

Volume XXIV, Issue 7

September 2024

EL KORAH SHRINERS

DESERT DUST



Official Publication of El Korah Shriners

1755 N Westgate Dr, Suite #125, Boise, 83704

New!

— Men and Women —

Join the El Korah Mixed Bowling League

Very SHORT Season! Just 6 Weeks

11:00 am Thursdays — Starting Oct 17th

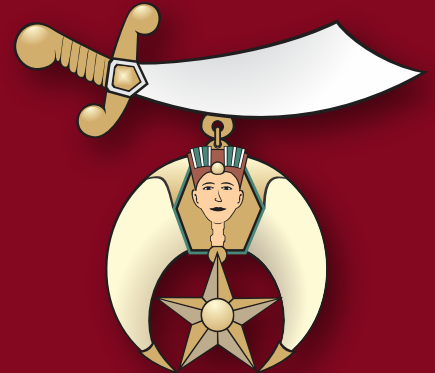
Westy's Garden Lanes
5504 Alworth St, Garden City

4-person Teams

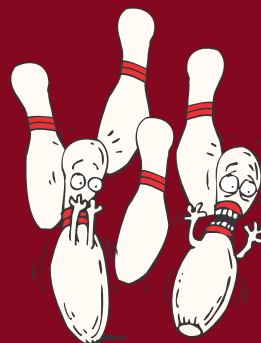
Team Captain must be a Shriner

(Bowlers must be 18+)

Cost is \$20⁰⁰ per person per week
(includes bowling shoes rental, if needed)



To Sign Up
Call or Text Bruce Drewes
(208) 867-5405



2024 Divan

Elected Officers

- Potentate Ric Bobier
- Chief Rabban Ray Breshears
- Assistant Rabban David Brannan
- High Priest & Prophet Bruce Drewes
- Oriental Guide Jason Morales
- Treasurer Will Votaw, PP
- Recorder Wayne Foster

Appointed Divan

- 1st Ceremonial Master . . . Anthony Patterson
- 2nd Ceremonial Master Bob Martin
- Marshal Mischa Brady
- Chaplain David Triplett
- Captain of the Guard Gail Sivey
- Outer Guards Rod Baldwin

Other Divan Positions

- Director Ron Bishop
- Assistant Director &
Parade Director . . Ray Westmoreland, PP
- Assistant Chaplain Skylor Lenz
- Chief Potentate's Aide Merl Mews
- Ambassador Coordinator Mitch Davis

Potentate's Aides

- Coordinator Mischa Brady
- Aides Black Light Patrol
- Chief Aide Emeritus Dick Swift

Hospital Board Members

- Salt Lake City Dave Brannan
- Portland Rick Holloway
- Portland Joe Randall

Phone Numbers

- Recorder (208) 343-0571
- Events: Circus/Football (208) 333-8350

Desert Dust

- Editor Gary Betts
gsbetts@msn.com
- Assistant Editor Rick Holloway, PP
elkorahdesertdust@gmail.com



Robert "Bob" Finney . . . 6/26/2024
Michael W Bean 8/11/2024

**Advertise Your Business
in the Desert Dust!**

Reach out to the Nobility, Ladies and friends in the online and printed versions of the Desert Dust. El Korah publishes 10 newsletters annually.

For a member-owned business
a regular-sized ad is just
\$50.00 per year

Contact the Recorder's Office for larger ads, single issue ads, and ads for non-member owned businesses.

Submit your ad to the Desert Dust today!

Editor's Notice

The Desert Dust is published monthly, except July and August.

Submissions are Due by the 20th of the Month

Please be prompt!! Remember, the Editor is volunteering his time to publish the newsletter.

Pictures should include a caption, if appropriate.

Email your submission to Gary at gsbetts@msn.com

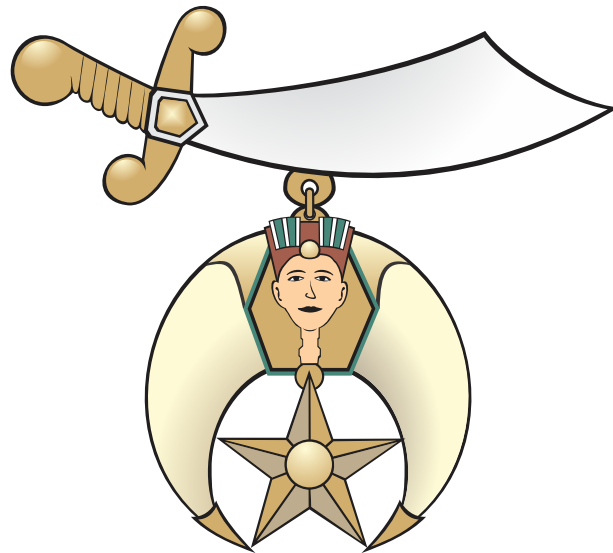
2024 Shrine Dues were due by **12/31/23**.

If you do not have a current 2024 dues card, you are delinquent and cannot attend meetings, etc.

Avoid the dreaded NPD list and contact the Recorder's Office today (343-0571).

Did you know that El Korah's budget relies on members paying their dues on time?

You dues help pay our bills and keep our doors open.



