

EL KORAH SHRINERS

DESERT DUST

Official Publication of El Korah Shriners

1118 W Idaho St

Boise, ID 83702

Upcoming Events that are Cancelled

**EL KORAH
SHRINE CIRCUS**
June 15 - 21, 2020



**2020 IMPERIAL
SESSION**

July 5 - 9, 2020

**East/West High School
All Star Football Game**
August 5, 2020 Baker City, OR

**Join the June Stated/Social Meeting
Wednesday, June 10th at 7:30 pm via Zoom**

NOT Held at El Korah

**Contact Chief Rabban Will Votaw for Connection Assistance
(208) 859-4407**

2020 Divan

Elected Officers

- Potentate Rick Holloway
- Chief Rabban Will Votaw
- Assistant Rabban Dale Rutter
- High Priest & Prophet Ray Schild
- Oriental Guide David Bennett
- Treasurer Larry Ridenour
- Recorder Ray Westmoreland, PP

Appointed Officers

- Director Jimmy Hansen
- Assistant Director Justin Petersen
- Parade Director Jack Moore
- Chaplain Santa Bob Albert
- 1st Ceremonial Master Shawn McWilliams
- 2nd Ceremonial Master Mark Isserman
- Marshal Wayne Foster
- Captain of the Guard David Brannan
- Outer Guards David Triplett
Ron Bishop
Doug Blandford

Potentate's Aides

- Chief Aide Dick Swift
- Aides Bill Curtis, Bob Carleton
Brandon Martwick, Bruce Drewes
Gary Betts, Jack Gardner
Ray Breshears, Rodney Horn

Desert Dust

- Editor Gary Betts
gsbetts@msn.com
elkorahdesertdust@gmail.com

Phone Numbers

- Recorder (208) 343-0571
- Oasis (208) 343-1341
- Office fax (208) 336-1527
- Events: Circus/Football . . (208) 333-8350

Hospital Board Members

- Salt Lake City Ray Westmoreland
- Portland Dave Triplett
- Portland Rick Holloway - Vice Chair
- Portland Mike Mastropaolo



Jim Schmer 5/20/2020
Ed Wimmer 5/22/2020

Editor's Notice

The Desert Dust is published monthly except July and August by El Korah Shriners at 1118 W Idaho St, Boise, ID 83702.

All articles, events, activities, announcements and pictures must be in the hands of the Editor by the 20th of the month preceding the publication to get in the Dust.

Email submissions to elkorahdesertdust@gmail.com. However, they can also be dropped in the Desert Dust mailbox at El Korah, if necessary.

Be sure to double check your submissions for grammar and spelling. Each picture should include a caption, as appropriate.

Advertise in the Desert Dust!

Reach out to the Nobility, Ladies and friends in the online and printed versions of the Desert Dust.

Ad Size	Price per Month
2" x 3"	\$20 ⁰⁰
2" x 5-1/2"	\$30 ⁰⁰
3-3/4" x 3-3/4" (1/4 page)	\$40 ⁰⁰
7" x 4-3/4" (1/2 page)	\$60 ⁰⁰
7" x 9" (full page)	\$80 ⁰⁰

Note. Ad dimensions may need to be adjusted to fit in available space, but will retain the square inch size.

2020 Shrine Dues were due by 12/31/19. If you do not have a current dues card, you are delinquent. Avoid the dreaded NPD list and contact the Recorder's Office today (343-0571).

Did you know that El Korah's budget relies on its members keeping their membership current. Paying your dues on time helps pay the bills and keep our doors open.



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Potentate Message by Ill. Sir Rick Holloway



We are still proactively working to prevent the spread of COVID-19 by social distancing, staying out of large groups, washing our hands regularly, wearing facemasks when in public, and otherwise following the Governor's Rebound Idaho plans. His planned reopening of

Idaho businesses will continue assuming we do not have a resurgence of positive COVID-19 cases. We continue to abide by the edict of the Most Worshipful Grand Master of Masons in Idaho Steve Hall to suspend all Masonic meetings or gatherings to minimize the spread of the COVID-19 virus **until further notice**.

