

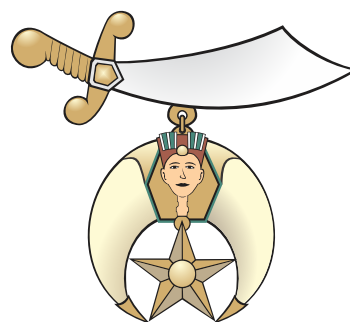
EL KORAH SHRINERS

DESERT DUST

Official Publication of El Korah Shriners

1755 N Westgate Dr, Suite #125, Boise, 83704

*Please Join
Potentate Elect Ric Bobier
and Lady Tandy
for the 2024 El Korah Shrine
Installation
of Elected and Appointed Officers*



*Saturday, January 6th, 2024
2:00 pm El Korah Ballroom
1118 W Idaho St, Boise*



EL KORAH - BOISE, ID

*Reception of Officers
and
Hosted Refreshments
Following*

Wednesday Jan 10th, 7:30 pm
Boise Masonic Center

Potentate-Elect Message *by Ric Bobier*



First and foremost, my heartfelt gratitude goes out to each and every one of you for bestowing upon me the honor of serving as your Potentate for 2024. The trust and faith you've placed in me are both humbling and deeply appreciated and it is my honor.

This year promises to be filled with enthusiasm and vigor, and our theme "Energizing More in 2024" is designed to ignite our spirits and propel us into a year of unparalleled success.

Lady Tandy and I are committed and excited to be working with all of you all and having some fun filled events throughout the year as we support our kids at Shriners Children's and our Nobility.

Please extend a warm welcome to our new Divan Officers and their families.

Our journey begins with the Installation Ceremonies on Saturday, January 6th, at 2:00 PM at the El Korah Shrine Building in Downtown Boise. Join us for a performance by the Iras Dancers and an opportunity to meet the 2024 El Korah Divan. Refreshments will be served following the Installation.

Mark your calendars for our inaugural Stated Meeting on Wednesday, January 10th at the Boise Masonic Center on Westgate Dr.

Additionally, the El Korah Black Light Patrol is hosting their Annual Crab Feed on January 12-13 and 19-20. While tickets are sold out, your support in any capacity is always welcome. Reach out to our Crab Feed Chairman, Bob "King Crab" Julian, if you would like to get involved.

Looking ahead, our 2024 El Korah Units and Clubs Meeting will be Saturday, February 3rd, at 10:00 AM at the Boise Masonic Center. If you're an Officer or a new member in these groups, your participation is invaluable and we invite you to join us. Coffee, donuts, and lunch will be served.

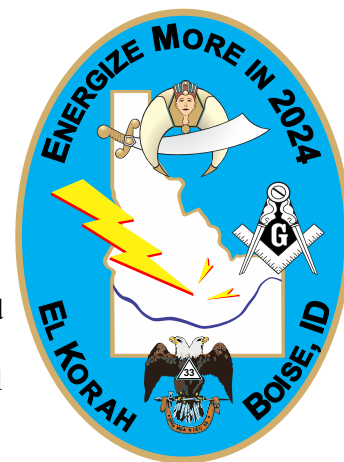
The pressing matter of El Korah's permanent residence is on everyone's mind. While we've temporarily settled at the Boise Masonic Center, rest assured that we are diligently addressing this situation and keeping the best interests of our Nobility at heart. Our commitment to securing a new home remains unwavering. It is essential that our decisions as we move forward are both self-sustaining and aligned with our needs.

Considering our current membership dynamics, specifically the disparity between total members and "active" members, it is vital to strategically plan for our future. We earnestly seek everyone's support in boosting our membership, retaining existing members, and charting a clear path forward.

In closing, I am deeply honored by your trust in our Divan. Together, let's make 2024 a year of fun, growth and success.

"Energize More in 2024"

Warm regards,
Ric Bobier, Potentate-Elect



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Portland Shrine Hospital Report

by Ill Sir Rick Holloway



At the December Board meeting and Christmas Party, we recognized Past Grand Master David Fryday for his 9 years of service to the Portland Board of Governors. It is an incredible accomplishment to reach Emeritus status on the Board of Governors and the commitment in time and money is substantial. However, there are few things a Shriner can do which directly impacts the provision of services to the kids we care for more than service on the Board of Governors. Thank you, MWPGM Dave, for your years of devoted service to supporting the management of the Portland Hospital.