Potentate's Message *by Ric Bobier*



**III Sir Ric and First Lady Tandy
"Aloha from Hawaii!"**

Wow, what a Wild, Fantastic, and Furious Summer! I hope everyone had a great time and that everything went exactly how you wanted.

Let me start by once again thanking everyone who attended

the Potentate's Nobility Ball in May. I cannot thank Chief Rabban Ray Breshears and Lady Lonna enough for their hard work in planning and executing such a fantastic evening. First Lady Tandy and I could not be any happier or more pleased. Thank you all for making it such a great event.

The Divan next attended the North/South Shrine All-Star Football Games in Burley, supporting the Twin Falls Shrine Club and Chairman Laird Stone and his committee. Shrine Club President Kris Carney and his Lady Melanie did a phenomenal job running the flags for both games and helping make the day a success. Another year of fantastic games for the Twin Falls Shrine Club!

Summer kicked off with the ATV/UTV Fun Ride on June 1st.

Although we had a couple of mishaps, High Priest and Prophet Bruce Drewes and Lady Jerri, along many other Nobles and their Ladies worked hard to make this first-ever event extremely successful.



Enjoyed the Ride!

Didn't go

I hope it will continue for many more years and become one of El Korah's major fundraisers. Excellent job, Bruce!

Congratulations to our first-ever Daughters of the Nile Supreme Queen from Iras Temple #40. Her Supreme Majesty Jackie Holloway, Princess Mary Baldwin and Past Queen Sonjia Yates did a phenomenal job of bringing everyone together and putting on a Supreme Session that will go down in the history books as one of the very best.

They hosted approximately 1,100 people for 10 days right here in downtown Boise. Thank you to all the ladies and El Korah Shrine Nobles who assisted in this major endeavor! Congratulations to you all.

We attended many parades in June and July from the Magic Valley to Eastern Oregon and the Treasure Valley and Cascade. Thank you to all the Units and Clubs and the Nobility and others who participated.

June also brought us our annual El Korah Shrine Circus with a total of twelve performances in Idaho Falls, Rupert, Jerome, and the outdoor stadium at Expo Idaho in Boise. Every performance went well. Chairman Assistant Rabban Dave Brannan and his dedicated team did an excellent job. I know everyone who attended the Circus this year was very impressed and had a great time — and we also made a little money for the Shrine. We are looking forward to next year's circus. Great job and thank you Noble Dave!

In early July, we found ourselves in Reno, the Biggest Little City in the World, for the 150th Imperial Session of Shriners International. Many of our Nobles and their Ladies attended, making this session a memorable and special time for our Shrine Center. It was an Imperial Session we will always remember. Thank you to all the Nobles and Ladies for venturing to Reno and helping us celebrate Shrine Imperial and my birthday. Also, Illustrious Sir Rick Holloway



Potentate's Message continues on Page 4

For all your Real Estate needs

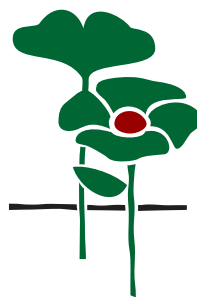


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Potentate's Message *(cont.)*

announced his candidacy and intentions to run for the Shrine Imperial Line at Imperial Session in Atlanta next year. So now, along with his upcoming duties as Most Worshipful Grand Master of Masons in Idaho and his role as Supreme Queen Jackie's support commander for this next year, he will also be out there running for Imperial Outer Guard. Good luck, Rick — you have our admiration and support!

The Baker City East/West Shrine Football Game took place on July 27th with Chief Rabban Ray Breshears representing El Korah. Thank you, Ray. I'm sorry there were so many events going on and that we were so lightly represented. I appreciate your being there for us!

On August 3rd, we attended and played (or rather, participated) in the Daughters of the Nile Golf Tournament at Lakeview Golf Course. Everyone had a great time and a great day of golf. The ladies always put on a fantastic event and raised a significant amount of money for their foundation. Congratulations on another excellent tournament!

Our next Stated Meeting will be on September 11th at the Boise Masonic Center. Dinner will be served at 6:30 pm

with the meeting starting at 7:30 pm. The Divan Ladies will also meet at the same time to discuss their Oktoberfest fundraiser for Camp Unlimited. Please come out and see what's happening at your Shrine.

The Idaho Grand Lodge Session will take place Sept. 19-21 in Post Falls at the Red Lion Templin's on the River. Many of our Brother Nobles will be attending. And as previously mentioned, Ill Sir Rick Holloway will be installed as the Most Worshipful Grand Master of Masons in Idaho.

I would like to once again thank all Nobles and your Ladies for your marvelous support and hard work this year. You are doing your part to help keep El Korah Shrine alive and running so well. The Divan and their Ladies are absolutely the glue that holds us all together. They are an excellent group of individuals and I could not imagine our Shrine without these hardworking, dedicated men and women. Thank you for all that you have done, and continue to do, to help us prosper.

As always . . . **Energize More in 2024!**

Ric



**Shriners
Children's™**
Salt Lake City

Walk for LOVE AT HOGLE ZOO!

Saturday, September 21, 2024
8:00 a.m. — 10:30 a.m. | Utah's Hogle Zoo

2600 E Sunnyside Ave. (800 South) | Salt Lake City, UT 84108

Shriners and Ladies!