Until the edict is lifted, there can be no meetings of clubs, units, or any other gathering in El Korah or any Masonic Lodge in Idaho. While we are normally dark in June, we are working to put together a Zoom meeting for the Nobility on June 10. Please watch your emails for more information on this.

As reported last month, Imperial Session 2020 in Kansas City has been cancelled. Additionally, the Baker football game is also cancelled, as was our 2020 Circus. Treefort is still on the books for September, but we simply don't know where we will be in reopening group activities at this point.

El Korah filed for and received funds from the Payroll Protection Program which pays staff salaries and benefits, plus our utility bills, through June. We continue to closely monitor our expenses to do what we can to stay profitable this year. We are hopeful that our activities this fall will allow us to come close to covering our expenses.

I hope everyone will stay healthy, protect yourself and your family when going out in public, and stay home if you are not feeling well. From the bottom of my heart, thank you again for your support of El Korah through this difficult time.



Membership Committee

by Ron Bishop, Chairman

Greetings Nobles and Ladies, from your friends on the membership committee. We miss you and all of our fun events. The Covid-19 Virus has really changed everything during the last few weeks. The virus has caused social distancing and resulted in the loss of revenue for El Korah and all of the Shrines across the country. As our cities and states begin to reopen, everyone is more than ready to get out of the house, to go shopping, to movies, to restaurants, fishing, camping, etc. Let's be careful as we get active again and prevent an uptick in the virus. Way too many people have died or been sick with the virus.

Please think about how you can help El Korah. Are your dues current? If not, send a check today! Do you need a tax write off? If so, donate today. Let's get El Korah back on track in 2020? You could join a club or committee. Perhaps call a friend or a relative and talk to them about El Korah and see if they want to join. Call me, let's discuss how we can save El Korah and make up for lost time helping the kids

Stay well and stay safe!

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Portland Shrine Hospital Report

by Ill. Sir Rick Holloway, Board of Governors



The Portland Shrine Hospital leadership team continues to work with state health care leaders in reopening the hospital to elective surgeries with COVID-19 precautions still in place. The safety of our patients, families, and staff is of the utmost

importance. The May Board of Governors meeting was held via Skype with good information sharing between hospital staff and Board members. We aren't sure whether the June meeting will be in person or via Skype again.

We are still looking at outreach sites across the Pacific Northwest to expand our ability to treat more kids in more places. Many of these efforts continued even though much of the health care system was disrupted during the current outbreak.

Several applications for Board membership were received and the interview process will commence within the next two months. Thank you to all who considered serving in this important role. There are few opportunities to directly serve the kids which are as fulfilling and worthwhile as serving on the Board of Governors of a Shrine Hospital. On behalf of Dave Triplett, Mike Mastropaolo, and Ray Westmoreland (Salt Lake City) and myself, thank you for the opportunity to be an integral part of this mission!

Salt Lake Shrine Hospital Report

by Ill. Sir Ray Westmoreland, P.P.



Here are some of the highlights of yesterday's Teleconference meeting.

We are resuming some surgeries that were delayed. We will continue to take

temperatures, require masks, and ask screening questions before letting anyone in the Hospital for possibly up to a year.

Due to lack of surgeries performed, we are \$664212 under budget and project that we will be \$250000 under at end of year. Imperial has given back 8000 hours for Personal Time Off (PTO) to our employees Our Imperial representative, Mark Hartz expressed that our employees are our greatest assets. This gives them flexibility without loss of wages. 1500 appointments have been cancelled or postponed. Imperial is taking over our marketing. We get to keep Dawn Wright, but she will report to different people. Mike Babcock is still our regional Marketing manager. From nursing, therapy is down 50%. We have had 3 patients test positive but were screened out before coming in the Hospital. Dr Santora has come out of retirement to help with surgeries as we gear back up. Gifts in kind are allowed again, so I will be loading the Cameleer trailer for a trip on June 22 for our first live meeting since the shutdown. Stuffed animals are not allowed at this time. Packaged toys and masks will be accepted.



