Volume XXVI, Issue 9 November 2026

EL KORAH SHRINERS

DESERT DUST

Official Publication of El Korah Shriners **1755 N Westgate Dr, Suite #210, Boise, 83704**



2026 Divan

Elected Officers

Potentate . . . . . David Brannan
Chief Rabban . . . . . Bruce Drewes
Assistant Rabban . . . . . Jason Morales
High Priest & Prophet . . . . . Danny Harkins
Oriental Guide . . . . . Darrell Forrester
Treasurer. . . . . Randy King
Recorder . . . . . Wayne Foster

Appointed Divan

1st Ceremonial Master . . . . . Rob Mahar
2nd Ceremonial Master . . . . Jeremy Barnett
Marshal. . . . . Mischa Brady
Chaplain . . . . . David Triplett
Captain of the Guard. . . . . Leonard LaTour
Outer Guard . . . . . Rod Baldwin

Other Divan Positions

Director . . . . . Robbie Swofford
Assistant Director. . . . . Gail Sivey
Assistant Chaplain . . . . . Virgil Sisiam
Ambassador Coordinator. . . . . Mitch Davis
Chief Potentate's Aide . . . . . Mischa Brady

Potentate's Aides

Aides . . . . . Trevor Thueson
Travis Brandt
Stephen Safar-Fashandi
Leonard Latour
Chief Aide Emeritus . . . . . Dick Swift

Hospital Board Members

Salt Lake City . . . . . Dave Brannan
Kristapher Carney
Portland. . . . . Joe Randall
Miers Johnson

Phone Numbers

Recorder . . . . . (208) 343-0571

Desert Dust

Editor. . . . . Gary Betts
gsbetts@msn.com
Assistant Editor . . . . . Rick Holloway, PP

To that undiscovered country

Craig L. Handy 10/6/2026
Gene E. Smith. 10/13/2026
Rodney L. Baldwin 10/19/2026

Editor's Notice

The Desert Dust is published monthly, except July and August.

Submissions are Due by the 20th of the Month

Please be prompt!! Remember, the Editor is volunteering his time to publish the newsletter.

Pictures should include a caption, if appropriate.

Email your submission to Gary at gsbetts@msn.com

Advertise Your Business in the Desert Dust!

Reach out to the Nobility, Ladies and friends in the online and printed versions of the Desert Dust. El Korah publishes 10 newsletters annually.

For a member-owned business a regular-sized ad is just
$50.00 per year

Contact the Recorder's Office for larger ads, single issue ads, and ads for non-member owned businesses.

Submit your ad to the Desert Dust today!

Dues Reminder

2027 Shrine Dues
are due by
12/31/26

Go to the El Korah Website
elkorahshrine.com
or contact the Recorder's Office
343-0571

Did you know that El Korah's budget relies on members paying their dues on time?

Paying your dues helps pay our bills and keep our doors open.



November Stated Meeting

Wednesday, Nov 11th
Boise Masonic Center - Westgate

Dinner at 6:30 pm
Cold Sands Ceremony at 7:00 pm
Meeting Starts at 7:30 pm

Potentate's Message *by Ill Sir Dave Brannan*



Potentate Dave Brannan and Ill Sir Joe Randall Manning the Shriners Booth at the Western Idaho Fair

October has been a time of good fellowship and lots of planning for the rest of the 2026 Shrine year. Boise State Football watch parties continue at the Boise Masonic Center. A big thanks to Ambassador Coordinator Mitch Davis and his Lady Sue for their work in setting up these special afternoons. The parties have been well-attended by Shriners, Masons, the ladies and other guests from inside and outside of our Masonic family.

The October Stated Meeting was the annual Past Potentate's Night with Ill Sir Garland Risner presiding. Thank you Garland for a fun and productive meeting. Our very capable Chief Rabban Bruce Drewes will preside over the upcoming November Stated Meeting and our elections of officers will be held at our December Stated Meeting.

The first Shrine Oyster Feed was held at the Scottish Rite Building at the end of October. This was a fundraising event that we hope to make an annual event and include more members of the community in the future. Thank you to Chief Rabban Bruce Drewes, his Lady Jerri, and their crew for organizing and putting on this fun event!

The last two of the Red Fez lunches are coming up. These lunches are held in locations around the state and all Shriners and their ladies are invited to attend. The November lunch will be at Boise Brewing in Boise on November 21st and the final lunch will be in Payette on December 19th.

Our Units will be participating in the Boise Veterans Day Parade on November 14th and the Boise Holiday Parade on November 28th.

