



EL KORAH SHRINERS

DESERT DUST

Official Publication of El Korah Shriners

1118 W Idaho St

Boise, ID 83702




WESTERN
FORMAL
Feb 12th
EL KORAH
1118 W. Idaho St. • Boise, ID

SOCIAL HOUR
starts at 5:30PM

DINNER
at 6:30PM

ANNUAL AUCTION
at 7:30PM

dancing to follow

MUSIC BY: Timmy B's Mobile Juke Box
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meal choice
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for tickets at
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Sand Duner

2021 Divan

Elected Officers

Potentate Dale Rutter
 Chief Rabban Ray Schild
 Assistant Rabban Ric Bobier
 High Priest & Prophet Wayne Foster
 Oriental Guide David Brannon
 Treasurer Garland Risner, PP
 Recorder Doug Blandford

Appointed Officers

Director Noah Serna
 Assistant Director Skylor Lens
 Parade Director Mike Keas
 Chaplain David Triplett
 1st Ceremonial Master Ray Breshears
 2nd Ceremonial Master Shawn McWilliams
 Marshal Mischa Brady
 Captain of the Guard Matthew Thompson
 Outer Guard Rod Baldwin

Potentate's Aides

Chief Aide Mischa Brady

Desert Dust

Co-Editor Rick Holloway, PP
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 gsbetts@msn.com

Phone Numbers

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

Hospital Board Members

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



William Elkins 4/21/2021

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 **2022 Shrine Dues**

were due by 12/31/21. 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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 6 in Pocatello, 3 in Idaho Falls,
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January Stated Meeting

Wednesday Jan 12th, 7:30 pm
 Attend in Person or via Zoom (see page 7)

Potentate's Message

by Ill. Sir Dale Rutter



I'd like to thank the Nobility for electing me Potentate, as well as all of the elective officers, for El Korah for 2022. We have a lot of energy on the Board and we are excited to start the new year. I want to say

a special thank you to all the Nobles, Ladies, and guests who were able to come to the open installation of El Korah's officers on January 8.

This year's theme is "Anchoring Down For Kids." As a Shriner, we need to anchor down in our efforts to raise money for the Shriners Hospitals. Medical costs are on the rise and we need to double our efforts to keep providing quality care for our Shriner kids.

Many fun events are coming up as well as Temple fundraisers. The first Temple fundraiser this year will be Treefort on March 23-27.

The Sand Duners will be holding a Sweetheart's Auction in a Western Formal theme, including dinner and abundance on February 12 (see the cover of this month's Desert Dust) followed by the Players return to the stage for their annual Melodrama the first two weekends in March.

We will hold the Clubs and Units meeting on February 5. More information on this will be distributed shortly.

I look forward to a great year and visiting with as many Nobles and Ladies as possible.

Save the Date!

2022 MELODRAMA

FRI & SAT NIGHTS
MARCH 4, 5, 11, 12

**"Alias
Smedley Pewtree"**

or... **"THE VILLAIN
OF GLITTER GULCH"**

COME JOIN THE FROLIC AND FUN!!

PROCEEDS FROM THIS ACTIVITY ARE FOR THE BENEFIT OF EL KORAH SHRINE AND ARE NOT TAX DEDUCTIBLE

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"It's All in the Sauce"

Players Playbill

by Wayne White, President

Well, another year is in the books and are we glad to have 2021 behind us. The Players are looking forward to an improved 2022. Things are underway for our 59th Annual Melodrama titled "Alias Smedley Pewtree, or The Villain of Glitter Gulch". The performance dates will be Friday and Saturday nights March 4 - 5 and 11 - 12. Tickets will go on sale the first week of February.



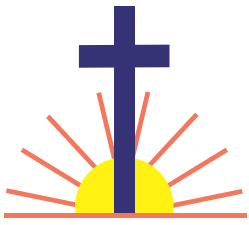
Players

"Just for the Fun of It"

On another note, we have changed our January meeting date due to conflicting schedules. Hope to see you all on January 21st at our usual time and location. Hopefully this date will make it possible for more Players to attend.