At the same time, we welcomed three new Board members who will be starting their service to the Board beginning in January. One of them is Martin Klos, MD, who served on the Board for five years and then had to resign for a couple of years but now is back on our Board. I had the pleasure of working with Dr. Klos in the past and look forward to his insight and contributions to further the mission of the hospital.

As we start 2024, I will be starting my ninth and last year of service on the Portland Board and will reach Emeritus status in December 2024. It's hard to believe I have served for eight years already. I wish to extend a special thank you to Illustrious Sir Joe Randall, who was Potentate of El Korah when I first applied to be on the Board. His leadership and support helped me start on a path that I have thoroughly enjoyed, including two years as Vice Chairman and two years as Chairman of the Board. Thank you, Joe!

As we finish 2023, the Portland Hospital has exceeded budget on all metrics, although inpatient discharges may be slightly less than budget. Our net patient revenue continues to be second only to Northern California but our draw on the endowment continues to be one of the lowest in the system.

On February 24, 2024, the Portland Hospital will be celebrating its "Party of the Century-Putting Patients First for Over 100 Years" in a gala event. Tickets are now available and the information on this event is shown below.

If anyone is interested in receiving the 2022 Outcomes book, please let me know and I will send you a digital copy. We also have the 2023 Portland Fraternal Toolkit available to help local Shrine Centers get more involved in the hospital. Additionally, you can subscribe to the monthly "Rise and Shrine" e-newsletter and receive monthly updates on the Portland Hospital.

If anyone has any questions about the Portland Hospital, please reach out to me, Mike Mastropaolo, or Joe Randall. We are always willing to provide any additional information you may have regarding the Portland Hospital.

100th Anniversary Gala



Save The Date!

February 24, 2024
Hilton Vancouver Washington
301 W 6th St, Vancouver, WA 98660
5:30PM — 11:00PM



- Tickets on sale for \$150
- VIP tickets for \$225
- Hit Machine will be performing!



- Silent Auction: Trail Blazers, U of O, Dobbies Winery, Cyclebar, Pastini, Skin by Lovely
- Dress code: Semi-formal Cocktail Attire
- Collaborations with local businesses: Cartel Coffee, Cougar Crest Winery, Level Beer, Threshold Brewing, Great Notion Brewing, and Steeplejack Brewing
- Dessert Dash: Artiserie Fine Bakery, Farina Bakery, The Pie Spot, & Bleu Door Bakery to name a few!



Fund Raising Committee

by Bruce Drewes, Oriental Guide

As I was cleaning out the Potentate Office in the old El Korah Shrine, I found a paper survey that was collected in 2013, when Ill Sir Ron Lester was Potentate. This begged the question: What does our Membership think about the El Korah Organization in 2023?

So, the Fundraising Committee decided that it was time to check in again with the membership to gain some insight into the direction that they want to move. With the assistance of Nora Carpenter, who owns a copy of Survey Monkey which is a tool used to develop, track and report the survey results, we created a survey for the Nobility. It was sent out in October via the Desert Dust and Constant Contact.

As of December 19th, 77 responses were submitted from our roughly 450 members. This represents a 17% response rate, which sounds low but is actually a pretty good sample rate in the world of surveys.

Here is a quick summary of the survey results:

Question 1: How long have you been a Shriner? Answers ranged from 3 years to 66 years with people scattered through the spectrum.

Question 2: How often do you visit El Korah each year? 16% said never, 17% said 6 to 10 times, 31% said more than 10 times, and 36% said 1 to 5 times.

Questions 3 & 4: Are you a member of Scottish Rite or York Rite? 70% Scottish Rite, 30 % York Rite, some belong to both organizations.

Question 5: Why did you join the Shriners? Most selected more than one response. 52% said because of friends, 52% said to support the hospitals, 49% said to continue my Masonic journey, and 45% family legacy.

Question 6: What keeps you as a member? 68% said the hospitals, 67% said the people, 57% said the mission, 48% said Clubs and Units involvement, 38% said social events, 12% said family ties.

Questions 7 & 8: Have you ever been involved in a Unit? 79% said Yes, with the largest number of respondents naming the Greeters. All Units were named.

Question 9: Do you consider yourself an active member of El Korah? 65% said Yes, 35% said No.

Question 10: How far do you live from El Korah? Four respondents live over 1,000 miles away, several are in Eastern Idaho, but most are within a 100 miles.

