

Volume XXI, Issue 10

December 2021

EL KORAH SHRINERS

DESERT DUST

Official Publication of El Korah Shriners

1118 W Idaho St

Boise, ID 83702



Join us for the **Annual All Masonic Christmas Party**



Hosted by the El Korah Divan

Sunday, Dec 5th at El Korah Shrine
1:00 pm to 3:00 pm

Doors Open at 12:30 pm Santa Arrives at 2:15 pm

**El Korah is proud to Host our Masonic Families for a
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**If you would like to
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Please Contact Noble Wayne Foster
admin@elkorahshrine.com

- or -

Lady Candy Foster
candie_k@msn.com

2021 Divan

Elected Officers

Potentate Will Votaw
 Chief Rabban Dale Rutter
 Assistant Rabban..... Ray Schild
 High Priest & Prophet
 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 Mischa Brady

Desert Dust

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 gsbetts@msn.com

Co-Editor Rick Holloway, PP
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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



Herbert R. Vann 11/7/2021

George E. Thomas 11/8/2021

Darel Harris 11/10/2021

Harry C. Black, PGM 11/14/2021

Russell D. Purcell 11/16/2021

Donald V. Hill. November 2021

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

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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.

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.

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.



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December Stated Meeting

Wednesday Dec 8th, 7:30 pm

Attend in Person or via Zoom (see page 6)

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



Nobles, as I write my last Potentates message, I am filled with mixed emotions. A part of me is happy to see the end of the journey. Another part is sad, as my time being your Potentate is coming to an end.

The last five years of being on the line have been filled with some of the most wonderful events I could have ever imagined. They have also been filled with some of the most difficult. Especially closing our fraternity for a period of time, due to COVID-19, and the uncertainty that virus has brought us.

I would like to thank the Nobles and their Ladies who have been such a big help with all of the events that have gone on. While my term is ending, our work is not. We still have much work to do in our Fraternity and Philanthropy.

Lady Dee Dee and I had the pleasure of attending the Christmas play that the Players put on in November. For those of you that were not there, you missed a good one. Thank you to the Players and cast who put a lot of time and effort into the play.

I could not have done this without the support of my wife and family. Thank you for all that you have done.

Remember, we have Elections at our Stated Meeting in December. We will also be having a representative from Salt Lake City talking to us at dinner about Donor Relations. I hope to see you all there.

The All Masonic Christmas Party is Sunday, December 5th. This is a time to come together and enjoy each others company. I am hoping that I can convenience Santa that I really deserve to be on the Nice List this year!

Yours in the Faith,
Will Votaw, Potentate

Players Playbill

by Wayne White, President

Our 58th Annual Melodrama is now in the books. Actually, it was a play and didn't have a hero, heroine or villain which made it different for everyone. Look for a return to a traditional Melodrama next year. The dates have been set for our regular dates - the first two weekends in March.

Speaking of the Melodrama, believe it or not, it is time to get rolling. Cast members can expect new scripts and assignments in the near future. No worries though, it is what the Players do!

The Fall Ceremonial was a success! Congratulations to our new Nobles! And to the Players Cast, too. Great job!



Players

"Just for the Fun of It"

See you all at our next Players meeting on December 9th at our Cast Party/Christmas Party which will be held at our Director Jan Booe's house. Look for your invitation coming soon.

In the meantime . . .
Happy Holidays to everyone!

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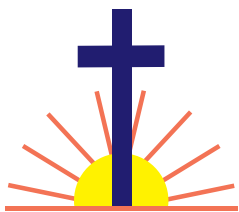
Look for our weekend specials!

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"It's All in the Sauce"

Chaplain's Corner

by David Triplett, Chaplain



What is the lesson we have learned from our Blue Lodge experiences and further developed from being a Shriner or Mason?

True brotherhood is one of the most powerful forces in the world. And

it's something the world greatly needs. Jesus showed us what brotherhood really is by doing three different things:

- 1) Loving his "brothers"; The best definition of true brotherhood that I've heard is what Jesus told his disciples: "Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends" (John 15:13). And he followed his own words. He laid down his life for all of us. We have made some very strong commitments in our obligations during our Travels through the 3rd degree. We might not like taking a bullet, but some of us would for sure. America's Brothers in Arms have done that for generations. We should always cherish that feeling of complete commitment to your "brothers" and friends . . . that you would do anything for them.
- 2) Respecting everyone.
- 3) Bringing out the best in everyone.