Chaplain's Corner

by David Triplett, Chaplain



It's Time to Think of UNITY

Idaho Masons are familiar with this Passage from Psalm 133 which is used in the Entered Apprentice Degree, the first Degree in Masonry. The Song of "ascents":

Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity!

It is like the precious ointment upon the head that ran down upon Aaron's beard and down to the skirts of his garments; as the dew of Hermon, as the dew that descended upon the mountains of Zion: for there the LORD commanded the blessing, even life forevermore.

Unity in all times was extremely important in cultures where extended families worked together. We can see over and over the result of strife in the family unit as with Cain and Abel, and David and Saul, the issues of the family breakdown are in our present culture. Having great pride and **UNITY** in the extended family unit makes me think of how special it is to be a Shriner and the fraternal bonds that we share.

We see **UNITY**

In your family (your blood ties) in the teachings and examples of your mother and father.

In your faith membership. What did Jesus say in Matthew 5:21-26? He Sternly stated that we are not to even speak badly about our brothers (and our neighbors).

In your obligations at the altar, which creates indissoluble ties with your brethren.

Psalm 133 relates the blessing of Unity using the metaphor of Oil. This thought links that sacred oil that was used to anoint Aaron and the High Priests as well as the Israelites custom of pouring oil on a welcomed guest. Brotherly love is here related to Holiness; and God's ultimate blessing on Unity and fellowship "Even Life forevermore".

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 call **343-0571** to double check on your dates.

Don't be a Parrot Mason!

by Anonymous



What is a Parrot Mason you ask?

One who commits to memory the questions and answers of the catechetical lectures, and the formulas of the ritual, but pays no attention to the history and philosophy of the Institution, is commonly called a Parrot Mason, because he is supposed to repeat what he has learned without any conception of its true meaning. In former times, such superficial Freemasons were held by many in high repute, because of the facility with which they passed through the ceremonies of a reception, and they were generally designated as Bright Masons. But the progress of Freemasonry as a science now requires something more than a mere knowledge of the lectures to constitute a Masonic scholar.

- Source: Mackey's Encyclopedia of Freemasonry

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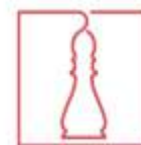
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Salt Lake Shrine Hospital Report

by Ill. Sir Ray Westmoreland



I want to recognize Kevin Martin, our hospital administrator. He cares about our Kids to his core.

Through the last 3 or 4 years, he has been at the head of our restructuring. This requires countless hours, both with informal and formal negotiating with Imperial, the board, staff, and most importantly keeping the care of our Kids top of mind. Kevin's nursing background enables him to communicate well with all groups Kevin holds regular town hall meetings to keep everyone informed of the steps as they happen. We are grateful for Kevin's leadership.

Kevin Martin, RN, MPH/HSA, FACHE, is the administrator of Shriners Hospitals for Children — Salt Lake City. Before taking this position in 2011, Kevin was the director of patient care services/nurse executive for 13 years.



**Kevin Martin, Hospital Administrator
Shriners Hospitals for Children - Salt Lake City**

Though Kevin has spent most of his career in administration, he still keeps up his credentials. Once a nurse, always a nurse. He reached his 20-year anniversary with Shriners Hospitals for Children in July of 2018. "In all the years I've been here," said Kevin, "even with all the changes in the health care, the organization has never strayed from its commitment to provide care regardless of ability to pay."

Kevin is proud of the legacy of health care in his family, as three of his children have pursued careers in health care. When he is not working, Kevin enjoys road biking, traveling, and spending time with family and friends.