Question 11: How do you receive communication from El Korah? Most respondents named the Desert Dust and/or

Constant Contact with the El Korah web page being third. Word of mouth and Unit information was occasionally mentioned.

Question 12: Regarding the amount of communication from El Korah? 67% said it is about right, 32% said there is not enough, 1% said there is too much.

Question 13: How many Stated meetings did you attend this year? 50% said none, 50% said between one and all meetings.

Question 14: If you didn't attend any Stated meetings, why? These written responses need further review.

Question 15: Will you be attending the December Stated Meeting? 48% said Yes, 52% said No.

Question 16: Are you interested in becoming more involved in El Korah? 19% said Yes, 74% said No, 7% said they wanted more information.

Questions 17, 18, 19 and 20 asked you to rate 1) how well the Divan is managing El Korah, 2) how well you use your Shrine membership, 3) how comfortable you feel when attending events, and 4) the image of El Korah in the community. All responses were favorable, but further review is needed to determine meaningful results.

Questions 21 & 22 asked for written responses about 1) image of El Korah in the community and 2) forming new social groups. These responses need further review.

Question 23: Do you have interest in helping El Korah fundraising activities? 71% said Yes to Circus, 59% said Yes to Sportsman's Classic, 38% said Yes to Cornhole Tournament.

Question 24: Are you interested in forming a Shrine Club? 68% said No, 32% said Yes.

Question 25: Has the sale of the El Korah Shrine building impacted your membership? 73% said No, 27% said Yes.

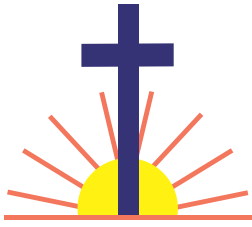
Question 26 asked for comments directed to El Korah leadership. These responses need further review.

The Fundraising Committee thanks the Nobility for taking the time to participate in this important survey. It is through processes like this that El Korah leadership learns about and understands your thoughts and desires.

NOTE. Questions that included comments or additional information will require more time for the Divan to review and evaluate, but the committee wanted to share the bulk of the survey results as soon as possible.

Chaplain's Corner

by David Triplett, Chaplain



The difference between being *whole* and having a *hole* in our hearts is a “W”. And that “W” stands for worship.

The question is: what story do you worship? Is it a story of babies being born from barren wombs, faith the

size of mustard seeds that can move mountains, or a teenager who slays giants? I hope it is a story about how life in Jesus conquers death.

In seeking God with our whole hearts, we bring it all to God: the light and the darkness, the joy and the despair, the shame and the pride. After all, God knows the desires of our hearts. And from God, no secrets are hidden. And so we seek, not perfectly and not without stumbling. We pursue and chase after God.

Authentic life and joy are born when what we say we believe is reflected in what we do in our lives. Let us not go astray in our hearts but seek after the highways and heartways of God.

Psalm 119:2-3 *Happy are those who observe his decrees and seek him with all their hearts! Who never do any wrong, but always walk in his ways.*

Happy New Year to each of you! I wish everyone a great start to 2024 as we nurture our brotherhood and grow of our friendships. Adios from Mazatlan mis amigos.



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Please contact: Sonjia Yates (208) 869-6922 • Debra Baum (619) 218-1726
Dawn Lewis (208) 860-1651

Greeters

by Bob Martin, President

I can't believe the year is almost up. It is my turn to take the wheel for the Greeters.



Past President Joe Randall passing the gavel to Incoming President Bob Martin

Our Christmas Party was a big success. Everybody who attended had a great time. We installed officers Bob Martin President, David Roberts as Vice President, Mitch Davis as Treasurer, and Ed Hulme as Secretary.



**Ill Sir Joe Randall with 2024 Greeters Officers:
President Bob Martin, Vice-President David Roberts,
Secretary Ed Hulme and Treasurer Mitch Davis**

Our next meeting will be held on January 11th at Casa Mexico, which is located at 10332 W Fairview in Boise. It will start at 5:30 with our social and then dinner to follow. The program will be presented by Nora Carpenter, who will give us a little history on our great state.

Remember our dues are due this month. \$20 dollars is the price to pay.

Also don't forget to get your tickets for our drawing for a custom made Fez case. This case is made out of solid cherry with walnut inlaid on top. It was custom made by Noble David Roberts.

Tickets are \$10 dollars each or 3 for \$25.