We have four candidates that will be joining us for a Cold Sands Ceremony before the November Stated Meeting. I encourage all Nobles who are able to attend and help welcome these candidates to our wonderful organization. A full Ceremonial is planned for the spring and these candidates along with those completing their work in the next few months will be invited to participate.

The All Masonic Christmas Party will be on Sunday, December 6th. Assistant Rabban Jason Morales and his Lady Hayley are working hard to put this event together.

There were over 160 people at the last Christmas party representing all bodies of our Masonic family. I hope you are all planning to attend and bring your families for this special event. This is a free event and open to members of all Masonic bodies and their family members. More information will be available through Constant Contact or by contacting the Recorder's Office.

The El Korah Shrine Racing to Help Kid's Project was selected by local brewery Boise Brewing to be the Non-Profit group of the month in December. The brewery will donate $1.00 for each of their special beers of the month sold to this fundraising project. It is an honor to be recognized by this local business and we hope you will drop in for a beer during December. Boise Brewing has produced multiple award-winning beers and they also have a full-service restaurant with many great selections. The brewery is located downtown at 5th and Broad Streets and has a free parking lot for patrons.

Fraternally Yours,
Ill Sir David Brannan

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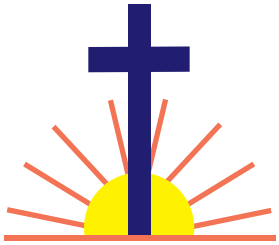


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Chaplain's Corner

bv David Triplett, Chaplain



The Power of Memory Work

One of the goals we share as Masons and Shriners is the desire to become better men. As we often say in Masonry, we take good men and make them better.

This month's Chaplain's Corner focuses on the benefits of memory work and how the very act of memorization can help shape our character.

A Master Mason from the Grand Lodge of Georgia shared an interesting perspective on the ancient Art of Memory, a practice dating back thousands of years. His research explored its history, including its decline during the Dark Ages and revival during the Middle Ages.

One of his most meaningful observations was that memorization does more than strengthen our ability to recall words. The very process of committing something to memory can help us internalize its meaning and incorporate its lessons into our daily lives.

Consider, for example, memorizing a passage about honesty. Through repetition, reflection, and understanding, we may become more mindful of honesty in our own words and actions.

Now imagine the personal growth that can come from committing the great Masonic virtues to memory: **Temperance, Fortitude, Prudence,** and **Justice.**
And let us not forget one of our most cherished principles, **Brotherly Love.**

Memory work is more than an exercise in remembering words. It is an opportunity to reflect upon their meaning, carry their lessons in our hearts, and put those principles into practice.

Perhaps that is the true value of our Masonic teachings. We do not simply memorize the words to become better Masons; we strive to live by them to become better men.

Recorder's Ramblings

by Wayne Foster, Recorder

Nobles,

I know that I have shared this reminder before, but it bears repeating. When paying your dues with a credit or debit card, whether through PayPal or by calling the Recorder's Office, a **$6.00 processing fee** will be added to cover the cost of the transaction.

If you are paying dues for more than one year, the processing fee will be higher. Likewise, when purchasing tickets for Shrine events, the processing fee may vary depending on the total amount of your purchase.

These fees are necessary to ensure that the full amount of your dues or event payment is directed to its intended purpose rather than reduced by credit card processing costs. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

Patient Transportation Update

El Korah assisted **20 patients** during September with a total of **$6,291.00** spent helping them travel to Shriners Children's facilities for care.

I've received questions about how these funds are used. Patient transportation funds are designated specifically for expenses related to patient travel, including mileage reimbursement, lodging, and airfare. These funds cannot be used for other purposes.

Your continued support helps ensure that children and families can access the specialized care they need.

Thank you, Nobles, for your continued commitment to our Shrine and its mission!

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El Korah Nobility Birthdays

November 1	Charles	McNiel
November 2	Michael	Parke
November 3	Dennis	Tanikuni
November 4	Robert	Seal
November 6	Richard	Miller
November 7	Charles	Turner
November 7	Gary	Faw
November 8	Geoffrey	Miera
November 9	K.C.	Farrar
November 12	Gary	Portello
November 12	Robert	Campbell
November 14	Charles	Smyser
November 15	Kenneth	Harnden
November 16	Leroy	Trader
November 16	Richard	Martin
November 17	Robert	Martin
November 18	Melvin	Meyers
November 18	James	Hovren
November 18	William	Bamber
November 18	Adrian	Lane
November 19	Michael	Keas
November 19	Alexander	Lewis
November 20	James	Ledbetter
November 20	Victor	Martin
November 22	Steven	Brown
November 23	Mark	Leming
November 23	Christian	Manaloto
November 24	Max	Bearden
November 26	Dylan	Nichols
November 28	Matthew	Stebbins
November 29	David	Brannan
November 29	Skylor	Lenz
November 30	Sollie	Callender



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The Changing Season

by Bruce Drewes, Chief Rabban

As the weather grows cooler and the leaves begin to change, we are reminded that another season is upon us. Summer gives way to fall, and before long, winter will arrive. Just as the seasons change, so too does the leadership of El Korah Shrine when the Nobility prepares to nominate and elect officers for 2027.