Come join us for a walk on the wild side as we celebrate our 10th annual Walk for LOVE at **Utah's Hogle Zoo**.

Or register as a **virtual walker** and participate from your own neighborhood.

Register now at
walkforloveslc.org



Portland Shrine Hospital Report

by Ill Sir Rick Holloway



The Portland Shrine Hospital had a very robust July with total surgeries being the highest they have been all year.

Outpatient surgeries continues to be above budget and we matched our year to date monthly high in inpatient surgeries. Net patient revenue is only slightly under budget on a year to date basis and but total income is over \$800,000 higher than budget. We remain second only to NorCal in terms of net patient revenue.

We also measure the total draw on the endowment per patient, and have reached a point where it is the lowest it has ever been, drawing only \$692 per patient currently when it was nearly \$2,000 per patient in 2018.

The new clinic in Redmond, OR is starting off strong and the current two days per week the clinic is open may not be enough. The Medford clinic is continuing to see more and more patients.

If anyone has any questions about the Portland Hospital, please reach out to Joe Randall or I via text, email, or phone. We are always willing to provide any additional information you may have regarding the Portland Hospital. If you have any questions about what it is like to serve on the Board of Governors, please contact Joe Randall or I. We would be happy to tell you what it is like and how rewarding it is to serve on the Board of Governors for Portland.



I Have a Quilting Project!

Noble Steve Priest is looking for any old uniforms with emblems on them that could be used for making quilts. If you have something that might be useful, please contact Steve directly via text or email.

(208) 869-1752 pspriest1@gmail.com

Greeters

by Bob Martin, President

As summer winds down hope everyone enjoyed the little break. The Greeters will be starting our monthly dinner meeting in September.

There is a conflict on the first Friday in September so we will meet on the 2nd Friday, which is September 13th. We will be meeting at Harvey's Restaurant (at Banbury Golf Course Restaurant) at 6:00 pm, 2626 S Marypost Pl, Eagle.

Another exciting outing the Greeters had was our annual summer picnic we had a Tully Park. The Greeters supplied the chicken and members brought a nice assortment of salads and desserts.

Hope to see you at our September meeting!

Black Light Patrol

by Merl Mewes, Past President



Well, we're at it again. On August 21st, several members of the Black Light Patrol degree team visited Ashlar Lodge #29 in Nampa's and assisted them in advancing two young candidates to the next level of their Masonic journey.

Hopefully, they'll continue their work and become Shriners some day soon.

Salt Lake Shriners Children's Clinic

by Dave Brannan, Board of Governors



The Shriners Children's Clinic in Salt Lake City continues to work toward their mission of providing patients with "The Best Care Anywhere".

The Philanthropy Department raised \$66,217 in May for a YTD of \$1,704,792 which is 37.9% of their goal for the year, +6.2 over 2023 at this time last year. Overall expenses were \$326,359 and under budget by 5.2%. Total outpatient charges at \$5,496,315 with collections on out-patient charges at 17.2% with net revenue at \$945,421.

Staffing remains stable with 5 on-boarded and 1 off-boarded, a 0.0% turnover, there is still a 6.0% vacancy rate for unfilled positions. HR Strategic planning continues to try and fill positions, Radiology Techs being difficult to fill as there is an overall shortage across the country. Two employees received their 20 year Service Awards. Market HR changes were made in July as some positions were consolidated from individual

Medical Facilities to our Market Group consisting of Salt Lake, Portland, and Spokane. They are continuing to work on 2025 Budget preparation.

There were 72 clinics held during the 20 available days clinic days in June. There were 668 unique patient visits in June. There were 49 no-shows (7.3%) for an overall show rate for appointments of 92.6%. There were 48 surgical procedures performed, and 3 infusions. The Orthotics and Prosthetic Department delivered 333 Orthotics and 20 Prosthetics for a total of 353 devices delivered. The wheelchair department worked on 122 wheelchairs for the month.

They have reached 59% of patients activated MyChart since January 1, 2024. The Press Ganey score was 92.59% in June.

There were 3 staff members confirmed with COVID in June.

The Walk for Love event will be held in Salt Lake City on Saturday September 21st. I have included an attachment with a link for accessing the registration for the event, there is also an option to participate in the Walk for Love event virtually if you are not able to attend the event in person.

See the attached one sheet for information on Providing Care for Cleft Lip and Palate at Shriners Hospitals for Children.

Manning the Shrine Hospital Booth at the Western Idaho State Fair

A special "Thank You" to everyone who was able to come out to the Fair and take a shift at the booth. - *Dave*