**Custom Fez Case Crafted
by Noble Dave Roberts**

Daughters of the Nile

by Sidonia Miller, Princess Badoura

December is the most festive time of the year. Iras Temple No 40 was busy with fundraisers, parties and fun activities. We participated in the Boise Holiday Parade in spite of the cold and rain. The sun came out at the start of the parade and as we traveled through downtown we were greeted with enthusiasm. Our Queen Debbi was cosy on her throne and received for our entry the award for "Best Vibes"!



Princess Royal Garianne Erwin,
Princess Badoura Sidonia Miller,
Queen Debbi deBoer, Princess Tirzah Terri

The annual Fashion Show was a success with all 18 tables filled with Members and friends. A delicious Luncheon was served, fashions for Holiday, work and lounge wear were modeled and bidding on the silent auction was enthusiastic. This is such a great way to raise money for the Hospitals and Clinics.

We so enjoyed the decorations and pot luck at our regular Stated Session. Plans are made for 2024. We will have a Ceremonial to welcome new members in January. It is always an uplifting experience as we are reminded of our purpose and the ritual and history that ties us together.

Plans are made for the Supreme Session in June. Daughter's of the Nile throughout the nation, Canada and Brazil are excited to explore our beautiful city. Stay tuned for more "Meet us in Boise" news!

Potentate's Challenge Coin

by Bruce Drewes, Fundraising Committee Chair

Potentate-Elect Ric Bobier has authorized a special Potentate's 2024 Challenge Coin. The front side of the coin has the Potentate's pin on it while the back side has the Scottish Rite emblem in recognition of Ric's longtime service to that organization.



Front Side



Back Side

Potentate's 2024 Challenge Coin

Only 500 of these beautiful coins have been created and will be offered for sale to the Nobility and the general public for \$20.00 dollars each.

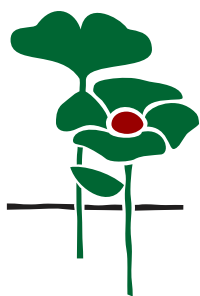
Anyone can own one of these keepsakes!

In addition to being a wonderful souvenir of the Potentate's memorable year, each coin will have a unique number stamped on it that will be used in a drawing held near the end of 2024. Two numbers will be randomly drawn and the holders of the lucky coins with the drawn numbers will be winners of \$500.00 grand prizes.

Yes, you'll have two chances to win \$500.00!

The proceeds of this fundraiser will be set aside for future El Korah activities.

NOTE. The proceeds of this fund raising activity support El Korah Shrine and are not tax deductible.



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Boise Valley Scottish Rite Knights of Saint Andrew
1st Annual

Bro.: Robbie Burns Night

Date: January 26th, 2024

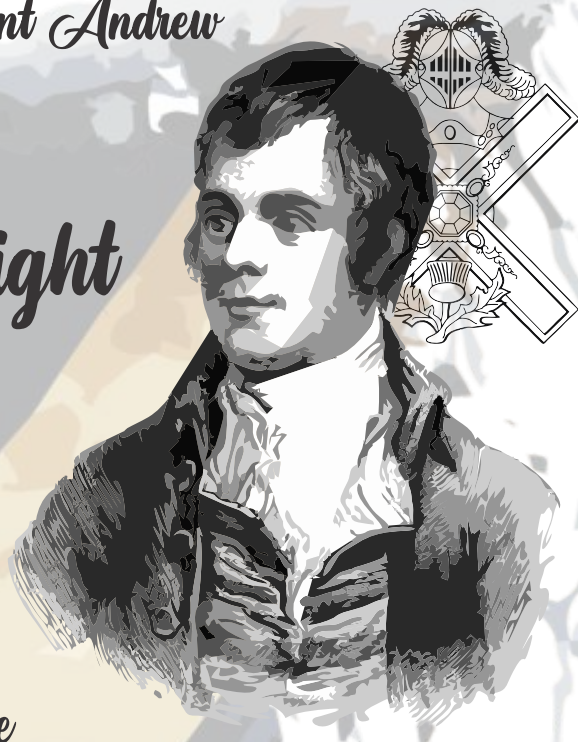
Time: 6:00 pm - 9:00 pm

Place: Boise Masonic Center

Price: \$45.00 per person

Attire: Formal/Kitt/Dress

(If you don't have a Kitt, we'll make
sure you have one before next year)



The Knights of Saint Andrew of the Boise Valley Scottish Rite are
please to present their first ever Burns Night. This event is to
celebrate the life of Bro.: Robert Burns, who is known
worldwide as the national poet of Scotland.