Loving His Brothers. Jesus proved to us that if you really love your friends, you will do anything for them, even if it includes dying for them. That is what brotherhood is to me.

Respecting Everyone. Jesus had such a tight brotherhood with his disciples that during the last evening they spent together before he was arrested and killed, he washed his disciples' feet. Even though Jesus was considered greater than his disciples because he was their teacher, he washed their feet as if they were greater than he was. This showed

tremendous respect and love for them. This is a humbling example of how Jesus was so unselfish! If Jesus washed his disciples' feet, **what should we be doing for each other?**

After he had washed their feet he explained what he was trying to teach them: (John 13:12-17 NIV)

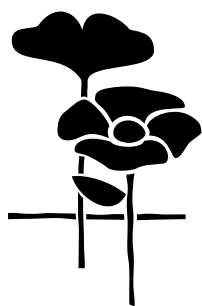
"Do you understand what I have done for you?" he asked them. "You call me 'Teacher' and 'Lord', and rightly so, for that is what I am. Now that I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also should wash one another's feet. I have set you an example that you should do as I have done for you. I tell you the truth, no servant is greater than his master, nor is a messenger greater than the one who sent him. Now that you know these things, you will be blessed if you do them."

Bringing out the Best in Everyone. Jesus also made his students think about what they should be doing for each other. He urged them to be more compassionate, patient, trusting, and caring towards one another. All of these combined would create an indescribable brotherhood between everyone. I see these traits expressed when we gather as Shrine Masons, so joyed to meet and share the feelings of love that is our best kept secret. We love one another.

Experiencing Brotherhood in Action. We work together for a greater good. Our Shrine Children need our help.

Sharing Brotherhood. Brotherhood is loving one another as if there were no tomorrow. Doing so can bring extraordinary changes. But more than that, brotherhood is a powerful force for good, which comes straight from God.

Nothing is holding us back from expressing and feeling brotherhood. We don't lack anything we need to experience it. And we don't have to "make" or force it to happen either. We just need to follow Jesus' example by loving and respecting one another and bringing out the best in each other.



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Portland Shrine Hospital Report

*by Ill. Sir Rick Holloway
Board of Governors Chairman*



The Portland Shrine Hospital is continuing to expand our footprint in the Pacific Northwest to meet the mission of providing care for more kids in more places. A huge amount of effort has come to fruition in the opening of our outpatient clinic in Medford, OR called Shriners Children's Medford Clinic. Other outreach opportunities are also being looked at.

Operationally, our average length of stay has dropped this year over last, primarily due to a decreased number of Halo kids as well as getting kids home as quickly as possible so they can recuperate there. Rehospitalizations have not increased and as a result, patient satisfaction scores remain very high. Inpatient census is increasing as we admit more

international patients, and outpatient visits are higher than budget. As a result, net patient revenue remains second only to Northern California while the draw on the endowment continues to drop. The walk in fracture clinic continues to grow in excess of budget as well.

For the second year in a row, the Portland hospital has earned the Press Ganey Pinnacle of Excellence Award! This award recognizes top performing health care organizations for the achieving high levels of excellence in patient experience, employee engagement, and physician engagement. Congratulations to the Portland Team for this well deserved honor!

A physician liaison position was approved for Portland to have a more substantial presence in the Seattle market.

While we do not have any new Board members starting this January, there will be five open positions beginning in 2023. Interviews for the Board positions will take place next spring. I will be sending out a letter to all nine Shrine temples in our catchment area seeking Nobles who wish to make a direct difference in the governance of a Shrine hospital. If you have any questions about the Portland Hospital or are interested in serving on the Board, please contact one of the current Board members (Dave Triplett, Mike Mastropaolo, and myself).

I See You've Traveled Some

by George E. Rey, Fort Wayne, IN

Submitted by David Bennett

Wherever you may chance to be —
Wherever you may roam,
Far away in foreign lands,
Or just at Home, Sweet Home;
It always gives you pleasure,
It always makes your heart strings hum
Just to hear the words of cheer —
“I see you’ve traveled some.”

When you get the brother’s greeting
And he takes you by the hand,
It thrills you with a feeling
That you cannot understand
You feel that bond of brotherhood
That tie that’s sure to come
When you hear him say in a friendly way,
“I see you’ve traveled some.”

And if you are a stranger,
In strange lands all alone,
If fate has left you stranded —
Dead broke and far from home
It thrills you — makes you dumb,
When he says with a grip of fellowship
“I see you’ve traveled some.”

