

## NORTH WEST DAZE

The approximately 139 Daughters of the Nile and Nobles who attended *North West Daze* last weekend in Helena, Montana, are in a real DAZE! Sapphira Temple No. 79 received hundreds of accolades for a wonderful weekend of Nile fellowship, fun and food. There were 19 Nile Temples represented! A notice had been posted on the website inviting all Daughters of the Nile to attend.

After registering on Thursday, once the market was set up, unit rehearsals and a tour of the Civic Center held (which was the original Algeria Shrine Center), we took a boat tour on the



Missouri River and saw the "Gates to the Rocky Mountains." This was a part of the trip taken by the explorers Lewis and Clark many years ago. We had a yummy bag dinner and liquid refreshments amid the fun of renewing friendships and making new ones. The beautiful late afternoon and evening views of the northwest scenery on this amazing river, along with wild life watching, left us in a nature Daze! Upon returning to the Algeria Shrine Center, we had a Get Together Social with those who did not go on the cruise. The week-end had truly begun and we were in a Daze!

Friday morning we put on our Nile finery and witnessed an amazing Ceremonial performed with excellence by Queen Judy Nielsen and the competent officers and members of Sapphira Temple No. 79. The pomp and circumstance just made our Daze continue! There were over 100 ladies present. Following the Ceremonial, a delicious luncheon was held in the Temple dining room. We were privileged to meet Shrine patient Joey King and his family. His father spoke about his treatment and expressed sincere thanks for all the help the entire family has received, together with the excellent care given Joey in the Shreveport and Spokane Shriners Hospitals for Children®. This really brings our reason for being Daughters of the Nile to the forefront. Now we're in a hospital Daze!

When time permitted we shopped in the market place, because it doesn't take much to put us in a Shopping Daze when the opportunity presents itself!

Later in the afternoon we headed to the Rocky Mountains for a horse-drawn Wagon Ride and Dinner Evening. We were privileged to be entertained by a singing cowboy as we were served an elegant prime rib dinner by candlelight at the Last Chance Gulch Wagon Ride and Dinner Show. This was Montana at its loveliest and the food was most delicious. We had huckleberry cheesecake too! Yummy! Now we are in a Montana mountain Daze!

Following a delicious breakfast, a business meeting was held on Saturday morning. Last year Lybia Temple No. 32 hosted the *Wild West Wing Ding* in Salt Lake City, Utah with the hope of making it an annual event for the Temples of the northwest. As this was the second convention, those in attendance (representing 19 temples) were asked if anyone wanted to host a gathering

in 2015. A couple of ladies “volunteered” and will discuss it with their Temples upon returning home. It looks like we have a couple of Temples really interested. More Nile Daze!

At 12 o'clock noon, the first ever Shrine/Daughters of the Nile Parade with Algeria Shrine and Sapphira Temple was held in downtown Helena. Mother Nature was not really accommodating, but the event went on anyway. Actually, it rained cats and dogs but we paraded anyway. Some even walked with umbrellas. The Temple banner from Sapphira Temple No. 79 was proudly carried in the wet parade and escaped unscathed. There were posters in the local shops and there were articles in the local newspaper promoting this first ever parade. Now we are in a weather Daze! We are also in a "first ever" Daze!

The afternoon found us taking the Last Chance Tour Train all around town with a tour guide giving us all the interesting history of this unique city. We're in a tourist Daze!

A banquet was held in the evening after a Parade of Royalty as the Head Table guests were separately introduced and photographed before taking their respective seats. Joey and his family were again present and his dad addressed us once more, expressing his sincere appreciation to the Daughters of the Nile and the Shrine for the continuing treatment of his son. A proud to be a Daughter of the Nile Daze!

Following the banquet we adjourned upstairs and were entertained by seven different Units from various Temples. Wonder why we were in a Drummers Daze?

This concluded the events of the weekend. There were four Past Supreme Queens and three visiting Queens present, along with one Appointed Supreme Officer and many Supreme Appointees from 19 Temples. There were representatives from Florida, Massachusetts, New Mexico, California, Washington, Idaho, Wyoming and Alberta. Princess Nancy Fuller was the General Chairman and was ably assisted by the officers and members of Sapphira Temple No. 79. It was a wonderful weekend and we truly headed for our respective homes in a Daze!

As Supreme Membership Chairman, I am in a Daze about this wonderful event in Helena, Montana! It is wonderful to have another association to join the ones in Texas, Florida and the North East—since we all know that Florida and Massachusetts are not in the North West! Other states should consider forming an association too, then I would be in another Daze for sure! Is anyone up to the challenge? Why don't you attend Florida or Texas Days this year and see what you are missing? Bet you too will then be in a DAZE!

***Alyce Thomas, Past Supreme Queen  
Chairman, Membership Committee***