



EL KORAH SHRINERS

DESERT DUST

Official Publication of El Korah Shriners

1118 W Idaho St

Boise, ID 83702

Potentate's Message *by Ill. Sir Will Votaw*

WOW, October? It's really October already? Nobles, its hard to believe that three quarters of the year are over. Since my last message we had a very difficult Stated Meeting, Grand Lodge and Treefort.

On the Stated Meeting. If you were unable to attend, or did not hear, the majority of the Nobles present, voted in favor of the Board being able to market and sell the building. I would like to thank the Nobles for their conduct during, after and since the meeting. This was a very difficult decision for many. Every single Noble, loves our building. But the majority of the issues we face; age of building, lack of parking, declining membership, etc., appears to have moved us in the direction we are now heading. While some were visibly upset, I feel all Nobles conducted themselves as Masons, as we should. We are human, and we all show our emotions differently.

So, what did that vote mean? It means the Board now has a direction to move in. The Board will be meeting in the next few weeks and crafting a plan to move forward. Once that plan has been laid out, we will let the Nobility know what the plan looks like.

To answer some questions:

Do we have a current offer? No.

Do we know of at least two groups that have expressed interest in making offers? Yes.

Have any definite decisions been made? No

When are we moving? I don't know. Really, I don't.

Where are we moving? I don't know that either.

Will the Board make sure the best interest of El Korah is considered in any offer? Yes.

Will the Nobility have a say in the final decision? Yes.

Per By-Laws, any sale has to be approved by the Nobility. I don't know how many offers we will get. I imagine the Board will bring the top 3 or 4 to the Nobility and then they will decide on which offer is accepted. Like with this last Vote, at least 20 days prior Notice will be given. If you know of a



Noble who, because maybe they have said they don't get mailings or the Dust from EL Korah, please let the Recorder or me know and we will contact them. If a Noble has moved and has not updated his information with Imperial, which any Noble can and should do on Web Fez, we may not have their current information. Any Noble can search for Web Fez on the internet and sign up. The direct link is: <https://webfez.shrinenet.org>. You will need your dues card for your member number. Our mailing database comes from Imperial, so it may be worth investigating.

In regards to where we are going. Until we have some type of accepted offer, we don't know how much money we have to possible spend on a new location. I feel it would be financially irresponsible for us to make commitments on a building that we may not have the money to pay for.

Grand Lodge was held in Coeur d'Alene this year. I would like to congratulate the Jr. Past Most Worshipful Grand Master Steve Zimmerman on a great year. He led us through the reopening of our Lodges during the pandemic. Noble Steve, I would like to thank you and Kathie for the hospitality and friendship shown to Lady Dee Dee and myself this past year.

continued on page 3

2021 Divan

Elected Officers

Potentate Will Votaw
 Chief Rabban Dale Rutter
 Assistant Rabban..... Ray Schild
 High Priest & Prophet.... David Bennett
 Oriental Guide..... Wayne Foster
 Treasurer LD Ridenour
 Recorder Jimmy Hansen

Appointed Officers

Director Jesse Laduke
 Assistant Director Justin Petersen
 Parade Director..... Jack Moore
 Chaplain David Triplett
 1st Ceremonial Master . Shawn McWilliams
 2nd Ceremonial Master. . . . David Brannan
 Marshal Mark Isserman
 Captain of the Guard Doug Blanford
 Outer Guards Matthew Thompson

Potentate's Aides

Chief Aide Misha Brady

Desert Dust

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 Office fax..... (208) 336-1527
 Events: Circus/Football.. (208) 333-8350

Hospital Board Members

Salt Lake City Ray Westmoreland
 Portland Rick Holloway - Chairman
 Portland..... Dave Triplett
 Portland..... Mike Mastropaolo



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 are due by the **20th of the month**. Pictures should include a caption.

Email your submission to:
 gsbetts@msn.com or
 elkorahdesertdust@gmail.com

Or you can drop them off in the Desert Dust mailbox at El Korah.

Please be sure to double check your submission for grammar and spelling.

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.

Your 2021 Shrine Dues

were due by 12/31/20. 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 our bills and keeps our doors open.



CommonCents

Visit one of the Common Cents stores soon!
 6 in Pocatello, 3 in Idaho Falls,
 Others in Logan and Brigham City, Utah.