But before we look too far ahead, let's take a moment to reflect on the many activities and opportunities for fellowship we've enjoyed this year. 2026 has been filled with memorable gatherings and events, including:

- **Potentate's Ball:** A wonderful evening of celebration, fellowship, and dancing that was enjoyed by all who attended.
- **Spring Ceremonial in Jerome:** We proudly welcomed five new Nobles into our Shrine family.
- **Cinco de Mayo Celebration:** An enjoyable evening of good food, conversation, and camaraderie.
- **Shriners Children's Portland Hospital Tour:** Held May 29–30, this visit provided participating Nobles with a valuable opportunity to experience firsthand the important work and mission of Shriners Children's.
- **Red Fez Luncheons:** Held approximately once a month, these gatherings provided opportunities to reconnect with our Nobles, welcome prospective members, and strengthen our Shrine fellowship.

These are just a few highlights from a busy year at El Korah. Each event, gathering, and shared experience reminds us that the strength of our Shrine lies in its members and the friendships we build along the way.

Looking Ahead to 2027

As El Korah prepares for the coming year, we will build upon these traditions while introducing new opportunities to bring our Shrine family together.

Some of the activities being consideried include Nobility Balls, a Shriners Children's picnic, car show, wine and beer tastings, and an International Food Night. The hope is to create a year filled with fellowship, fun, and opportunities for Nobles and their Ladies to participate, reconnect, and enjoy everything that makes El Korah special.

As one season comes to a close and another begins, we have much to appreciate and even more to look forward to. Jerri and I look forward to sharing the coming year with all of you. We hope to see familiar faces, welcome new ones, and continue building the friendships and traditions that make our Shrine family strong.













Upper Snake River Shrine Club/Tin Lizzies
The Value of Good Company

by Noble David Stonhill

Sometimes, the best meetings are the ones where business takes a back seat to good food, good conversation, and the enjoyment of being together.



At our recent Upper Snake River Shrine Club dinner and meeting at Butter Burr's in Pocatello, I'll admit I struggled to keep things focussed on the approved agenda. Every item seemed to spark a conversation that quickly wandered off in a dozen different directions. About halfway through the meeting, it dawned on me that perhaps this was exactly why our members had come to dinner in the first place.

We did manage to move a few items forward and bring some business to a conclusion. But looking back, those accomplishments were probably the least important part of the evening—and certainly not the most memorable.

Organizations like ours depend on more than agendas, minutes, and action items. They thrive on friendship, fellowship, shared stories, and the simple pleasure of spending time with people who enjoy one another's company.

So, while the USRSC/Tin Lizzies meeting minutes may record only a few completed tasks, I'd say the meeting was a success. After all, strengthening the bonds between members is important business, too—even if it never makes it onto the minutes!

PNSA — It's your Association

by Larry Tipton, PNSA Executive Director

The Pacific Northwest Shrine Association was established in 1911–1912 with a belief that because of their geographic isolation, the Temples of the Pacific Northwest would benefit from unifying their interests and presenting a common position on matters affecting the region's Temples. Since its founding, PNSA now includes Shrine Temples from Washington, Oregon, Idaho, Montana, Utah, British Columbia, Yukon Territory, Alberta, and, as of 2019, Northern California, bringing the organization's membership to 20 temples.

PNSA sessions are broken into Winter and Summer Sessions. At the winter session, elected Divan members and Past Potentates serve as official representatives and are the only attendees authorized to vote on business matters. However, all Nobles are encouraged to participate in discussions and address the assembly. The Summer Session is mostly focused on fun and fellowship, and very little business is conducted at this session. Shrine ladies and families are welcomed, and encouraged, to attend.

Individual temples are encouraged to host the Winter and Summer PNSA sessions. However, if circumstances don't allow full financial and legal responsibilities, the PNSA Board of Directors can partner with hosting temples to help create a memorable event.

I encourage you to attend and thereby help preserve the fraternal relationships and organizational continuity the Association provides. Attendance also offers the opportunity to establish enduring friendships with Nobles from throughout the Northwest. Questions, observations, ideas, suggestions, or comments may be directed to any of the Board members listed below.