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Provost Guard

by John Kinney, Secretary

The Provost Guard was saddened by the loss of Charlotte Carleton. Charlotte and Bob have been members of the Guard for as long as I can remember!

The Guard has been socially distancing since March. Our members have been doing some interesting things since being home bound! Some of us have been working from home, and may continue to do so for who knows how long. Others have been painting (both household and landscapes). A few have been recovering from health issues, or enjoying family visitors (grandson from Puerto Rico). Others have been doing various projects. We have been doing yard work, checking out water pressure on sprinkler systems, sewing, and outdoor barbecuing! Remember to keep washing your hands and staying healthy

The Provost Guard is looking forward to the remainder of this year and moving forward to a new normal! The Guard is looking forward to socializing with our Shrine Brothers, family and friends. Hopefully we can hold our wine tasting event on October 10th and getting back to our other Shrine activities. We wish all of our brother's good health and safe journeys for the remainder of the year. If the Provost Guard can be of any assistance please let any of our officers know.

Iras Temple No 40 Daughters of the Nile

by Debbi deBoer, Princess Badoura

As the new Princess Badoura, I bring you greetings from Iras Temple.

The members of Iras Temple are looking forward to being together again this fall. We are keeping in touch with each other but we miss being together. Our Supreme Session was postponed until September and we hold on to hope that we are all able to come together in Minnesota with our Supreme Queen and all of our members.

We have several fun events and fund raisers scheduled this fall and hope you are able to join us for a lot of fun, and fellowship while we raise money for the Children.

Iras Temple 6th Annual Golf Tournament - September 28th

Sip and Shop - October 2nd & 3rd

Iras Temple Fall Fashion Show "Roses Pearls and Hats" - October 24th

Iras Temple Costume Fun Run and Walk - October 31st

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Summary (to date) of the Director's Daily Discoveries

by Jimmy Hansen, Director



As I hope that most of you are aware, I have been trying to keep the members, friends, and Families of El Korah entertained while we have had our Statewide Stay at Home Order and the Reopening Phases with the Director's Daily Discoveries (D.:D.:D.:). And to make sure that no one gets left out, here is a list of what I have discovered over the past weeks.

If you are interested in any of them and didn't get it in a Constant Contact, email me at unussomnio21@gmail.com and I'll make sure to get it to you!

Issue	Description
1)	El Korah's Ballroom before wood paneling and murals and Ill. Sir J. Harry Hopffgarten.
2)	Roy Rogers.
3)	The First publication of the Desert Dust.
4)	Ill. Sir Donald S. Whitehead and his connection to Flying Saucers.
5)	1921 Ill. Sir Hopffgarten's year.
6)	Desert Dust Poems (1920s – 1930s).
7)	Tallest and Shortest Masons/Shriners.

- 8) Pres. Harding and Shriners in Washington, DC.
- 9) Words from Past Imperial Potentate (1916–17).
- 10) Recorder's Desert Dust notes.
- 11) Noble John Philip Sousa (XII)
- 12) The Bubble Speech! (XIII)
- 13) El Korah's 1st Building (XV)
- 14) Whitehead Family (XVII)
- 15) Ill. Sir Rick Holloway and the VA (XIX).
- 16) El Korah sign fixed (XX).
- 17) Toronto, Canada Peace Monument 1930 (XXII).
- 18) Boise's Masonic Cemetery (XXVI).
- 19) Notes to the Novices (XXIX).
- 20) Ill. Sir James Pinney (XXXIII).
- 21) The Spanish Flu in Idaho (XXXV).
- 22) Imperial Session 1987 (XXXVII).
- 23) El Korah Shrine's Temple (XL).
- 24) Ladies' Oriental Shrine of N. America (XLIII).
- 25) Poems from the Desert Dust (XLVII).
- 26) Cowans and eavesdroppers (LI).
- 27) Noble Edgar Guest (Poet) (LIV).
- 28) Ill. Sir Clyde E. Summers (LVIII).