**Common Cents is a Significant Contributor
 To the El Korah Patient Travel Fund**

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October Stated Meeting

Wednesday Oct 13th, 7:30 pm
 Attend in Person or via Zoom (see page 6)

Potentate's Message (cont.) *by Ill. Sir Will Votaw*

I would like to congratulate our new Most Worshipful Grand Master, Noble Russ Smith. Most Worshipful, it was an honor to present you with your Grand Masters Fez!

Congratulations to the following Nobles on your elections; Noble H. Sherman "Sherm" Burger III to Right Worshipful Deputy Grand Master, Noble Gary A.S. LaBruyere to Senior Grand Warden and Noble Rick L. Holloway PP, to Junior Grand Warden.

Treefort 2021 is in the books. I would like to thank all the Nobles and their Ladies for all the hard work and extensive amount of hours put in to making Treefort a success. I would especially like to thank Ladies Lani Moore, Harriet Bennett and Dannielle Ryals for the food supplied. A special thank you also goes out to Noble Steve Zimmerman and his Lady Kathie for the donation of the extra snacks, water and sodas that were left over from the Hospitality Suite at Grand Lodge. We were able to allow all Nobles, bartenders, the security staff, workers and volunteers of Treefort to come in to the Potentates office, have a place to sit, get some fuel and a drink.

October and November will bring a whole new list of events:

Saturday October 2nd will be the Screening Clinic at El Korah and at CSI in Twin Falls.

There will be an open house at the New Masonic Lodge, Westgate Plaza on October 2nd as well.

Wednesday, October 13th is our Stated Meeting. It is Past Potentates Night. I look forward to seeing how the work was done "back in their day".

Saturday and Sunday, October 9th and 10th is the Scottish Rite Reunion.

Saturday October 23rd are the Scottish Rite Honors at the Scottish Rite and DeMolay Honors Night at El Korah. If any of the Nobles and Ladies and attend the Honors Ceremonies, I'm sure it will mean a lot to the recipients.

On a sad note, I have to report that the Portland Food Caravan, scheduled for October 16th has been cancelled. This was not an El Korah decision.

Nobles, the year is drawing to a close. We need to finish strong! There are multiple events for multiple Masonic Groups, almost every weekend. Please support these events when and where you can. Encourage your ladies, friends and family to attend the events they can. If we don't start putting an emphasis on showing and sharing the beautiful ceremonies and fun events of our Fraternity, soon there may be no events to go to . . .

Yours in the Faith,
Will Votaw, Potentate

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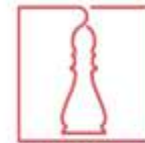
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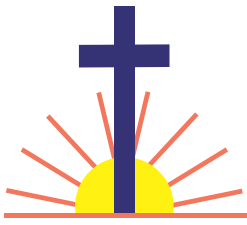
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Chaplain's Corner

by David Triplett, Chaplain



What is Stewardship?

I suspect that many of us do not have a very clear understanding of what the word "Stewardship" really means. When most people hear the word "Stewardship", they grab their wallet or purse, either to open it or get a firmer grip.

If you dig a little deeper to try to understand what stewardship is really all about, you find that the word came about as a process where a wealthy person, who wanted to relax and enjoy those riches, would hire a steward to manage his property and other assets. The steward was to act as if the property were his or her own, managing it well and cultivating its success, always with his wealthy benefactor's best interests at heart. The key relationship between the wealthy person and the steward was trust – trust given and trust earned. From there the concept has been applied in many other contexts; environment, economics, health, information, theology, and more.

"Stewardship" is also about contributing time and talents, and volunteering for an event or a committee. Stewardship involves three responsibilities which are:

1. **RECEIVING** – We are constantly receiving many gifts that God has given us – time, talent, treasure, our bodies, our friendships, natural resources, and all the beauty around us.
2. **MANAGING** – We must take good care of what we have received. We manage these resources wisely – for our own good and also for the good of others.
3. **GIVING** - Out of gratitude in receiving we want to share with others.

We need to make a point of reflecting our blessings back to our family, friends, and members of the Masonic Family we belong to. Reach out to make others feel safe, welcomed, nurtured, and loved. When asked to be on a committee or help out with an event such a Tree Fort, say Yes. Pick up the phone and call a Mason/Shriner and check to make sure they are doing well. If we are all good stewards, it will make a big difference in our own lives as well as others.