Black Light Patrol

by Mischa Brady, President

Last month, the Elite Black Light Patrol held its Annual Christmas Party at Lindy's Steak House. One of the most memorable moments we shared was electing Ill. Sir Bob Stevenson as our Patrolman of the Year, which is a truly notable achievement for any Patrolman. Bob passed away this year on June 23rd.



Attendees of the 2021 BLP Christmas party



Some recent photos of Bob Stevenson helping out and just being Bob

Portland Shrine Hospital Report

by Ill. Sir Rick Holloway
Board of Governors Chairman



The Portland Shrine Hospital is nearing the end of a very successful year despite some challenges. COVID continues to have an impact on our operations as the difficulty in filling staff positions has been felt across all health care sectors. The intense heat last summer (115-118 degrees) over stressed the AC systems and significantly increased utility costs. Despite these challenges, the hospital continues to increase its patient encounters and surgeries.

The Medford clinic is fully operational now. Although we have been providing an outreach clinic in Medford for over 30 years, we have a physical presence now in Medford and can see patients every Saturday except holidays. This is Shriners Children's first off-site clinic in the system.

The new Shriners Website is generating more new patients. Since launch in late August of this year, we have had 162 new patient referrals that we wouldn't have gotten prior in the form of calls, emails, web forms and faxes. This can be traced back to our new referral form feature on the website.

The Fracture clinic continues to serve more children throughout our region. It is our second service line bringing in new patients to our hospital.

We can see both new and existing patients virtually with our telehealth program. We have added behavioral health and

nutrition services for our existing patients too! We also provide comprehensive care for both common and rare conditions affecting a child's hips. Using innovative technology in a multi-disciplinary approach, the Portland Shriners Hospital provides the best care for patients in a convenient, wrap-around care environment.

Imperial has approved the purchase of a DEXA scanner, which is the clinical gold standard for measuring fat, muscle, and bone density. This will be deployed to the hospital soon.

Financially, the Portland Hospital continues to be second only to Northern California in Net Patient Revenue and will likely be under \$6 million for the year in our draw on the endowment. When I started on the Board, our draw on the endowment was over \$16 million per year. We have been able to increase the number of procedures and implement billing and collection processes while controlling costs to allow us to decrease our draw by over 60 percent!

Thank you to the Black Light Patrol and the Snake River Shrine Club for their extremely generous donation to the Portland Hospital for our MAGEC rod program. Each MAGEC rod costs \$17,000 and it takes two for each patient. The screws used to attach the MAGEC rod to the patient's spine are \$700 each. In total, I was given \$6,400 in checks and \$1,200 in cash at the last El Korah stated meeting to give to the hospital. Letters acknowledging your donations will be sent shortly.

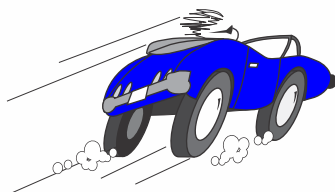
Additionally, I wish to extend a special thank you to Ill. Sir Corey Turner, who has continued to collect hand made wooden toys for patients at the hospital to paint during their recovery. Thank you, Ill. Sir Corey!

We will be looking for Nobles wishing to serve the Portland Hospital as a member of the Board of Governors next year. 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 Mastropalo, and myself).

Duner's Doings

by Doug Blandford, President

Well, as we wrap up another year, we had a successful parade year. Our Screening Clinic was also successful. We were able to get 3 children into the Shriners Hospital. We had our annual Christmas party together with the IAW Tin Lizzies. A great time was had by everyone. Great food, and great fellowship. Thank you to all the Tin Lizzies and Sand Duners who were able to attend.



Now we go to work on our annual Sweethearts Ball that is set for February 12, 2022. We plan to have a great turn out and lots of interesting and exciting auction items.

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Recorder's Corner

by Jimmy Hansen

Here we are in a new year, with new changes and new adventures to challenge us! During the elections this last month the Nobility voted for a new Recorder, Noble Doug Blandford, so please welcome him as you welcomed me! He is a wonderful Shriner and Brother!