And when your final summons comes,
To take a long last trip
Adorned with a Lambskin Apron White
And gems of fellowship,
The tiler at the golden Gate,
With square and rule and plumb
Will size up your pin and say,
“Walk in — I see you’ve traveled some.”

Recorder's Corner

by Jimmy Hansen, Recorder

November is in the bag! And it was a lengthy one! Starting at the beginning with our first in person Ceremonial since 2019, bring in a great new handful of Nobles! Though we were unable to have the second section, we all had a great time. Great job to everyone who was apart of it. I would also like to personally thank the Past Potentates who were able to attend and welcome our newest Nobles:

Rick Holloway, Dave Thomas, Joe Randall, Mike Mastropaolo, Ray Westmoreland, and John Krommenhoek Thank you Ill. Sirs!!

Our Stated Meeting was shortly after that was our Chief Rabban Night which gave us an idea of what next year will bring if he is elected Potentate. The same week, the El Korah Players had their wonderful short play. Both dates had nice turnouts and I am sure the Players are excited about the Melodrama for next year.

Following the Players weekend play we had Handmade Idaho put on the Winter Market at El Korah. There were several dozen venders in the building selling anything from shirts to jewelry and from soap to lawn decorations. The building was happily backed to the gills!

The following weekend was Thanksgiving, which I hope everyone was able to enjoy! I know my wife and I did. It is always fun to bring Family, and Friends together for good food and fellowship!

December will hopefully bring even more good food and fellowship as we continue to enjoy the holiday season. Clubs and Units have already started putting out their dates for

their Christmas gatherings. Some of these will be held at El Korah and others will be held elsewhere. So check with your Club and Unit officers so that you don't miss out!

We also have the Annual All Masonic Christmas Party on Sunday, December 5th here at El Korah. This is open to all Masons (and Shriners too!). Doors will open at 12:30 pm. Dinner will be served from 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm. And don't forget that Santa will arrive for the kids at 2:15 pm!

Now that we are in December, please also remember that our Stated Meeting this month involves Elections. All Nobles and the Divan need to make sure to bring your Dues Card. If your's isn't current, please see the Recorder ASAP. As it currently sits, we meeting for Non Payment of Dues!

Please make sure that you have yours dues are current!

The last thing on my list is that your 2022 Dues need to be paid by 12/31/2021 to be deemed current for next year. If you haven't already done so, please get them paid so that the Recorder's Office won't have to start hounding you next month.



**HAVE YOU PAID
YOUR 2022
DUES?**

Attend the December 8th Stated Meeting via Zoom

Zoom opens at 7:00 pm - Stated Meeting starts at 7:30 pm

Join the Meeting via Zoom:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84415071460?pwd=UWlOdHc4enhhVXN6Yzd6K29OQUhZQT09>

Meeting ID: 844 1507 1460

Passcode: *HYGGE*

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.

Black Light Patrol News

by Mischa Brady, President

The Elite Black Light Patrol has been busy this year helping out with the Potentate's Ball, Ceremonial, various parades, and the East West Shrine Game events. The Patrol has had their election of officers for the upcoming year. President will be Mischa Brady, Vice President Ric Bobier, and Treasurer Jim Leichliter. Congratulations to our new officers and continue to do great work. I also would like to say thank you to our membership for the outstanding work and effort you all put into all the Shrine events we attend! You all make the Black Light Patrol a top notch outfit.

We held our summer BBQ at the VFW Post 63 again this year and it was a huge success. Thank you to everyone that helped out and brought food.

Our Christmas Party will be at Lindy's on December 20th at 6:00 pm. If you are going to attend please get with Ric Bobier by December 10th.

The Patrol donated \$4,000.00 to the Portland Hospital to help off-set costs for MAGEC rods.

We performed flag presentations for both of the East/West Football games as well as helped on the sidelines and sold tickets.

The Black Light Patrol would like to also thank our ladies for their efforts and help with all our events and keeping us all on task and in line. Thank you to all of you! We wish everybody a safe and happy holidays.

Tin Lizzies

by Jack Moore, President

The Tin Lizzies held our regular meeting on October 5th and elected Ray Liercke, President and Rich Sykes Vice President for 2022. All other officers will remain the same.



We also held a regular meeting on November 2nd.

We will be dark in December as we will substitute our Christmas Party in lieu of our regular meeting. The next regular meeting will be on January 4, 2022, presided over by our new President Ray Liercke.

