

May 2020

# Minaret



*Utah Shriners*

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF EL KALAH SHRINE



*Coping with the New Normal*

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## **Divan**

|                 |                       |
|-----------------|-----------------------|
| John Limb, PP   | Potentate             |
| Jeremy Estes    | Chief Rabban          |
| Michael Clark   | Assistant Rabban      |
| Daniel Drew     | High Priest & Prophet |
| Dave Hutchinson | Oriental Guide        |
| Al Hokins       | Recorder              |
| Bill Voorhees   | Secretary             |

## **Appointed Officers**

|                 |                       |
|-----------------|-----------------------|
| Blake Hansen    | 1st Ceremonial Master |
| Tim Stenner     | 2nd Ceremonial Master |
| Richard Bond    | Director              |
| Bryan Gorum     | Marshall              |
| Doug Kunkle     | Captain of the Guard  |
| Brett Reynolds  | Outer Guard           |
| Chuck Warren    | Chaplain              |
| Justin Anderson | Aide                  |
| Travis McGuire  | Aide                  |
| Richard Wailes  | Aide                  |

## **Trustees**

|                |             |
|----------------|-------------|
| Rory Youngberg | Third Year  |
| John Liley     | Second Year |
| Jason Varner   | First Year  |

## **Shriners Hospital for Children, Salt Lake City Board of Governors**

Scott Anderson, Al Hokins, Rick Graham, Robert McKenzie,  
Hugo Rodier, MD, Brett Crockett, Merlin Larsen

## **Emeritus Officers**

|                          |           |
|--------------------------|-----------|
| Kenn Ware, Bill Voorhees | Recorder  |
| William Nelson           | Treasurer |
| Richard Bond             | Director  |

## **Membership**

## *Living Potentates*

|                        |                           |                         |
|------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1985 Jerold R. Cochran | 2001 Glen A. Cook         | 2012 Douglas J. Backes  |
| 1987 Blaine H. Simons  | 2003/2019 Robert N. Shupe | 2013 William H. Broyles |
| 1988 Aaron E. Saathoff | 2005 Michael W. Roshek    | 2014 James L. Sweet     |
| 1992 Gerald J. Everett | 2006 Frederick G. Kidston | 2015 M. Lynn Larsen     |
| 1993 David B. Edwards  | 2007 Lawrence K. Fielden  | 2016 Joel E. Meza       |
| 1997 George Auer       | 2008 Jon H. Harris        | 2017 Jason C. Varner    |
| 1998 Michael W. Roshek | 2009 Marvin E. Morton     | 2018 Paul Madsen        |
|                        | 2011/2020 John D. Limb    |                         |

## *May Birthdays*

|                       |     |                      |      |                      |      |
|-----------------------|-----|----------------------|------|----------------------|------|
| Craig Broussard       | 5/2 | Scott E Putnam       | 5/10 | Robert K Chapman Pgm | 5/19 |
| William H Broyles Pp  | 5/3 | Swain C Wood         | 5/12 | Kevin G Hill         | 5/19 |
| Randy C Norton        | 5/4 | Marcus Heygster      | 5/12 | Monty D Lewis        | 5/20 |
| Robert E Hawks        | 5/5 | Buster I Jones       | 5/14 | Melroy John Maki     | 5/21 |
| John R Graham PhD     | 5/5 | Norman A Smith       | 5/15 | Michael B Russell    | 5/23 |
| Jonathan B Guss       | 5/6 | Richard A Hart       | 5/15 | Douglas G Prettyman  | 5/24 |
| Ridgely H Gilmour Pgm | 5/6 | Harold G Mischler    | 5/16 | Donald F Nothdorft   | 5/27 |
| Sean P McPeak         | 5/8 | Timothy D Kirshman   | 5/16 | Marvin L Bozarth     | 5/27 |
| Andrew J Lamb         | 5/8 | Jerold R Cochran Pp  | 5/17 | Richard L Spillman   | 5/29 |
| Raymond F McQuain Jr  | 5/9 | Donald Womack        | 5/18 | Kevin E Betterton    | 5/30 |
| Elmer L Zoltz         | 5/9 | Gregory S Williams   | 5/18 | Willie C Dunn        | 5/31 |
|                       |     | James D Woodward Pgm | 5/19 |                      |      |

## *Deaths*

NONE!

*Rest in Peace*

## *New Members*

YOUR LODGE BROTHER'S NAME SHOULD BE HERE!

*Welcome New Members!*

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## From the Potentate



Nobles

I hope that all is well with all of you. It has been quite some time since our last meeting. We are planning on doing the May meeting on zoom please. Contact HP&P Danny Drew with any questions about longing in. We did have a divan meeting in April using zoom and it worked very well. I wanted to let you all know imperial was canceled this year. (Please read Imperial Potentate, Jeffery Sowder's letter included in this issue of the Minaret.) I am hoping that this

summer we as Shriners can get together and have some fun. If anyone needs anything please let me know [limbo1988@comcast.net](mailto:limbo1988@comcast.net) hope To see all of you log in and make our May meeting.

*John Limb, Potentate*

## From the Chief Rabban



Good afternoon Nobles and Brothers,

This has got to be the weirdest time that I have ever been a part of. As a lot of you know my stepdad had a stroke the first part of last month and I have been living with him four days a week to help take care of him. There has been plenty of time for me to reflect that we all need a little help occasionally. We will be reaching out to you as a Divan to check in with the Nobles to see if you need anything. Sometimes it just takes a friendly phone call to let you know we are thinking of the Nobility and want you all to be safe.