Amen

2021 Virtual Walk for Love

Submitted by the Simmons Family

The Simmons Family from Idaho Falls participated in the Virtual Walk for Love for the Salt Lake Shriner's Hospital at the Eastern Idaho State Fair on September 10, 2021 in celebration of Ed Simmons 77th birthday.



Ed, Jane, and Allen Simmons

Activity Photos for the El Korah Website

by David Bennett, Webmaster

Hello Everyone, I'm still looking for more photos from the 2021 Shriner's Parades and other Shrine activities so that I can create a new page for these events on our website. We can post pictures of these events and show the fun we have doing what Shriners love to do. The page will be under the events tab as past fun.

Send your photos & pictures to the Recorder recorder@elkorahshrine.com and put "Pictures for the Web Site" on the subject line. I can't promise that all pictures will be used, but I'll certainly try. It's time to show our website viewers that Shriners have fun while doing great things for the kids!

Portland Shrine Hospital Report

by Ill. Sir Rick Holloway
Board of Governors Chairman



Your Portland Shrine Hospital continues to work hard to treat more kids at a lower cost while maintaining excellence in quality care. We recently submitted our strategic plan to the Imperial Boards and look forward to growing our inpatient census and outpatient visits and procedures.

Our August Board meeting included our employee barbecue cooked and served by the Board members. What a terrific way to show the staff how important they are to the hospital and how much we appreciate them!

The September meeting of the Portland Board of Governors will be held on Wednesday, October 6 in Las Vegas in conjunction with the Shrine Hospital Open. Several Board members will be attending in person (all three of El Korah's

representatives on the Board will be there) and typically many of the Imperial officers will also be attending our Board meeting in person.

The rapid growth of COVID-19 throughout the nation has required us to maintain a high level of vigilance in protecting patients, family members, and fellow staff from spreading COVID in the hospital. Board members attending the Board meetings in person are required to wear N95 masks, frequently sanitize their hands, and be vaccinated. This will continue for the foreseeable future.

Our Board Liaison is Imperial Sir Jim Smith. He, as well as the rest of the Joint Boards and Tampa staff have been terrific to work with as we position the Portland Shrine Hospital to be a key part of the inpatient care delivery programs in the Shrine hospital network. We will maintain transparency in presenting our current metrics and strategic plans for the future so that all Nobles will be aware of any changes which may occur in our delivery models.

Finally, while we do not have any Board positions opening this year, we will have four positions available next year. If you are interested in serving on the Portland Board of Governors, please contact Dave Triplett, Mike Mastropaolo, or me. We would love to share additional information on the Portland Hospital with you.

Salt Lake Shrine Hospital Report

by Ill. Sir Ray Westmoreland



On September 17th, Debi Irish and I traveled to Salt Lake for the annual Walk for Love. At the board meeting we discussed the transition to the clinic model. The highlight was the continued successes of the donor relations team, led by Nathan Clark.

Giving has gone from \$200K in 2011 to \$470 million today. Over 7 million folks give to us annually.

Friday evening, we enjoyed a BBQ with staff and some Imperial officers. We heard from Dr. Carroll about her wonderful experience at Primary Childrens since the change. We also heard from a patient and his mother about his positive experience.

Saturday morning the weather cooperated and we had a fun Walk. Two years ago, over a thousand people walked. This year only 40-50 walked, but we still had 770 registered and made over \$100K. Thanks to all of you who donate money, time and



Walkers Getting for the Salt Lake Walk for Love



Ill Sir Ray Westmoreland and Lady Debi after their Walk

Recorder's Corner

by Jimmy Hansen, Recorder

September, what a ride! September has come to a close and I am grateful for that. Coming back to work after being Dark during the summer has been somewhat overwhelming. With meetings starting up again, there hasn't really been a moment where one could stop and take a breath.

Our September Stated Meeting went surprisingly well considering that the meeting attendance was there for the main vote regarding way we would like to go with the building. The outcome was 59 voting "yes" to sell the Shrine building and 20 voting "no" to stay. From my point of view I did not expect such a clear decision. We now have a direction to start moving towards.