III Sir Joe Randall, Ambassador Bill Wentz and Oriental Guide Jason Morales



Assistant Rabban Dave Brannan with III Sir Joe Randall and Lady Norma

El Korah Shrine Nobility Birthdays for July, August and September

July 1	Frederick Lyon	August 1	Elsworth Barrington	September 1	David Jennings
July 2	Gary Adams	August 1	Rickie Newcomer	September 1	Mike Mastropaolo
July 3	Ric Bobier	August 1	Warren Sedlacek	September 2	Scott Syme
July 3	Arthur Kilton	August 1	Corey Turner	September 3	Charles Madden
July 3	Herbert Malany	August 2	Jeremy Vaughn	September 4	Donald Charbonnea
July 4	Richard Bruett	August 4	Robert Bourn	September 5	David Hammerquist
July 6	Levi Davis	August 4	Bret Judy	September 6	Monty Bixby
July 7	Aaron White	August 4	James McNabb	September 6	Thomas Case
July 9	Drew Hall	August 4	Art Shoemaker	September 7	Nyal Pedersen
July 9	John Irving	August 7	George White	September 8	Stanley Garrett
July 9	James Voyles	August 9	Ronald McManigal	September 8	Raymond McGoldri
July 10	Steven Bate	August 10	John Logan	September 9	Dave Call
July 11	Gregory Winther	August 11	Jimmy Leichliter	September 10	Allen Simmons
July 11	Steven Zimmerman	August 14	Harold Piel	September 12	Michael Lesh
July 13	Steven Driscoll	August 15	Richard Klein	September 13	David Hart
July 14	Douglas Hilborn	August 16	Ronald Wood	September 14	Monte Bollar
July 15	Charles White	August 17	Glenn Hadden	September 14	Michael Pearson
July 17	Robert Ault	August 17	Rodger Hood	September 16	Brent Willis
July 17	Archie Banbury	August 19	Christopher Clayville	September 17	Russ Smith
July 17	James Stokes	August 19	N H Patton	September 17	Bill Wheeler
July 18	Lawrence Sanders	August 19	David Stoy	September 18	Grayson Stone
July 18	Randy Welborn	August 21	Albert Anderson	September 20	Kenneth Beaudreau
July 19	Lawrence Root	August 21	Don Miller	September 20	Rex Labrie
July 19	Young Walker	August 21	Ray Sackett	September 23	Glade McDougall
July 20	Kenneth Francis	August 21	Jon Seetin	September 23	Vernon Patrick
July 21	William McClung	August 22	Anthony Patterson	September 24	Michael Claymore
July 21	John Moore	August 24	George Forschler	September 27	David Bennett
July 22	Irvin Christensen	August 26	Mark Crowley	September 27	Edgar Simmons
July 22	Steven Hall	August 27	Walter Johnson	September 29	Harold Ford
July 22	Tim Holden	August 27	Raymond Liercke		
July 22	Robert Mattern	August 28	Ronald Harris		
July 22	Garland Risner	August 30	Roy Clever		
July 22	D W Sharp	August 30	John Isenhardt		
July 23	Mark Graybeal	August 30	John Krommenhoek		
July 23	Harlow Kibbey	August 30	Roger Reynoldson		
July 24	Ronald Lowe	August 31	John Kerr		
July 25	Warren Hill	August 31	Gary Labruyere		
July 26	James Herndon	August 31	Spencer Strand		
July 29	Peter Contos				
July 29	Leland Heinrich				
July 30	Kristapher Carney				
July 30	John Garrett				
July 31	Leroy Beasley				



Shriners Children's and the El Korah Patient Travel Fund

by Bruce Drewes, High Priest & Prophet

The Shriners Magazine publishes a report each summer about the Shriners Children's Hospitals. The 2023 report stressed the importance of Shriners Children's as a research and outreach hospital for the treatment of our kids.

Shriners Children's doctors held clinics in many areas outside the United States including El Salvador, Panama, the Pacific Basin, Puerto Rico, and Cyprus, which was the largest one because they saw children from Egypt, Greece, Jordan, Nigeria and Turkey. In total, they saw more than 300 patients and performed 111 complex surgeries in collaboration with local physicians. More than 80 children received braces and prosthetics.

"At the Shriners Children's Genomics Institute, researchers are taking genetic samples from patients who choose to participate to sequence thousands of genomes each year." This research is assisting our researchers to help kids with cerebral palsy and scoliosis. There are plans for this information helping with other situations like scoliosis, spina bifida, cerebral palsy, burn care, pain management and much more.

In 2023, Shriners Children's:

- Served patients from all 50 States and 108 counties
- Provided 23,902 life-changing surgeries
- Provided 347,839 Rehabilitation procedures
- Had 14,238 Telehealth encounters
- Had 51,852 prosthetic and orthotic services
- Saw over 57,000 new patients

El Korah's role in helping Shriners Children's is to provide funds for patients to travel to the appropriate Shrine hospital. In 2023, El Korah:

- Helped 112 Idaho children
- Sent patients to 212 hospital visits
- Spent a total of \$77,927 from the Patient Travel Fund on travel expenses
- Provided these travel services without regard to the patients' parents ability to pay

These annual El Korah events support the Patient Travel Fund:

- The Treasure Valley area East/West High School All Star Football game held in the Boise area at Thanksgiving
- The Magic Valley area North/South High School All Star Football game in the Twin Falls area held on Memorial Day

All Masonic Christmas Party

by Dave Brannan - Assistant Rabban

Save the Date - The annual El Korah Shrine All Masonic Christmas Party will be held Sunday, December 15th starting at 2:30 pm at the Meridian Masonic Lodge (800 E 2nd St, Meridian).

Additional information will be provided as the date gets closer. Please RSVP to EksMemCmte@gmail.com if you are planning to attend.