The Tin Lizzies and Sand Duffers have decided again to combine our Christmas Parties this year as we did in 2019. It was a huge success then and we anticipate it to be a great party again this year. It will be in the Tiger Room on Friday evening December 4th. We have about 30 people attending.

We had a great parade season this year. The Tin Lizzies participated in 11 parades and would have been more if they didn't cancel PNSA, the Air Force Appreciation Day Parade, the Veterans Day Parade and the Boise Holiday Parade that was a virtual Parade. The last parade of the season will be the Mountain Home Parade of Lights on December 3rd in the evening.

I personally have decided not to seek being an officer in the Tin Lizzies next year due to family matters. I love to parade and will try to participate in as many parades as I can. Let's hope that no parades will be cancelled next year.

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Daughters of the Nile

by Gianne Erwin, Princess Badoura

It is hard to believe that the upcoming Holiday Season is almost upon us. Iras Temple has been busy trying to keep up with our activities despite the problems with Covid.

Many of our members attended the El Korah Shrine Ceremonial on November 6th, and the Ladies' Luncheon. The photograph below is of our beautiful dancers who performed at the Ceremonial.



Ceremonial Dancers (L to R): Past Queen Carrol Glimp, Past Queen Jackie Holloway, Past Queen Phyllis Charters, and Princess Debbie Irish.

They performed so beautifully under the black lights, and we were so proud of them. The Ladies' Luncheon that followed was lovely, and we appreciated all the work that Pr.Candy Foster, Past Queen Mary Royce, Past Queen Jackie Holloway and First Lady Diedre Votaw had done to make it so special.

Iras Temple has rescheduled our Silver Tea, and it will be held on December 11, 2021, at the Masonic Temple Dining Room from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., and naturally will have a Christmas theme. We hope all our members who are able can attend, and enjoy our camaraderie, while we adhere to the Covid guidelines.

We have many upcoming activities including our Stated Sessions for November and December, and Our Fashion Show with a Mystery Twist on February 26, 2022. More information will follow on this activity.

From all of us at Iras Temple, we wish you a wonderful Holiday Season.

Last Parades of 2021

by Jack Moore, Parade Director

The last parade El Korah participated in this year was the Bliss 4th of July Parade that we had only one entry. Not including any that the Magic Valley or the Snake River Shrine Club might have participated in to include points north. That entry was one Tin Lizzie, and the driver was me. Johnny pulled the Tin Lizzie Trailer behind me with his van. Sophie Pruett, the parade coordinator was thrilled that we made the effort to come to their parade after parading earlier that day in the Glens Ferry 4th of July Parade.

Our Treasure Valley Parade Units participated in 11 parades thus far this year. We would have participated in more parades if PNSA, Air Force Appreciation Day, the Veterans Day Parade and the Boise Holiday Parade (virtual) hadn't been cancelled due to Covid concerns.

There are two Parades that our Challis Tin Lizzie member Doug Hammond will be participating in before the end of the year. They will be the Challis Parade of Lights on December 3rd and the Mackay Christmas Parade on December 17th.

The last parade of the season in the Treasure Valley will be December 3rd in Mountain Home. In the past, I believe only the Tin Lizzies have participated in this parade. It is after dark at 6:30 PM. Sign up deadline is November 26th, which is after this issue of the Desert dust is published. Hopefully some of our El Korah parade units will have participated. The information for the parade is as follows:

Join the parade of lights as we escort Santa Claus through downtown to Railroad Park for the Light the Forest Event! Sign up online to be in the parade at:

<https://forms.gle/qqwvQURvTbGLcPr8A>

or give us a call (208) 587-2173

Dec 3rd, 2021 at 6:30 pm in Downtown Mountain Home

I have enjoyed being the El Korah Parade Director for the last 3 years. However, I have decided not to continue in that role. I have family issues that need my attention more. One of my passions is parading. It is more fun than any one is entitled to. I will be continuing my membership in the Tin Lizzies and will parade as often as I can. Have a great 2022 Parade season and best to all.

Building Reservations at El Korah

by Wayne Foster, Oriental Guide/Office Manager

If your Club or Unit is planning on holding your Christmas party at the Shrine, you need to get it on the calendar. Dates are filling up fast.

And if you have an event coming up in 2022, you also need to make sure your date is reserved ASAP. Sometimes a

reservation may be written down in one place but does not appear on the "official" calendar that is used for those outside of El Korah to make their reservations. If there is nothing on a particular date, then it is available for the public to rent it out.

It is definitely worth a visit to the office or at least a phone call (343-0571) to double check on your dates.