

EL KORAH SHRINERS

DESERT DUST

Official Publication of El Korah Shriners

1118 W Idaho St

Boise, ID 83702

**TWIN FALLS SHRINE CLUB
40th ANNUAL SHRINER BENEFIT**

ICE BREAKER

MINI GOLF TOURNAMENT

MARCH 5th, 2022

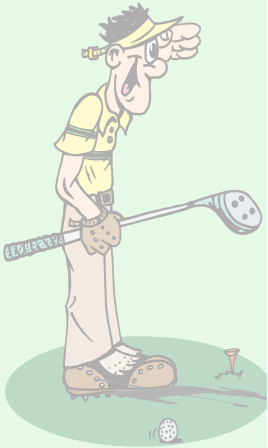
**\$20 Per Couple, Please Bring ID,
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2022 Divan

Elected Officers

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

Appointed Divan

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
 Chief Aide Mischa Brady

Hospital Board Members

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

Phone Numbers

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

Desert Dust

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James Henley 1/15/2022

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,
 Others in Logan and Brigham City, Utah.

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

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February Stated Meeting

Wednesday Feb 9th, 7:30 pm

Portland Shrine Hospital Report

by Ill. Sir Rick Holloway
Board of Governors Chairman

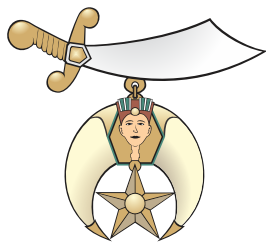


As we finalize the 2021 books, the Portland Shrine Hospital had a remarkable year in caring for more kids in more places and at a lower cost while maintaining a focus on quality care.

The new Medford clinic continues to do well. We have established strategic partnerships with other physician and provider groups which allows us access to more patients. We continue to grow the international patient population. The Australian Orthopaedic Association Residency program approved a third resident to receive training at the Portland hospital. We remain the only pediatric orthopaedic hospital in the US to serve as a residency program for Australian physicians.

Volume metrics were slightly lower than projected primarily due to a continued negative impact from COVID. There were some significant weather events last year (winter storm in February 2021 and a heat wave in June/July 2021 which saw temperatures reaching 118 degrees), a vaccine mandate which caused a loss of some staff who chose not to get vaccinated, and challenges from a tight labor market all challenged our ability to maintain inpatient volume. Despite the decline in volume, we remain second only to Northern California in net patient revenue and our draw on the endowment has dropped to around \$5.5 million for the year, down from over \$16 million per year draw we had when I first started on the Board in 2016.

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 Mastropaolo, and myself).



— NOTICE —

2022 Winter PNSA

February 18 - 19 Butte, MT

Brother Brown's Underground

Restaurant and Catering at El Korah Shrine

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11 am to 6 pm

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Salt Lake Shrine Hospital Report

by Ill. Sir Ray Westmoreland



New Year's Letter 2022: Shriners Children's SLC

by Dr. Kristin Carroll, Chief of Staff

Dear Friends,

“Please stay vigilant to our enemy, the COVID virus. Keep yourselves mindful of masking, handwashing and gathering in groups. Stay 6 feet apart from anyone not in your household. Stay safe until the vaccine reaches us.

Please accept my deepest gratitude to each one of you for all that you do for each other, our incredible mission and our patients and families.”

This was the conclusion from the end of year **2020** letter.

I think that we all thought 2021 would bring a reprieve, a solution. With our Moderna shots, and then boosters, this all would just resolve, we thought. However, now we know that we face a much wiler and ever-changing foe in COVID 19. Omicron is so contagious...

However, 2021 threw us into a battle that was perhaps even more difficult than COVID for many of us: our transition to a clinic model at SHC-SLC.

All of you, and your courage through this incredibly difficult time, awe me. So let me tell you a story to help us all understand:

Long ago, a group of wealthy and well-meaning men, decided to help children with their funds. They created Shriners Hospitals to help the children suffering from another Pandemic: Polio. At the time, hospitals and long-term inpatient care were the norm. These wonderful and philanthropic men created a hospital network across the United States (and Canada and Mexico) with beautiful, huge buildings to care for the children crippled by Polio and other orthopedic conditions. Burn care was lacking for

children, so they added those into their plan in three major centers of Boston, Cincinnati and Sacramento.

However, things change.

Although burn care often leads to inpatient care, orthopedics is now very different. Now, kids go home within 24 hours of pelvic osteotomies, spine surgery kids often leave within 3-4 days. In addition, this complex orthopedic care requires a backup of sub-specialists and internal resources that could never have been predicted in the 1900s.

Much like COVID, pediatric orthopedic care morphed at an astronomical speed.

Huge buildings with huge overhead, stood empty, emptying the coffers of a wonderful, well-meaning, philanthropic society with no one to care for as orthopedic inpatients.