Potentate's Challenge Coin

by Bruce Drewes, High Priest & Prophet

If you are looking to buy one of the Potentate's 2024 Challenge Coins with a number lower than 200, you will be in for a real challenge. Over half of the 500 available coins have been sold in just the first three months. The popularity of this coin has even surprised me. Many Nobles (and spouses, too) have purchased more than one coin. Some have five or more. Challenge Coins are being bought as gifts for family members, children and grandchildren, and even for people outside the area. Remember that this is a fundraiser that supports El Korah. Don't forget that we'll draw two numbers later this year for \$500 prizes.

Yes, you'll have **two chances** to win a **\$500.00** gift card!

Only 500 of these beautiful coins have been created and will be offered for sale to the Nobility and the general public for \$20.00 dollars each.

ANYONE can own one (or more) of these beautiful keepsakes!

The proceeds of this fundraiser will be set aside for future El Korah activities.



Front



Back

NOTE. The proceeds of this fundraising activity support El Korah Shrine and are not tax deductible.

Fundraising Committee

by Bruce Drewes, High Priest & Prophet

First Annual El Korah Fun Ride

Saturday, June 1, 2024 was the First Annual El Korah Fun Ride for UTVs and ATVs. It was held at Hemmingway Recreation Area, south of Nampa, ID in Owyhee County.

Work on the event started months ahead of time by securing Birds of Prey Motorsports and Carl's Cycle Sales as major sponsors, which is a critical step in any fundraising event. Other sponsors included Quality Electric Contractors, Anderson Reserve, JN Properties, and the Black Light Patrol, Players, and Greeters Units. I want to extend a very heartfelt "Thank you!" to all the sponsors.



I also thank the Mountain Home and Kuna UTV Associations for having over 50 of their members join the ride.

Although we had secured the necessary permits for the ride, the area we wanted to use for our start area and headquarters was a first-come, dispersed camping area. So, several of our members gathered there on Thursday to stake out our site.

On Friday, many El Korah Shriners arrived to begin preparations for the Saturday. Bruce & Jerri Drewes, Mitch & Sue Davis, Gary & Kim Betts, Bob Martin, Steve & Paula Priest, Ed & Karen Hulme, and Warren Hill brought their RVs and arranged them to define our headquarters area and hopefully block some of the wind that was expected on Saturday.

Members of the Black Light Patrol, Greeters, Cameleers and Players arrived to set up the two large, rented tents that would provide some precious shaded space. Who says you can't teach old dogs new tricks? The guys learned something because the second tent went up in 1/3 the time of the first one.

Several Shriners drove the course to put up signs and flagging that would help participants know which way to go to stay on the designated route. With all the trails

crisscrossing the vast, mountainous Hemmingway area, it would be easy for folks to get lost on a 42-mile ride.

Saturday morning broke out bright and pleasant as the Fun



Ride participants started arriving at our start area. The Shrine Ladies were ready to serve breakfast burritos, coffee and other items.



Jorge Castaneda, Ray Breshears, and First Lady Tandy Boyce assisted with rider registrations and other headquarters tasks. Rebecca Simonis took care of the many raffle items and David Brannan set up the bar and beverages for after the Ride. Ill Sir Joe



Randall, Anthony Patterson, Bob Julian, Merl Mewes, Wayne White, Rod Horn and Ill Sir Ray Westmoreland manned the check point stations where riders drew their numbers and filled out their score cards. And a special "Thank You" goes to Potentate Ric Bobier and his Lady Tandy for making time to help with this event!

Whew!! So many great helpers and so many, many jobs to do.

Once everyone was registered and had some breakfast, the rider briefing was held. We discussed safety concerns and some facts about the course. The riders would be divided into

five groups that would each be separated by 10 minutes to help with dust management.



Fundraising Committee (Cont.)

One by one the groups lined up and headed out to the course.



The Mountain Home UTV Riders Association was the first group to head out on the course and were the first to reach the short rock crawl section.



Darcy Heckathorne, their club's President, got out of her UTV to assist her husband through this difficult section. She slipped on one of the rocks and fell, badly breaking her ankle. The rest of her club helped load her into her UTV and the entire group headed back to the headquarters area. Paramedics were summoned and determined that her break was very serious and that she needed to be taken by Life Flight to a Boise hospital.

As a followup, Darcy broke her ankle in four places and required surgery. Her ankle had to be pinned together. After a few days in the hospital she went home for recovery. She is excited for next year's Fun Ride and has even offered her Club's assistance to help set it up.

After the crawl section, the rest of the riders continued their ride.



As riders finished the Fun Ride and returned back to start area, they were met by Shriners who had hamburgers, hot dogs and beverages waiting for them. Lunch was prepared by Mitch & Sue Davis, Dennis & Vicky Johnson, and Jerri Mizrahi-Drewes.



The raffle started after lunch and included:

- Gift cards for two 9mm pistols
- 1000 rounds of 9mm ammo
- Two sets of motorcycles helmets, gloves and a gift card from Birds of Prey Motorsports
- A \$500 gift card from Birds of Prey Motorsports
- A 5-gallon fuel jug, two gift cards, goggles and shirts from Carl's Cycle Sales
- A large metal wall hanging from Metal Experts
- Two metal nightlights from Metal Experts
- 4 tickets to a Boise Hawks baseball game
- 4 passes to the Western Idaho State Fair with 4 unlimited ride wrist bands

The 2024 El Korah Fun Ride was a great success thanks to the support from the El Korah Nobility and their Ladies, the ATV/UTV riding community and especially our Sponsors.