President	Mike Malone, PP	(307) 751-8426
1st Vice President	John Robertson, PP	(509) 590-5441
2nd Vice President	Ric Bobier, PP	(208) 739-0222
3rd Vice President	Darrick Hayman	(425) 876-6915
Director General	Jeff Lane, PP	(509) 347-6110

Twin Falls Shrine Club

by Jeremy Barnett, President

The Twin Falls Shrine Club is finishing the year strong, with holiday celebrations, parade festivities, and exciting plans for 2027!

Our Annual Christmas Party is just around the corner! All Shriners and their Ladies are warmly invited to join us for an evening of holiday cheer and fellowship. See the flyer on the next page for details. Please RSVP at your earliest convenience to:

Jeremy Barnett . . . pokey83301@msn.com
Laird Stone . . . . . lstone@idaho-law.com
Kris Carney. . . . . IG_38@yahoo.com

We are also looking forward to our final parade of the year, the **Twin Falls Festival of Lights!** We'll be bringing Red Hamby's old semi, along with at one additional parade car and possibly a second car or a few minibikes. Following the parade, we'll gather at Koto for food, drinks, and fellowship.

The Twin Falls Shrine Club continues to grow stronger as we rebuild our parade car collection. We now have a rotating Fez trailer that is ready for restoration in preparation for next year's parade season!

Congratulations to our 2027 Officers! At our October stated meeting, we held elections for the coming year. Please join us in congratulating our 2027 officers:

- **President:** Jacob Loveland
- **Vice President:** Ambassador Laird Stone
- **Secretary:** Ambassador Rick Rowe

We appreciate their willingness to serve and look forward to another successful year!

Please Join Us! Our stated meetings are held every **2nd Monday at 6:00 pm at Idaho Joe's.** All Shriners are welcome to attend!

Salt Lake Shriners Children's Clinic

by Kris Carney, Salt Lake Board of Governors



The 12th Annual **Walk for Love**, benefiting Shriners Children's Salt Lake City, was held Saturday, September 19th at the Hogle Zoo in Utah.

This family-friendly, one-mile walk brought supporters together to raise funds and awareness for the exceptional pediatric care provided by Shriners Children's, regardless of a family's ability to pay.

El Korah Shrine was well represented with a wonderful turnout of Nobles and Ladies who traveled to Salt Lake to participate in this special event. It was especially heartwarming to see so many of our Ladies make the journey from Boise to show their support.

Events like Walk for Love remind us of the importance of our Shrine family and the difference we can make when we come together in support of the children and families we serve.

Thank you to everyone who participated and helped represent El Korah Shrine!

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TWIN FALLS SHRINE CLUB ANNUAL Christmas Party

MONDAY
DEC 14TH
2026

6:00 PM
Social Hour

7:00 PM
Dinner

GIFT EXCHANGE
AFTER DINNER

DINNER MENU



Tri-Tip OR Smoked Chicken
with Cream Sauce

- Garlic Mashed Potatoes
- Mixed Veggies
- Salad
- Peach Cobbler



BRING YOUR OWN BEER OR LIQUOR TO SHARE



WATER, LEMONADE AND SPICED CIDER WILL BE PROVIDED

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TF SHRINE CLUB STATED MEETING ON NOVEMBER 9TH

Twin Falls Lodge #45
Jerome, Idaho



TWIN FALLS SHRINE CLUB

FESTIVAL OF LIGHTS *Parade*

FRIDAY
DEC 4TH
2026

6:00 PM
Parade Begins

Downtown Twin Falls
Main Avenue
(Dierkes St. to Jerome St.)

PARADE HIGHLIGHTS

- Nearly 100 glowing, illuminated holiday floats, marching groups, and seasonal entries.
- Santa Claus arrives on a red truck sleigh with live reindeer from Sawtooth Reindeer.
- Tree Lighting Ceremony immediately after the parade at the Downtown Commons.
- Free hot chocolate and cookies provided by First Federal Bank, along with local food vendors.

WE WOULD APPRECIATE ANY PARTICIPATION — WE CAN GET FROM ANY MEMBERS!

Let's show our Shrine pride and help make the Twin Falls Festival of Lights Parade a great success!

Greeters

by Ill Sir Ric Bobier, President

Hello from the El Korah Greeters Unit!

Our October meeting was a wonderful evening of fellowship, with 36 Nobles and Ladies gathering for dinner at Casa Mexico in Boise.

