us busy. It is good to have the Shriners and Daughters of the Nile to share as our interests often take us in different directions. We moved to Sycamore from Maine in 2012 to be closer to our three daughters who all live in the area. Our youngest daughter came to Chicago for college and has since lured her two older sisters to come to Illinois to live. So since our children and grandchildren all live here, it was where we needed to be also. Paul retired after many years working in the railroad industry. I worked in office administration for most of my working career and hope to bring many of the organizational skills I learned in that field to my work in this organization. Some of the other things I enjoy are reading, babysitting my grandchildren, and quilting.

Again I am thankful for the confidence you have all expressed in me in electing to be Princess Badoura and will endeavor to live up to the task.

In Nile Love,

Princess Badoura, Shirley



**To all members of Alabet No. 31 from Queen Pat,**

Please read thoughtfully and carefully the following changes I would like to try this year to honor past surveys and requests.

In recognition and in honor of the extensive work done by a Special Committee on Membership through 2004 who created steps to achieve successful membership, and then published the results in 2005 for presentation at the 89<sup>th</sup> Annual Supreme Session in Lexington, Kentucky I want to review the following findings for you. At the end of this summary are the priorities and the parameters within which I wish to conduct business in this 2014-2015 year.

1. The length and repetition of the Agenda within each Session was the main concern. *(I am honoring this section by asking officers and ladies of the Household alike to limit reports to basic information and that they be made on a timely basis, to mean, the next stated session or within 30 days of an event. (I modeled this with the 2013 Card Party) Reports should be submitted in writing so they can be shared in the Newsletter/website and with each report, a simple balance sheet should be included.)*

*I wish to follow the suggestion in the report to shorten the minutes. The New Minutes Format is an improvement, however, minutes can be summarized and shortened much more than the New Minutes Format and still be in harmony with Supreme Bylaws and Roberts Rules of Order.*

2. Cliques were listed as a turn-off by many in response to the survey and in that instance I encourage Alabet No. 31 members and officers to be mindful of the negative results of not getting to know more and more members and I ask that each of us reach out to at least one person we do not know personally every session and event.
3. Though the criteria for membership has been extended, the one that has not passed is the motion that frequently comes up that we be able to invite women of good character to join our organization. That will likely be a motion again at the 2014 Supreme Session and I encourage anyone who attends the Supreme in Omaha to carefully consider how that could open our membership.
4. The one step we have taken that is still somewhat of a fledgling program is the Mentor program. Please give our Membership Chairperson all the support you can by becoming trained as a mentor, volunteering to mentor, participating in as many membership events as you possibly can and doing the very best job you can to make new members feel welcome and at home.
5. The dress code has had a major impact on current rights and privileges of members. The dress code is also a reason some who have become members have not returned. How many of us would like to cook, clean, work, travel or communicate in the manner we did 100 years ago? We are in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century and the second century of Daughters of the Nile and yet the Dress Code has not changed.

From the 2004 report I quote” The actual “length” of the attire should not be such a critical factor, nor measured, instead the emphasis placed on encouraging a nice dressy outfit.

The ritual states to’ judge others by their reputation, not their raiment,’ and I feel strongly about this section of our ritual.

In frequent Supreme Sessions a woman has tumbled down an escalator or stairway and clearly the long skirt can be a risk. Comfort and practicality should guide our choices.

6. Following the Membership Report suggestions, on the Supreme Queen's visit and at Installation of Officers, full and formal introductions will be followed, however, in the interest of time Past Queens will be recognized as a group at their seats, and Supreme Appointees will come forward for introduction the first Session following the Supreme Session and thereafter (except at the Supreme Visit) be introduced from their seats. There may be other introductions for specific reasons through the year.
7. There will be an attempt to have more membership events during 2014-2015. New Member Orientations, Service and Social times, and exploration of possible new units may be a part of the Membership effort.  
If we bring in members, but they don't return because they don't find their niche we will not grow.
8. Re: Board Meetings. I will be requesting agenda items for board meetings to be submitted to me by the 2<sup>nd</sup> week of the month and hope to have a written agenda out to the email list I have prior to monthly board meetings. It will be too expensive and time consuming to do a separate mailing for the agenda and given recent bulk mail experiences for Tebala, retired teacher, and others, arrival in a timely manner is unlikely.

All board meetings will be at my house and will be open to all members, not only board members and advisors. Also, I will suggest that each committee do the same and that agendas are printed, or circulated as thoroughly as possible prior to meetings. If items are submitted in advance less business time will be taken up discussing at length a surprising motion and there will be more of an opportunity for members, board members, etc. to do any research necessary and give thoughtful consideration of proposed agenda items.

9. Every attempt will be made to work hand in hand with Tebala Shrine Center and all area Masonic-related organizations to communicate and support each one in hopes of building a greater Masonic family feel. Clearly we can lighten up, loosen up, and open up to appeal more to future members.
10. Cost is an issue that is included as a concern to those who replied to the 2004 survey. This is an issue I would love to have Alabet No. 31 work on through the year with the goal of addressing ways to lower the cost. This concern, along with the dress code requiring formals and ankle-length or longer dresses and the requirement for considerable memorization appears to be 3 frequently mentioned barriers to women being willing to go up the line. In time Nile will have to address these three issues to keep a complete line of officers from year to year. This is the first year to begin with a complete slate of officers since I joined Alabet No. 31. I am so pleased and grateful for those who are willing to serve, but know that the issue may impact us in the future as it has in the past.
11. 2014-2015 will find a focus on fun perhaps similar, perhaps different from 2013-2014. One of my mentors taught me years ago to 'give life the light touch', and I learned it well. I will have fun and have modeled what I mean with the 2013 Orthopedic Card Party. Those who need a lighter touch in life are welcome to come along!
12. I love the concern about purpose in the Membership Report, stating that Fraternalism means Friendship and Support to our Members; and Philanthropy means Dedication and Support to the children we serve. In this Dual Purpose the perfectionism of reciting the Ritual is of lesser value than the Dual Purpose of fraternalism and philanthropy. You will find this evidenced in the ensuing year. Comments were made in the 2004 survey responses such as "Politics have

replaced our Purpose at the Subordinate level and at the Supreme level.” Further, “Our Purpose equals our Obligation.” I leave that for you to consider.