The BIG Raffle Winner!



El Korah Shrine Circus

by Dave Brannan, 2024 Circus Chairman

We had a great 2024 Circus. Roughly 5,900 people attended 12 performances the 6 days at various venues and show times. We made about \$55,000 (so far), which is a little less than 2023. I believe all of the revenue and most of the expenses have been captured. Another circus was at the Boise Towne Square for the two weeks before the Shrine Circus started and may have impacted our attendance at the Boise shows.

We had a few changes this year with the acts and the venues. We had elephants acts for the first time in several years and a new bison act. We changed venues from Gooding to the newly rebuilt grandstands in Jerome, which turned out to be the top daily performance for the year in both attendance and revenue.

We also changed from the indoor arena at the Ford Idaho Center in Nampa to the outdoor grandstands at EXPO Idaho in Garden City. This saved about \$9,000 over the 3 days in Boise.

At several of the performances, we had Shriners Children’s patients from the local area drawing the tickets for the bike raffles. We had a great group of volunteers helping with the Circus this year, including several Idaho Grand Lodge officers, our elected and appointed Divan, and many members of the Nobility. There are too many to name here, but thanks to everyone who came out to help and to support the El Korah Shrine Circus!



Chaplain's Corner

by David Triplett, Chaplain



PERFECTION

I saw this word all by itself and it filled me with thoughts of Masonic and religious reflections.

Perfection is the condition, state, or quality of being free or as free as possible from all flaws or defects.

What words of complement do we and should use in our conversations to show our appreciation? For example: excellent, superb, magnificent, perfect, perfect 10, or you are the very BEST. Take a moment to think of the words you tend to use.

Some of our local School Districts are taking steps to remove the distraction of cell phones that impede students from doing their best.

In our Masonic Lodges, we have metaphors dealing with a rough cut Ashler stone that is to be worked until perfectly square and smooth and represents a Mason on his travels through life toward the Light.

Let's take this metaphor a little further. My father used to tell us that our Body is a Temple. I liked his teaching and it fits in

with my faith that the Architect of the Universe has imbedded in all of His Creations a sense of Right, Sublimity, and Magnificence.

Where do we observe these wonders? The colorful hummingbird hovering in the flowers by the window, butterflies fluttering on the milk weeds, ocean waves breaking on the shore, sunsets in the evening, etc.

Let us reflect on our individual value and pride in the excellence in these words of praise. We have heard phrases like "he was an Eagle Scout", "she was a class Valedictorian", "they made the Dean's list", "he was a DeMolay Past Master Councilor", "they are Past Potentates", or "She got all A's".

Recently, we were rewarded with extreme excellence while watching the 2024 Olympic Games in Paris. Hard work, dedication, and never giving up were well demonstrated. What a treat!

So how do these things relate to ourselves and our commitment to helping our Shrine Children? When we look in the mirror and say to yourself "What's my score going to be for today?", do you have a plan for the day? I am sure there is plenty of room for a good volunteer. Set goals for yourself and look for opportunities to excel!



WE ARE HERE FOR YOU!

Choosing a retirement / assisted living / skilled nursing community is a surprisingly difficult process. Boise Home Care Senior Services specializes in providing senior care options based on care needs and quality of life for your loved ones. Our services are at no cost to you.

Once our Senior Services Specialists narrow down the number of communities that meet your loved ones criteria, we will arrange and accompany you on a tour of the community.

Please contact: Sonjia Yates (208) 869-6922 • Debra Baum (619) 218-1726
Dawn Lewis (208) 860-1651

2024 Potentate's Challenge Coin



Just a heads up . . . You'll want to start bringing your Challenge Coin with you whenever you attend a Shrine gathering, such as a Stated Meeting.

You never know when a Potentate's special drawing might pop up.

Daughters of the Nile

by Meeka Pedersen, Princess Badoura

What a wonderful and busy summer I have enjoyed. From Supreme Session to our golf tournament, to our family picnic, and now to our Stated Sessions which will be filled with new adventures as we take a look at the proposed Beta testing which is an abbreviated Opening and Closing of our Sessions. It has been a joy to see so many El Korah Shriners at all of our events. We appreciate your presence and thank you for your continued support of our activities.

Noble Nyal and I still don't have a home in Boise however, it is on the fast track. I didn't realize what all it entails to build a house in Ada County.

As a member of the Supreme Temple Hospital Request Committee I was pleased to hear a little bit of what is going on in your Salt Lake City Clinic. I loved learning that in June of this year there were 668 patients seen, 623 radiological exams on 395 patients, and 122 wheelchair/treatments made. Salt Lake City Clinic had twenty-six donations of wheelchairs and made 77 adjustments to old wheelchairs. They also had seven car seats donated in June. I hope any Noble reading this who may have a wheelchair, or car seat, they are not using will consider donating it to the Salt Lake City Clinic; they can always use one more. I bet Noble Dave Brannan would even pick it up from you. I loved hearing that Camp Unlimbited held their rafting trip this summer with fifteen campers for a full week. I am excited for the Summer Olympics where twenty-four Shriners kids have qualified so far including three that have previously participated in Camp Unlimbited.