Dinner:

Roast Beef

Mashed Potatoes

Salad

Short Bread Cookies

(Optional: Haggis)



The Oasis Bar will be open to make sure your Haggis goes down smoothly!

Limited tickets available through the Knights of Saint Andrew.

VM.: Jimmy Hansen (208) 392-3833 unusomnio21@gmail.com



Winter Business Seminar
PACIFIC NORTHWEST SHRINE ASSOCIATION
February 15-18, 2024

Billings Hotel & Convention Center
 1223 Mullooney Lane, Billings, MT

X _____
 Last Name First Name Middle Initial

 Shrine Center Current Title

 Mailing Address City State (PV) ZIP

 Home Phone Business Phone Cell Phone e-mail

Special Needs (specify ADA requirement, etc.) _____

Means of Travel: Auto _____ Arrival date _____

Airline _____ Flight # _____ Arrival Date _____ Time _____

Hotel Reservations: **Registration deadline Wednesday, February 7th.** Please make your reservations with **The Billings Hotel and Convention Center**, central reservations number is **(406) 248-7151** Use Block code **PNSA** for reservations. Hotel rooms: \$129.00 +Taxes

Registration Fees: Deadline to Register is February 7, 2024.

Complete 2 Day Conference (Conference only. No Seminars) \$200.00 \$_____

Complete 2 Day Conference w/Clown College, Chief Rabban, Oriental Guide,
 1st Ceremonial and Cabiri Charter Seminars
 (Circle Your Choice) \$220.00 \$_____

TOTAL PAYMENT \$_____

No Refunds after February 1, 2024

. Register online www.shrinerspnsa@wildapricot.com or mail to:

PNSA Winter 2024

P.O. Box 1385

Columbus, MT 59019

Questions or comments please email pnsa24@outlook.com

Method of payment: Check # _____ (Make check payable to: **PNSA**)
 U.S Funds Please

Name on Credit Card _____

Credit Card Type

(MC, Visa, American Express & Discover) Number _____

Expiration Date (MM/YY) ____/____ CCV _____ Billing Zip Code _____



PNSA Winter Business Seminar Schedule of Events

All Events at Host Hotel Billings Hotel and Convention Center unless otherwise noted.
Times are subject to change.

Thursday February 15, 2024

9:00am	Clown College
9:00am	1 st Ceremonial Seminar
9:00am	Oriental Guide Seminar
9:00am	Chief Rabban Seminar

5:30pm	Welcome to PNSA Mixer
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Friday February 16, 2024

9:00am	Business Meeting Called to Order
12:00pm	Lunch
1:00pm	Business Meeting Resumes
4:00pm	Counterparts Meetings
5:00pm	Hospitality Rooms
6:30pm	Counterparts Dinners

Saturday February 17, 2024

9:00am	Business Meeting Called to Order
12:00pm	Lunch
1:00pm	Business Meeting Resumes
4:30pm	Hospitality Rooms
6:00pm	Presidents Banquet No Host Reception
7:00pm	Presidents Banquet
8:30pm	The PNSA Oriental Guide Pageant

Sunday February 18, 2024

Winter Session has concluded, Have a safe trip home.

Billings Hotel & Convention Center
1223 Mallowney Lane
Billings, MT 59101
406-248-7151
406-259-5338 Fax

JANUARY 2024

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
	1 New Year's Day	2 Tin Lizzies	3 Provost Guard	4	5 Greeters Players	6 Installation of Officers
7	8 Board/Divan Meeting Twin Falls SC	9	10 Stated Mtg	11	12 BLP Crab Feed	13 BLP Crab Feed
14	15	16 High Country Sidewinders Cameleers Sand Duners	17	18 American Legion Post	19 BLP Crab Feed	20 BLP Crab Feed
21	22 Black Light Patrol	23	24	25	26	27
28	29 El Korah Clowns Snake River SC	30	31			

FEBRUARY 2024

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
				1	2 Greeters Players	3
4	5	6 Tin Lizzies	7 Provost Guard	8	9	10
11	12 Board/Divan Meeting Twin Falls SC	13	14 Stated Mtg  Valentine's Day	15	16	17
18	19 Black Light Patrol	20 High Country Sidewinders Cameleers Sand Duners	21	22 American Legion Post	23 BLP Crab Feed	24 BLP Crab Feed
25	26 El Korah Clowns Snake River SC	27	28	29		

← Winter PNSA - Billings, MT →