I hope you get as excited as I am about the ensuing year when you receive this letter and see what is planned for the year. I have tried to balance the following components: A. General Fund Fundraising with Foundation Fundraising; B. transparency of information, process and purpose with efficient business and financial practices; C. fun with dedication to our Philanthropy; and D .recognition with success.

At this writing, looking to the year ahead, there are many places for you to serve in both small and large ways. Please feel free to call me and offer to serve, discuss any ideas with me on the things shared and the plans made, propose projects or contribute in any way you wish. The best subtitle for this year is “A few of my favorite things!” I will be building into the programs some of my favorite people, places, and things to share with you and I hope you enjoy them as much as I will enjoy sharing them.

My summary and my commitment to Nile: organize, plan, lighten up, loosen up, remember our priorities and live our obligation.

In Nile Love,  
Queen Pat



## *Notes from Princess Tirzah*

It seems impossible that I have been a member of Alabet for nearly ten years. The time has flown and I have been blessed to get to know many of you. I admit keeping names straight is not my strong suit, but I keep working on it. Please know that even if I don't remember your name all the time, I will never forget the contribution you make to our organization.

This group is not just about a few officers doing all the work; it is about each of us putting forth whatever effort we may be able to accomplish. Many hands DO make light work. And for the children, there is still much work ahead of us.

I encourage each of you to commit to contributing even a small portion of your time this coming year for the good of the children. Find some activity in which you are willing to participate, no matter how big or how small, and say, “I can do that!”

In Nile Love,

Gloria Patterson  
Princess Tirzah

## ***Widows of Tebala Shriners***

*On Sunday, May 11th, the Widows of Tebala Shriners and Nobles of Tebala Shrine Center are dedicating a bench in front of the Tebala Shrine Center in memory of their husbands and Nobles. These fine men did an incredible job of providing for the Shrine Hospitals for Children. They went above and beyond, and gave so much ...great gifts of effort, time and money. Many of their widows are members of Alabet Temple #31. If any widow of a Tebala Shrine Noble wishes to join this group, please call Alice Alfredson at (815) 398-8522.*

*God bless the Shrine Hospitals for Children, and God bless the thousands of people who work for this fabulous cause!*



Your Majesty, Fellow Officers,  
and Ladies of the Household

Thank you for your confidence. I am proud to be a subordinate officer in our grand philanthropy of helping children. I'll strive to honor our past queens and all LOH for their hard work and dedication to the Daughters of the Nile by practicing our Obligation and keeping our vows.

See you at Session or before –

Phyllis Cain, Princess Royal

# Upcoming Events

## APRIL

Wednesday - 2<sup>ND</sup> Daughters of the Nile Session, Tebala Shrine Center.

6:00 pm light supper, 7:00 pm Session.

Saturday – 12<sup>th</sup> Morris Benefit, Tebala Shrine Center

Wednesday - 16<sup>th</sup> Alabet No. 31 Board,

6:00 pm 7399 Bermuda Dr. Queen Pat's home. All welcome.

Sunday – 20<sup>th</sup> Children's Easter Party, Tebala Shrine Center

Sunday - 27<sup>th</sup> David Ross Concert. Outstanding International folk singer/songwriter puts on a unique show for the whole family. \$15. Per person suggested donation. No one turned away.

## MAY

Saturday – 3<sup>rd</sup> - Queen's Tea

Wednesday - 7<sup>TH</sup> Daughters of the Nile Session:

6:00 pm light supper, 7:00 pm Session, Tebala Shrine Center.

Friday – 9<sup>th</sup> Mother's Day Dinner, Tebala Shrine Center

Wednesday - 21<sup>st</sup> Alabet No. 31 Board: 6:00 pm Pat's home, all welcome.

Friday - 23<sup>rd</sup> Set-Up for "By My Own Hands" Quilt and Artisans Show,

9:00 a.m. – 5:00 pm Tebala Shrine Center.

Saturday - 24<sup>th</sup> "By My Own Hands" Quilt and Artisans Show,

9:00 am – 5:00 p.m. Tebala Shrine Center.

Sunday - 25<sup>th</sup> "By My Own Hands" Quilt and Artisans Show,

9:00 am – 5:00 pm Tebala Shrine Center.

\*\*Friday - 30<sup>th</sup> 7:00 am Board the bus for Supreme Session in Omaha, NE.

Tebala Shrine Center.



# JUNE

1st – 5<sup>th</sup> Supreme Session in Omaha Nebraska

Friday - 6<sup>th</sup> 9:00 a.m. Board Bus for return from Supreme in Omaha, NE

6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup>, Tebala Shrine Circus

Wednesday - 11<sup>th</sup> 6:00 p.m. Open Board Meeting Queen Pat's home

Tuesday - 17<sup>th</sup> 9:00 am Fund Raising Delivery  
6:00pm Light Supper Chorus/Dancers Hosting  
7:00 pm DON Session Supreme Reports (Special Dispensation)