I am hoping Noble Nyal and I will be able to attend the Walk for Love on September 21 from 8-10:30 at the Zoo in Salt Lake City and I hope many of you will be joining us a well.

Many El Korah Shriners attended Imperial this year but for those of you who didn't, you may not know that the Daughters of the Nile contribution for 2023 was **\$2,150,000.00** to assist with your care of the precious children in your hospitals and clinics. This is our 100th year of giving to your hospital system, and it makes our total giving of over **seventy-five million dollars**.

Iras Temple No. 40 thanks our Nobles for giving us the opportunity, through your Desert Dust, to keep you posted as to our activities; and to let you know how much we appreciate you.

Membership

by Dave Brannan, Chairman

It has been a very busy summer with all of the events and activities that our Nobles have been involved in: the Supreme Session in Boise that we helped with for the Daughters of the Nile, the Imperial Session (that included our annual Summer PNSA Meeting) that we attended in Reno NV, the El Korah Shrine Circus that we hosted throughout southern Idaho, the booth that we manned at the Western Idaho Fair at EXPO Idaho in Garden City, and Several of us will be traveling to the 2024 Idaho Grand Lodge Meeting that is coming up in September in Post Falls.

We have 3 new prospects that came to us from Webfez that we have been working with; these individuals will need to complete their Masonic Degrees before they can join the Shrine, one is getting ready to petition the Meridian Lodge, one has made contact with Boise #2, and one is in the Twin Falls area and is in contact the Masonic Lodge in Paul Idaho. We have 4 Masons that have petitioned El Korah and a few others that are likely to petition soon, we are planning a Ceremonial on November 9th although we are still working out the details of when and where it will be held.

Our booth at the Idaho State Fair went well and while we did not find any new patients for Shriners Children's, we did see many individuals that were either former patients or had relatives that had been patients. It was very rewarding to hear these people talk about the positive impact that Shriners Children's has had for them and their families. We had the opportunity to promote the El Korah Shriners and Shriners International and now have a few potential prospects to follow up with. There were a few Sojourners (Shriners that have moved to our area and have not connected with the Shrine) that came by our booth and we will contact them to encourage them to come to one of our Stated meetings.

The Shrine Mystic Band Cigar group continues to meet the 3rd Sunday of every month at 2:00 pm at Sturman's Cigar Shop at 4204 W Chinden Blvd in Garden City. Come join us for a cigar or beverage and good conversation.

We have 54 members that have not yet paid their 2024 dues and 12 projected suspensions for NPD at the end of the year. If you haven't paid your dues, please take care of this as soon as possible. Call the Recorder at (208) 343-0571 to make a payment.

Please do your part to help our Temple grow. Talk to men you know who would be good Masons about your Masonic journey. If you know a Mason that would make a good Shriner, ask them to consider joining the Shrine. You can also invite them to one of our activities. Talk about our philanthropy and tell them about the children we serve. These children are the reason that most of use ended up in the Shrine and it is something that we can all be proud of.

Providing Care for Cleft Lip and Palate at Shriners Hospitals for Children

Cleft lip and palate deformities occur when the tissue that forms the upper lip and roof of the mouth fail to join together before birth. Babies may be born with a cleft lip only, a cleft palate only, or both. No two facial clefts are ever the same.

Clefts of the lip and palate, which vary in size because the lips and palate develop at different times, are complex conditions that affect the ability to breathe, speak, hear and eat properly. The condition can also impact patients' appearance and self-esteem. Cleft lip and palate is corrected by reconstructive surgery in conjunction with multidisciplinary therapies.

The condition occurs in approximately one of every 600 live births. In fact, facial clefts are one of the most common birth defects in the U.S. Despite the frequency of its occurrence, and the severity of the deformities, complete care for patients with cleft lip and palate can be difficult to obtain. For this reason, Shriners Hospitals for Children® added cleft lip and palate to the health care system's treatment disciplines.

A Positive Outcome

At Shriners Hospitals for Children, patients with a cleft lip and/or palate are treated by a multidisciplinary team of experts, who work together to solve the many issues associated with this complex condition. Each patient's unique treatment plan may include surgery, orthodontics, hearing, speech and psychological therapies, along with specialized support. The goal of our treatment program is to help each child achieve optimal function, improve their facial appearance to the fullest extent possible, and improve their self-esteem.

Our medical experts also emphasize family-centered care. Patients and families are treated as members of the team and are invited to be active participants in the treatment planning and decision making process. Our goal is to foster and maximize the social, physical, and psychological development of our patients.

Overcoming Challenges



Yana is one patient who has benefited from the expertise in cleft lip and palate care available at Shriners Hospitals for Children. She was born with a severe case of cleft lip and palate, and finding the care she required proved difficult - early attempts of physicians to address Yana's condition were unsuccessful.

When she was 13, she was referred to the cleft lip and palate team at Shriners Hospitals for Children - Shreveport. Under the expert care of Dr. G.E. Ghali, Yana underwent a series of operations involving her palate, nose, teeth, jaw and cheekbones.