If you or anyone you know has history connected to the Shrine or Freemasonry in Idaho and would like to share it, please let me know!

Players Playbill by Wayne White, President

All's quiet on the Players front - no activities for now and nothing new to report. Kind of like a reprieve, but with a wary eye towards the inevitable catch-up work when things get back to "normal".

Keep staying safe everyone!!



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The History of the American Flag

Part 2 by David Bennett, *Oriental Guide*



The first unofficial national flag, called the Grand Union Flag or the Continental Colours, was raised at the behest of General Washington near his headquarters outside Boston, Massachusetts, on January 1, 1776 over the Cambridge camp when the Continental Army was reorganized in accordance with a Congressional resolution, which placed American forces under George Washington's control.

On that New Year's Day, the Continental Army was laying siege to Boston which had been taken over by the British Army. Washington ordered the Grand Union flag hoisted above his base at Prospect Hill. The flag had 13 alternating red and white horizontal stripes and the British Union Flag (a predecessor of the Union Jack) in the canton (the upper

left-hand corner). Another early flag had a rattlesnake and the motto "Don't Tread on Me".

An anonymous letter, written January 2, 1776, says: "The grand union flag of thirteen stripes was raised on a height near Boston. The regulars did not understand it; and as the king's speech had just been read, as they supposed, they thought the new flag was a token of submission."

General Washington, writing to Joseph Reed on January 4th says: "We are at length favored with the sight of his Majesty's most gracious speech, breathing sentiments of tenderness and compassion for his deluded American subjects; the speech I send you [a volume of them was sent out by the Boston gentry] and, farcical enough, we have great joy to them without knowing or intending it, for on that day [the 2nd] which gave being to our new army, but before the proclamation came to hand, we hoisted the union flag in compliment to the United Colonies. But behold! It was received at Boston as a token of the deep impression the speech had made upon us, and as a signal of submission. By this time I presume they begin to think it strange that we have not made a formal surrender of our lines."

The first official national flag, also known as the Stars and Stripes, was approved by the Continental Congress on June 14, 1777. The blue canton contained 13 stars, representing the original 13 colonies, but the layout varied. Although nobody knows exactly who designed the flag, it most likely was Continental Congress member Francis Hopkinson. (See *Francis Hopkinson & the Design of the American Flag* in "American Flag Stories" at the end of this article.)

Duners Doings

by Santa Bob Albert, *President*

Well, the Duners are still stuck in the garage like everyone else, so far the 1st part of our Parade Season has been canceled (Emmett, Meridian and Baker City). We so look forward to seeing everyone on the sidelines when we come back. Hopefully we will be able to get our Blue Buggies on the streets soon.

Stay safe, wash your hands and call your friends and loved ones.

Twin Falls Shrine Club *by Bob Cannon*

June 2020:

6/8 Monday 6:00 pm - Twin Falls Shrine Club Meeting
We will have a Zoom Meeting again, Look for an invitation from Senate Eskridge.

6/13 Saturday: Richfield Parade CANCELLED

6/17 Saturday: El Korah Shrine Circus CANCELLED

6/20 Saturday: Filer Fund Days Parade ON HOLD
we'll let you know of any changes

6/20 Saturday: Mackay Rodeo Parade CANCELLED

June Meeting by Zoom

by Will Votaw, Chief Rabban

Nobles, El Korah is usually dark in June. We are in the process of looking in to getting Dispensation from Imperial to have an Electronic/Digital Stated Meeting in June. Imperial has recently relaxed its requirement for electronic and digital meetings. We would have to compile a list of Nobles who will be attending, verify they are current on their dues and be able to verify the Nobles attending. It would be completely done over the internet. Nobles would have to be in a secure location. Groups, unless living in the same household, would not be allowed. As seen in our current meetings, Nobles Jesse Laduke and Walt Hamby log in from their houses. The Most Worshipful Grand Master of Idaho's current Edict does not allow in person group meetings as Masons. We are trying to keep to our Masonic Obligations, by following the MWGM's Edicts, while communicating as Nobles. If we are unable to do a stated meeting, we will still at least have a social meeting.