During our annual election of officers, we elected the following leadership for 2027:

- **President:** DW Darrell Forrester
- **Vice President:** Ill Sir Dave Brannan
- **Treasurer:** Bob Martin (continuing)
- **Secretary:** Position remains open

With no nominations received for Secretary, we will revisit this position at our November meeting.

Our evening also included a successful 50/50 raffle, which netted $350. Congratulations to our lucky winners, Matt and Lois Stebbins!

November Meeting – Honored Ladies Night

Our next meeting will be held **Friday, November 6, at the Westgate Masonic Center**, with cocktails at 5:30 pm and dinner served at 6:00 pm.

We're planning a delicious dinner of steak and salmon, with scalloped potatoes, vegetables, and salad.

This special evening will celebrate our Honored Ladies, and we are pleased to welcome **Courtney Boyce from Central District Health** as our guest speaker. We look forward to an enjoyable evening together!

December Christmas Party & Installation

Mark your calendars for **Sunday, December 13, at 5:00 pm**, when we'll gather at Cottonwood Grille for our annual Greeters Christmas Party and Installation of Officers.

Come Join the Greeters!

We're always looking for new members! If you've been curious about the Greeters Unit, we invite you to attend a meeting to get to know us and see if our fellowship might be your cup of tea.

We look forward to seeing everyone in November and throughout the year!

Raffle for Wall Hangings

by Noble Steve Priest

Noble Steve Priest spent the last couple of years collecting El Korah Shrine patches, logos and emblems from old El Korah Unit and Club uniforms, jackets and shirts. Many are historic in nature since they are from organizations no longer in existence.

He asked the ladies of the Quilts of Valor to undertake a special project to sew them into quilt blocks and create two wall hangings, which they did for a "small" cost.
Thank you ladies!

In support of Imperial Sir Rick Holloway's efforts to raise the seed money needed to hold a future Imperial Session in Boise when he becomes Imperial Potentate, a raffle will be held at the December 2027 Stated Meeting (next year) for these 4'x4' hangings. They will be raffled separately.

Raffle tickets cost $5 each or 5 for $20 and will be available at the Recorder's Office and the Scottish Rite Office. You can also contact Noble Steve for tickets (208) 869-1752.

Let's help Rick be a successful Imperial Potentate!







DATE	OPPONENT	TIME
Sat, Sep 5	@ Oregon	L, 27-34
Sat, Sep 12	vs Memphis	W, 38-20
Sat, Sep 19	vs South Dakota	W, 38-24
Sat, Sep 26	@ Western Michigan	W, 32-7
Sat, Oct 3	vs Utah State	W, 37-18
Sat, Oct 10	@ Fresno State	W, 38-31
Sat, Oct 24	@ Washington State	W, 31-10
Sat, Oct 31	vs Texas State	W, 46-45
Sat, Nov 7	@ Colorado State	4:00 PM
Sat, Nov 14	vs Oregon State	4:00 PM
Sat, Nov 21	vs San Diego State	7:30 PM


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More details coming soon


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7:00 PM | Dinner
8:00 PM | Dancing Kicks Off
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NOVEMBER 2026

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
1 Daylight Savings Time Ends	**2**	**3** Election Day Tin Lizzies	**4** Provost Guard	**5**	**6** Greeters Players Red Shrine Shirt Friday	**7**
8	**9** Divan Mtg Twin Falls SC	**10**	**11** Veterans Day Stated Mtg (Chief Rabban)	**12**	**13**	**14** Scottish Rite Reunion
15 Scottish Rite Reunion	**16**	**17**	**18**	**19**	**20**	**21** Red Fez Lunch-Boise at Boise Brewing
22 E/W Football Banquet	**23** Black Light Patrol	**24** Cameleers Sand Duners High Country Sidewinders	**25**	**26** Thanksgiving Recorder's Office CLOSED	**27**	**28** E/W Football Game
29	**30** El Korah Clowns Snake River SC					

DECEMBER 2026

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
		1 Tin Lizzies	**2** Provost Guard	**3**	**4** Greeters Players Red Shrine Shirt Friday	**5**
6 All Masonic Christmas Party	**7** Divan Mtg	**8**	**9** Stated Mtg (Elections)	**10**	**11** Divan Christmas Party	**12**
13	**14** Twin Falls Christmas Party	**15** Cameleers Sand Duners High Country Sidewinders	**16**	**17**	**18**	**19** Red Fez Lunch-Payette
20	**21** Black Light Patrol	**22**	**23**	**24**	Christmas Day Recorder's Office CLOSED	**26**
27	**28** El Korah Clowns Snake River SC	**29**	**30**	**31** DON New Years Eve Party		