"Overall, my speech went from about 4 to a 10 in being able to understand it," Yana said. "And the team was always willing to go out of their way to help make me comfortable."

With vastly improved speech, Yana began participating in public speaking events. She earned a spot in a Texas state competition and took first place, and then went on to compete and win first place in a national tournament in Georgia, where she spoke of people who have fought in the face of adversity, told of her own life experiences, and discussed the role of faith as she looks toward a bright future.

Cleft lip and palate is a common and serious condition. Shriners Hospitals for Children is committed to improving care for children with this condition through a comprehensive, coordinated program of clinical excellence, medical education, and research.

Care for cleft lip and palate is currently available at the nine Shriners Hospitals for Children locations. Services may vary at different locations. For more information, please visit shrinershospitalsforchildren.org.



SHRINERS HOSPITALS FOR CHILDREN IN THESE LOCATIONS CURRENTLY OFFER CARE FOR CLEFT LIP AND PALATE:

Boston, Massachusetts

Chicago, Illinois

Cincinnati, Ohio

Houston, Texas

Los Angeles, California

Portland, Oregon

Sacramento, California

Shreveport, Louisiana

Springfield, Massachusetts



**Shriners Hospitals
for Children®**

Potentate Appoints Futures Committee

by Ill Sir Gary Adams



Ill Sir Ric Bobier recently appointed a Futures Committee and charged them with exploring the possible avenues open to our Shrine for the replacement of the El Korah Shrine building. The Committee members are Ill Sir Gary Adams, Ill Sir Dave Thomas, and Nobles Bob Julian, Gene Strate and Gary Betts.

The Committee felt the first option to consider should be to construct an addition or modification of the existing Boise Masonic Center building at Westgate. The Committee has met twice with the Masonic Temple Association and has received their assurance that El Korah would be welcome to explore a joint venture at their location. The Committee has also met twice with the Elected Divan.

A local Architect has been retained to conduct a Feasibility Study to determine if this project is feasible. The study will identify all the necessary permits required by governmental bodies and determine if their needs can be met. These will include building setback and parking requirements as well as the possible locations of the proposed structure (whether separate from the existing structure or attached thereto). The sole purpose of this study is to determine whether it is feasible to proceed to the next planning phase of the project.

If the study determines that building on this site is not feasible, then the Committee will begin exploring other options. The completion date for this Feasibility Study is not known at this time, but information will be shared with the Nobility as it becomes available.

A Message of Thanks from Rick and Jackie Holloway and Delta Holloway

As you all may know, my dad passed away quietly in his sleep at 4:00 am on June 10, 2024, just as Supreme Session for Daughters of the Nile was ramping up in Boise.

Although he was not a Mason, most of you saw him regularly at Shrine and Masonic events and enjoyed his company immensely. He was an incredibly kind and generous man who loved his family and making those around him feel special.

The outpouring of support and expressions of condolences from literally hundreds of people was both humbling and gratifying. It is no surprise that the vast majority of those letters, cards, and messages came from our own Masonic family, including several from outside Idaho. To our family, it demonstrated exactly what this Fraternity is all about - a brotherhood and sisterhood who celebrate each other's successes and support each other through trials, challenges, and loss.

From our family to yours, we wish to thank you for the kindness and support you provided us through this difficult time.




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EL KORAH ANNUAL

2024

Oktoberfest

Join First Lady Tandy
and the other Divan Ladies for a
Bavarian Evening of Food and Fun



Saturday Oct 26, 2024
Scottish Rite Masonic Center

\$20.00 per Person
(Drinks Not Included)

Cocktails 5:00 pm Dinner: 6:00 pm

Music - Door Prizes - Raffle Items

Enjoy Authentic German Cuisine

- Variety of Brats & Hot Dogs
- Sauerkraut
- Potato Salad
- Pretzels
- Streusel
- German Chocolate Cake

Full Bar Service including German Beer

Contact the Recorder for Tickets

343-0571 recorder@elkorashrine.com

The Elected Divan Ladies also have Tickets

Advance Tickets Required - NO Tickets at the Door
Ticket Sales End on October 13th



Wear your Lederhosen and Dirndl
(you might need to Google them!)

SEPTEMBER 2024

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
1	2 Labor Day	3 Tin Lizzies	4 Provost Guard	5	6 Greeters Players	7
8	9 Board/Divan Meeting Twin Falls SC	10	11 Stated Mtg	12	13	14
15 Gold Rush SC	16	17 High Country Sidewinders Cameleers Sand Duners	18	19	20	21
				← Idaho Grand Lodge - Post Falls →		
22	23 Black Light Patrol	24	25	26	27 Scottish Rite Reunion	28 Scottish Rite Reunion
29 Scottish Rite Reunion	30 El Korah Clowns Snake River SC					

OCTOBER 2024

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
		1 Tin Lizzies	2 Provost Guard	3	4 Greeters Players	5
6	7 Board/Divan Meeting	8	9 Stated Mtg (Past Pote's Nite)	10	11	12
13 Gold Rush SC	14 Twin Falls SC	15 Cameleers Sand Duners High Country Sidewinders SC	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26 Oktoberfest at Scottish Rite Center
27	28 Black Light Patrol El Korah Clowns Snake River SC	29	30	31		