In keeping with our usual meeting day/time, this is being

scheduled for Wednesday, June 10th at 7:30 PM. This is the second Wednesday of the month, the same as our normal Stated Meetings.

Please let this serve as a notice of the meeting. An email will be sent to Nobles with the Zoom information and meeting password in the next week. Zoom is easy download on a phone, tablet or computer. There will be a link on the email to download Zoom or just join the meeting. Please don't wait until the last minute to set-up your devices. You can contact Will Votaw at (208) 859-4407. I will be more than happy to assist, to the best of my abilities.

We, as a Board, understand not all Nobles have access to a device to join the meeting or a high level of technical knowledge. We are trying to make this as easy as possible and reach as many Nobles as possible. Our apologies in advance if someone is unable to attend/join the meeting. It is not our intent to exclude anyone, but the current state of things dictates what can and can not be done.

Hope to see you all in person soon and as many as possible on June 10th.

El Korah Shrine Boise, Idaho



Chaplain's Corner

by Santa Bob Albert, Chaplain

Hello Nobles and Lady's of El Korah Shrine. Another month has passed in this time of Virus lockdown and sadly the Black Camel Caravan has stopped at our Oasis and pick up two travelers :

Clancy Stouffer: June 14, 1926 - February 22, 2020
Survived by his wife Mary (married 72 years), sister Donna Salisbury of Boise, granddaughter Ellen Stouffer of Oregon, and several nieces and nephews

Jim Schmer: October 31, 1944 - May 15, 2020
Survived by his daughter Angela Cummings

Ed Wimmer: July 1, 1936 - May 22, 2020
Survived by his wife Nancy

We are all going thru strange times, reach out to other Nobles and see how they are doing.

If you know of someone who is ill please let me know.

Remember to Love your loved ones and stay safe.

From the Recorder's Desck

by Ill. Sir Ray Westmoreland, P.P.

Here's a note sent in from Noble Bob Minnis:

Recorder, you asked "How are we doing?"

Well, I have to say that the first two weeks of the mandated shutdown was OK. But being quarantined in our own home, or under house arrest to more accurately describe it, is a bit intimidating. Then we learned that we did not have to stay six feet apart at all times and that it was OK for us to be in the same room at the same time. So we took off the masks and life became beautiful. We really like staying at home. We enjoy each other's company. We have given ourselves a refresher course on preparing our own food. (Still got a ways to go though). We still go out, mind you, but our choices of locale are somewhat limited. We eat out (are you ready?) on the South Patio, on the North Patio, or even on the East Portico. We also talk about what one might say if we ever found it necessary to visit a marriage counselor. After great study, my only complaint in our entire marriage is that one time Ardie did not put enough jelly on my peanut butter sandwich. In a nutshell, we know that the quarantine must end so that the economy can recover, so reluctantly, we are looking forward to that.

June

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1	2	3	4 First Thursday	5	6
RED AREAS				RED AREAS		
7 All Masonic-related Events Postponed or Cancelled			10 Stated/Social Meeting via Zoom 7:30 pm	11 All Masonic-related Events Postponed or Cancelled		
14	15 Circus Idaho Falls	16 Circus Pocatello	17 Circus Filer	18	19 Circus Boise	20 Circus Boise CANCELLED
← Grand Chapter OES in Boise →						
21 Circus Boise CANCELLED	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

July

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1	2 First Thursday	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11 African Summer Nights
CANCELLED Imperial Session in Kansas City						
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

August

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
30	31			First Thursday		1 Baker E/W All Star Football Game CANCELLED
2	3 D	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
CANCELLED Summer PNSA in Kansas City						
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29