I would like to thank the Nobility for the honor and privilege of being your Recorder for this last year. It has been a wonderful experience not only being a part of the 2021 Divan with Ill. Sir Will Votaw, but being at the center hub of El Korah and getting to know all of you better. Being a part of the hub of El Korah is the closest one can get to helping children that are in need, since Idaho lacks its own Shriners Hospital. I believe that was the best part of being the Recorder, something I will surely miss in the future. The children and their families are why we are here in the first place, but not every Shriner will have the opportunity to make that connection.

As for the Office Staff, I truly could not have done it without you! Noble Wayne Foster, you have been a lifesaver and sounding board this year! It has been wonderful working with you through the ins and outs of the Shrine, Imperial,

and our day-to-day work. Thank you for being there for me and the Shrine.

To our amazing Bookkeeper, Mary Baldwin, you are Family through and through! El Korah has gained so much from you and no one really knows! Thank you for being there for us as well as me! You kept us moving forward and was always on top of things!

To our Bartenders, thank you, thank you! You have kept the liquor pouring in our Oasis. And for that I believe everyone appreciates you! Thank you! I hope to see you off and on when I come to the Shrine!

To the lovely ladies of the Daughters of the Nile, I will truly miss seeing you on a weekly basis. It was truly a delight to see you coming into the building for dancing, marching, sewing, singing, and even playing cards! Every one of you always had a smile on your face and a warm greeting, which lighten up my day every time. I hope to see you all down the road!

I hope that 2022 will be wonderful for Ill. Sir Dale Rutter and his Divan members. I am sure there will be great things to come!

Attend the January 12th Stated Meeting via Zoom

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

Join the Zoom Meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86807438202?pwd=emhps3JOTEZ6Tk5IMWtUR2ExRGcrQT09>

Meeting ID: 868 0743 8202

Passcode: N0b13-@F

Group Dinners at Brother Brown's

by Jimmy Hansen

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.

Daughters of the Nile

by Garianne Erwin, Princess Badoura

As the year draws to an end, and we look forward to 2022, we can look back on this past year as challenging in terms of dealing with the covid virus. However, our Temple has dealt with everything it has thrown at us, and I believe come out stronger. We have managed to complete almost all of our activities, albeit with some adjustments, and managed to thrive in our financial commitments to support the Shriners' Hospitals, clinics and children. We need to thank all of our members and officers for all of their hard work.

In December we celebrated our Christmas theme Silver Tea, held on December 11th with a beautifully decorated room at the Masonic Temple. All those attending really seemed to enjoy the good cookies, sandwiches, coffee and tea, as well as the time to get together and enjoy the season together. Again, our thanks to all of those members who helped make this possible, and a special thank you to our hostess committee for their hard work.

Our photo this month is of our hard-working Princesses at Sewing having just a little fun, while trying to stay safe in our Holiday masks.



Princesses Modeling their Holiday Masks

In January we will be holding our Ceremonial on January 22nd beginning with Stated Session at 10:00 am, lunch at noon, and Ceremonial at 1:30 pm. We hope as many members as possible can attend to welcome our new Princesses to be initiated that day.

Greeters

by Ron Bishop, President

The Greeters' Annual Christmas Party and Installation of Officers was held at the Riverside Hotel on December 10th. Members and guests enjoyed a delicious dinner and musical entertainment to celebrate the holiday. We were honored to have Potentate Will Votaw and his Lady DeeDee in attendance. After dinner, the Potentate conducted our Installation. Our 2022 slate of officers are President Ron Bishop, Vice President David Triplett, Secretary Mitch Davis, and Treasurer Clarence Jones.

We would like to welcome our two newest members, Rodney Baldwin and Dave Roberts. They will be a great addition to our Unit.

We look forward to the guest speakers we will be having at our meetings and supporting El Korah's activities in the coming year.



Greeters Christmas Party



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