The Shriners had to decide: to fund buildings devoid of children, or move on; and help more kids as best they can in more places.

Therefore, we transitioned. With others, like Erie, Kentucky, Pasadena, Twin Cities, Springfield, Galveston and Houston, Cincinnati, Tampa, Louisiana and Spokane who are all on their own painful, growing journeys.

There is the positive aspect: we have a partner who shares our values and is helping us care for our children: Primary Children's Hospital (PCH). Like us, they are manned by University of Utah Orthopedic faculty, residents and fellows who believe in superb clinical care, education and research. They house our kids (with all the support staff) and respect our belief that no one should find health care a financial hardship. In addition, they are only 1 mile away.

Here is the bottom line: we are lucky to work with the University of Utah, we are lucky to collaborate with PCH and we are so lucky to work within the Shriners' system that still will financially support our kids, no matter what roof they are under during their care.

We did lose so many wonderful staff, and that was incredibly painful. However, please, let us look forward and all strongly support our new opportunities. Let us all be open in communication to share new ideas about how to best use our resources to help more kids . . . for the next 100 years.

Chaplain's Corner

by David Triplett, Chaplain

This is Not a Picture of Our Potentate in Philly



But let's talk about shadows for a moment.

At a time when I believe there is a lot of fear present in our society, we do not need to see our shadow, and jump back into a hole for 6 more weeks, Now, going to Mexico is a different Story.

The Story

The Groundhog Day celebration is rooted in a [Celtic](#) and [Germanic](#) tradition that says that if a hibernating animal casts a shadow on February 2, the pagan holiday of [Imbolc](#) (known among Christians as [Candlemas](#)), winter and cold weather will last another six weeks. If no shadow is seen, legend says, spring will come early.

In Germany, the tradition evolved into a myth that if the sun came out on Candlemas, a [hedgehog](#) would cast its shadow, predicting snow all the way into May.^[9] When German immigrants settled in Pennsylvania, they transferred the tradition onto local fauna, replacing hedgehogs with groundhogs. Several other towns in the region hold [similar Groundhog Day events](#).

What's my point of this story? Do not let fear enter as a dark shadow, but face the Sun. Light is what we are all searching for and as we face it, there is no darkness

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

★ **SOCIAL HOUR** starts at 5:30PM ★

DINNER at 6:30PM ★

meal choice
Prime Rib or Cornish Game Hen
Call the Recorder's Office for tickets at 208-343-0571 or contact a Sand Duner

★ **ANNUAL AUCTION** at 7:30PM ★
MUSIC BY: Timmy B's Mobile Juke Box
EVENT HOSTED BY: EL KORAH SAND DUNERS

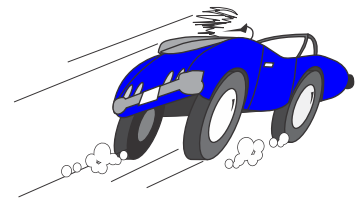
dancing to follow

Tickets: \$40⁰⁰ per Person

Duner's Doings

by Doug Blandford, President

We are in full gear getting ready for our Annual Auction and Dinner. This years theme is "Western Formal", so polish your boots and come do some "Boot Scootin'".



Dinner will be a choice of Prime Rib or Cornish Game Hen with all the fixin's.

Tickets are available at the Recorder's Office or contact your favorite Sand Duner

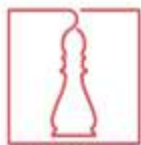
The fun and festivities start with a 5:30 Social Hour, then Dinner at 6:30, and the Auction at 7:30.

Tickets are \$40.00 per person or Corporate Tables are available. Come and have a great evening!

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Daughters of the Nile

by Gianne Erwin, Princess Badoura

Our Winter Ceremonial was held on January 22, 2022, when we initiated five new princesses. Because of Covid related problems, the Ceremonial was held as an Obligation only ceremony, following our business meeting at the Masonic Temple. Our officers and members did a wonderful job in making this limited ceremonial beautiful and special for our new princesses. Our five new princesses are in the picture below, together with Past Queen Sony Yates; and Past Queen, and Supreme Princess Badoura, Jackie Holloway. A special thank you to all members and officers present for making this a special day for our new members.



Our Five New Princesses at Winter Ceremonial

Our sewing and cards group keeps busy making items for the children, and are working on neck pillows, Pads for the arms of the wheelchairs and quilts. It's amazing how much we can get done, when you consider what a good time is had by all.

Our Fashion Show with a Mystery Twist, which was scheduled for February 26, 2022, has had to be cancelled due to the ongoing covid problems. In order to protect our members and other participants, our Committee and Officers felt that it is simply too dangerous at this time to go ahead with it. We will let you know when it will be rescheduled. Thanks to all of our Committee members for all the work that has previously gone into this project.