The following week had a number of things going on from Grand Lodge to the Walk of Love to the Foreigner concert. Granted the Foreigner Concert was "postponed" for whatever reason. It still made for a busy week. While up at Grand Lodge, Ill. Sir Will Votaw was able to present the newly installed Grand Master Russ Smith with his Grand Masters Fez. MWGM Russ was very happy to receive it, as well as the other fun-filled gifts. We congratulate all the Elected and Appointed Officers of the Grand Lodge and hope that your year wearing the Purple of our Fraternity keeps you humble and shows your ability to up hold the values of this wonderful Fraternity.

The week after Grand Lodge was probably the most strenuous being that it was Treefort! Now those who don't know what Treefort is, it is probably one of the largest events in Boise. At El Korah alone we had around 30 bands over the course of five days. The event brought in thousands

of people. I personally had been stressing about this event for months by making sure that the bars, booze, ice, trash, and volunteers were all lined up for the event. Thank you to all that were able to help during this event. If it weren't for you the event wouldn't have gone as smoothly as it did so thank you!

I would like to thank a number of people whom were able to volunteer during the event:

Ill. Sir Votaw and Lady Deedee	C. Pote. Aide Brady Nobles:
C.Rab. Rutter	Bruce Drewes
HP&P Bennett and Lady Harriet	Jason Morales
O.G. Foster	Levi Billman
1 st Cer.M. McWilliams and Lady Dani	Lady Samantha Sparks
2 nd Cer.M. Brannan	Daughters of the Nile:
Mar. Isserman	Mary Baldwin
Capt. of the G. Blandford and Lady Kathy	Jackie Holloway
Parade Dir. Jack Moore and Lady Laine	Sonjia Yates
	Knights of Saint Andrew:
	Marc Essary
	John Ransdell
	Clinton Ransdell

And a special thank you to my wife Lynsey for putting up with me at all times!

Now here we are welcoming the month of October! Time to get your costumes ready, time to buy more candy than you do all year (not for yourself this time), time to carve those pumpkins, and time to watch some scary movies! I hope that this month is just fun! I will see you on October 13th for our Stated Meeting!

Attend the October 13th Stated Meeting via Zoom

Zoom opens at 7:15 pm - Stated Meeting starts at 7:30 pm

Join the Zoom Meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84802526617?pwd=ckZVb0czYWFFaFhNVFhKYktSam4rQT09>

Meeting ID: 848 0252 6617

Passcode: 8675309

Group Dinners at Brother Brown's

by Jimmy Hansen, Recorder

Please remember that Brother Brown's Underground closes at 6:00 pm on Tuesday - Saturday. If your Club, Unit, or other group is having an after-hours meeting or activity and would like to have a dinner with it, there are possibilities available.

Brother Brown's will stay open late if you call to coordinate

your dinner at least one week in advance. A 15 meal minimum is required as well as a 50% deposit paid at the time of the reservation. Also, everyone must enjoy the same meal, just like at a banquet.

Individuals and groups can order dinner "off the menu" as long as they get their order in before the restaurant closes.

Brother Brown's wants to support the Nobility and their events. Just call ahead and work out the details.

Sid Griffin

by David Triplett, Chaplain



Quapaw tribal elder, Sidney Victor Griffin, was honored last month when the 1958 Cameron State Agricultural College baseball team was inducted into the Oklahoma Sports Hall of Fame in Oklahoma City, OK. Sid was a student at Cameron State in 1958, the same year that the NJCAA sponsored their first Division 1 World Series tournament in Miami, OK.

Cameron College had not had a baseball team in 20 years, but the players that assembled represented a diverse group of individuals with unparalleled enthusiasm and talent for the game. The school had a makeshift baseball field, and the majority of the Cameron fans included Quapaw tribal members and Sid's family. With unrivaled resolve, and Sid playing

third base, the Cameron State Aggies swept the qualifying games then secured the NJCAA World Series championship title against Northeastern Oklahoma A&M in a 9 to 6 win. The full story is memorable and filled with humor, determination, and pride.



At the beginning of Sid's career as a Forester with the U.S. Forest Service, Sid played All-Star baseball in the Northern California Semi Pro League for four years. He then coached little league for many years at various assigned duty stations throughout the State of California.