Recorder's Corner

by Doug Blandford, Recorder

It's only been a few weeks now, and what an education. I want to apologize for not being proficient on the social media and responding to everyone's questions. I'm still in a learning curve, but making progress. We have the Sand Duners Auction coming up right away, then the Melodrama, Treefort, and the Potentates Ball. Hopefully, I will have my feet on the ground and things will be running a lot smoother.

Please be patient with me as I learn my new job. I know it will get better. If I can help with anything or you have suggestions to help me, please call or email me.

Again, Thank You for your patience.

Ye ol' Recorder,
Doug

Players Playbill

by Wayne White, President

The Players have some sad news to report. Our 59th Annual Melodrama scheduled for the first two weekends in March has been cancelled due to Covid. For the past 4 weeks, we have not been able to hold a rehearsal with a full cast, which is a real detriment to a play's progress (especially for us!). Several cast members have tested positive or have been exposed to someone who has tested positive.

We are truly sorry for any inconvenience our decision may cause, but it was made in the best interest of everyone.

But on a more positive note, we had a great turnout for our January meeting and all of our regular Players' business was



Players

"Just for the Fun of It"

conducted with full fanfare. Of note, we received two petitions for membership which will be voted on at our regular February meeting.

See you there!



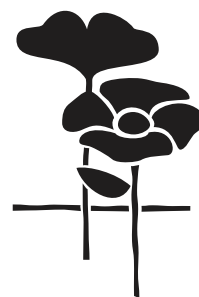
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Cameleers

by Dave Brannan, President

The Cameleers held our regular meeting on January 18th at the Sockeye Grill (rotating venues). We are starting to look at the 2022 parade schedule to get members signed up for the various parades.



Dave & Terri Brannan Riding one of the Camels

In 2021 we had several work meetings to try and get the Camels “back in shape,” and to define and stock medical supplies (some additional hardware, tools, and parts) so that we are able to “treat camel injuries” at the parade site.

We have been having discussions about holding our very own fundraiser (to date our fundraising has consisted primarily of popcorn sales at various Shrine events), to raise funds that will be directed to the SLC Shrine Hospital to buy / build adaptive bikes for some of our Shriner Children. We are looking at options for a bike ride fundraiser event (bike ride seems to be fitting for us), sometime in early fall, and we have asked the Provost Guard to help provide additional manpower, and they have agreed. We are in the early planning stages, just getting started. We will try to provide more details after our next meeting in February. We are hoping that our Fellow Shriners and Masonic brothers will support and participate in the fundraising event.

Our next meeting will be held on February 15th at a yet unknown location at 11:30.

Twin Falls Shrine Club

by Bob Cannon, Secretary

Calling All Shriners!!

to the 40th Annual Ice Breaker March 5th in Twin Falls



We invite our Newly Created Nobles to work with us!
We have some vacant stations to fill.

(Two workers are needed to run the golf at each bar)

For our regulars, if you want to work the same location as last year . . . **Great News!** Your location wants you back!!

Contact Bob Cannon to get signed up:
(208) 735-0951 bobc@bobcannon.co

Bar	Work Crew
Log Tavern	Stan Detweiler & Friend
Whiskey Creek	_____ & _____
Redzone	Mark Graybeal & MaxineVolkers
Ground Round	Don & Theresa Charbonneau
Bowladrome	Rick Rowe & _____
Shuffle Bar	Reggie Attix & _____
The Cove	Kris & Melody Carney
Mia’s Place	Danny Harkins & _____
Klover Klub	_____ & _____



ENJOY A NIGHT ON THE TOWN!

“ALIAS SMEDLEY PEWTREE OR THE VILLAIN OF GLITTER GULCH”

The Players 2022 Melodrama Production

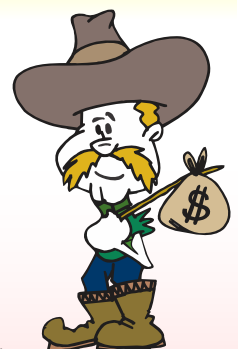
by Bruce Drewes, Producer

NOTICE

The 2022 Melodrama has been Postponed

The headline above was to be our headline in the February Desert Dust as of this Monday. The decision to postpone was made at the last moment in the best interest of everyone - the cast, the audience and the Shrine - and was directly related to Covid.

It would have been our 59th Annual Melodrama performed by the El Korah Players. The last two years have been very difficult for the Players as we did our best to continue with this traditional show. But like they say on stage “As long as the spotlight can shine, someone will make you laugh”.



The Players have supported the longstanding tradition of entertaining the Brethren and their families for the past 59 years as well as our general Shrine Organization for as long as we have been in existence.

Hopefully, this postponement will only be until this fall, when we will once again be on stage in the light, entertaining you and your families.

The Players want to thank all of our El Korah organizations for their continued support and look forward to resuming this joyous event in the fall.