Sid is the eldest grandson of Quapaw Chief Victor Griffin. His parents were Sidney Pierce Griffin, Sr., and Beatrice Joy Griffin. His siblings include Anna (Susie) Yoast, Bill Griffin (current Quapaw Cultural Committee member), Raymond Griffin (deceased), and Emma Lou (Debbie) Griffin. He has been married to Jacqueline (Jackie) Griffin for 62 years, and has three daughters: Stacia Joy Hunter (deceased), Lisa Kaye Whitney, and Marcia Lynne Johnson. His grandchildren include James Anthony Strong who lives in Los Osos, CA and is a skilled sous chef and bartender; Rebecca Marie Whitney who is a 2018 graduate from Tulane University with a BS in Linguistics and BFA in Piano Performance. Rebecca is currently working on her Master's Degree in Native American Languages and Linguistics; Emily Elizabeth Whitney who is a 2019 graduate from Boise State University with a degree in Human Resource Management. Emily is currently working on a second undergraduate Degree in Computer Science; Pavin Mitchell Johnson who is a Political Science major and a Senior at UC Berkeley; and Wyatt Griffin Johnson who is a Sophomore at Stanford University.



EL KORAH SHRINE 2021 MELODRAMA

FRIDAY & SATURDAY NIGHT
NOVEMBER 12TH & 13TH
CURTAIN AT 8 PM

**Our 58th
Annual
Show**

Save the Date!

The **2021 Melodrama** will be performed this Fall for just one weekend (two nights only). It will have a Christmas theme, which is a bit different than our typical performances.

All seating will be General Admission @ \$5.00 each and will go on sale November 1st in the Recorder's Office. There will be No Reserved Tickets at this year's Melodrama.

Players Playbill

by Wayne White, President

The 2021 Melodrama is right around the corner. It will be a one weekend affair on November 12th & 13th and will have a Christmas theme.

Rehearsals have been proceeding swimmingly at 7:00 pm on Tuesday evenings. Soon it will be time to start setting the stage.



Players
"Just for the Fun of It"

The Players are looking forward to the Fall Ceremonial on Saturday, November 6th.

FYI - It's never too early to start brushing up on your part.

Let's get back to work.



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Daughters of the Nile

by Garianne Erwin, Princess Badoura

Iras Temple is back in full swing this Fall with our many activities and regularly scheduled Stated Sessions. We are hopeful that the Covid Virus and attendant pandemic will allow us to keep all of our scheduled activities.

The Membership Committee, led by Past Queen Delta Holloway, has been very busy contacting all of our members we could reach, to let them know how valuable they are to us, and to encourage their continued membership, support and attendance. Past Queen Delta awarded the committee for all their hard work with a wonderful barbecue at her house.

Our fun activities have been a wonderful way to keep us together during the summer and early fall. These included a lovely wine tasting at the Three Horse Winery between Star and Emmett and a luncheon and miniature golf trip to Wahooz. The Summer Picnic was held on August 19th at Kleiner Park on a very windy and cool day. (Probably the first one we had seen all summer—go figure). We persevered and everyone had a great time.

Our Annual Golf Tournament was held on September 11th at Banbury Golf Course, and was a wonderful success. There were 24 golf foursomes participating and everyone had a wonderful time. The morning started off cool and a little foggy and became absolutely beautiful. Our sponsors were all presented a certificate for their kind and generous contributions, and each group was greeted and thanked by our Queen Laura Otto. The participants were also so generous in donating at our "Foundation Hole". We cannot thank our Sponsors and participants enough. A special thanks to all of our members who worked so hard in making this the success it was.



Winning Team!



Winning Crew!

Our sewing and cards are now back. Their first meeting was held on September 13th with our participating members creating many items to send to the hospital.

Our first Stated Session for the Fall season was held on September 16th at the Masonic Temple with an informal lunch prior to the meeting.

Queen Laura Otto is making her Club Visitations to Eastern Idaho the last week of September with her line officers, and everyone is so looking forward to getting to see our Eastern Idaho members and getting caught up with their

Iras Temple Guard: Bunco Night!



**The Iras Temple Guards
are putting on their Bunco
Game Night!**

On Friday, October 29th

**Dinner (Sloppy Joes)
start at 6:30 pm**

**at
El Korah Shrine
1118 W. Idaho St.
Boise, ID**

**Tickets for the event are
only: \$20.00**

**Tickets are available
through the Iras Temple
Guard.**

**Any question please call
Sandra Collins at
(208) 961-2325**