The Divan is working on putting together a digital meeting where you can be seen through your web camera or your phone. You will have the ability to talk with the group and hear what we have going on. If you need assistance on getting ready for the meeting, please reach out to us and we will help you get to where you need to be. We will help you learn about Zoom which is somewhat easy to use. I hope you will all join us for the meeting. We should have the date and time out soon. As always, we in the Divan are here for you, if you need to reach out to any of us please do so at any time. We are here to help and or listen. I hope that everyone is safe and doing well. I look forward to the time when we can meet face to face but for now let's get together electronically.

*Jeremy Estes, Chief Rabban*

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## *From the Assistant Rabban*



Fellow Nobles and Significant Others,

We are now entering our second month of what some call a "Coronacation". This may be an enjoyable time for some, getting all those honey do's done, or starting new projects. Extensive spring cleaning and re-organizing (multiple times). This time for others may be a trying time, putting stress on families from being cooped up together working from home or maybe even furloughed, or helping your children move forward with their education...the right or the wrong way...it's all a matter of who you think is right or wrong. I for one wish I could have just one week off to get everything done that stacked up on the back burner from last year's busy calendar. BUUUUT no, I along with a lot of others still get to go to work every day as if nothing were even happening.

With my situation, I still move forward with my Shrine and Masonic journey. Working on ideas for future events, studying ritual and helping our Brothers in degree work. Of all the ideas that I have, some come from what I learned in Tampa and are based and founded on a couple basic principles, building membership and family involvement. In this time of unknown outcome, we as the greatest philanthropic organization need to maintain a positive attitude and outlook. If you know of someone who may be having a hard time, please reach out to them and if you are in dire need or feel you just need to talk, don't hesitate to call upon any of our Nobles, whether you may be close to them or not. This may be happening for a reason, affording us the opportunity to rekindle past friendships and companions, or establish new ones.

I do not want to ramble on and on about the current situation, I would rather ask every Noble to think of just one way that we as Shriners can help our Temple become stronger and move forward. Think positive, be positive and stay positive! This will be over soon. I miss my fellow Brothers and Nobles!

Sincerely and Fraternaly

*Michael "BOOTZ" Clark, Assistant Rabban*

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# From the High Priest & prophet



Happy May Everyone.

Springtime is a time of renewal. Animals wake up. Birds fly back to their homes. Freemasons come back from the warmer climates. Oh wait, Covid-19, the animals are doing their thing, and we are like bears in a cave. Well, my dear Nobles and Ladies, we have technology, which allows us to communicate with our loved ones all around the world. What a great time to be alive. In 1918, with the last great massive pandemic, people were stuck in their homes worried about their family members and friends, not sure what was going on. Now we have Zoom and many other communication devices to be able to stay in touch with our loved ones.

As a public schoolteacher, I have had the misfortune of not being able to teach my 230 students in the classroom daily. I miss them so much. But, through technology, I get the opportunity to work harder and spend 10 hours a day to teach them digitally. What a blessing that is.

What a blessing it is, that we as Nobles and Ladies get to communicate through the Minaret. What a blessing it is, that we have such a great Potentate with the wisdom and forward think to plan a meeting in May through Zoom for the nobility.

What a time to be alive. I thank that Grand Architect of the Universe for allowing me to be alive in such a time. I thank the Grand Architect for the opportunity to be a Freemason and a Shriner. I thank the Grand Architect for my family. And I thank the Grand Architect for you!

Sincerely,

*Danial Drew, High Priest & Prophet*

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## *From the Oriental Guide*



Hello Nobles and families,

Hopefully this finds everyone still healthy and finding good ways to cope with the isolation. I know many groups are using video conferences to stay in touch and check on Brothers and Sisters. Let us keep this up. It looks like the governor will be loosening the restrictions sometime soon and some businesses are now able to provide more services. But we don't want to rush too quickly into our past practices. Utah still identifies around 100 new cases of COVID-19 each day. A second wave of the virus is a possibility so if you are in the high-risk category, as Susan and I are, maintaining the precautions would be a good idea. Just because it's possible to join in groups or visit more stores doesn't mean it may be a good idea. This will end, a little more patience for those of us at high risk would be prudent. This country has weathered many disasters and we can get through this one too. Remember to wear your face masks.

Enough doom and gloom, as soon as we are able the Shrine has many great family events planned. The rest of the year will be fun filled and I'm sure everyone will have a lot of stories to share. 2020 will be remembered as the year of social distancing but it will also be remembered as a fun family year for El Kalah Shrine.

Shrine love to all the Nobles and their families.

*David Hutchinson, Oriental Guide*

## *Shrine Family Calendar of Events*

Stay safe.

Remember social distancing.

***Send calendar updates to [jsweetinogden2@yahoo.com](mailto:jsweetinogden2@yahoo.com)***

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# *"Pursuit of Death" During Pandemic*



*"The true disciple of philosophy is likely to be misunderstood by other men; they do not perceive that he is ever pursuing death and dying; and if this is true, why, having had the desire of death all his life long, should he repine at the arrival of that which he has been always pursuing?" (Plato, Phaedo) Please, don't misunderstand. This is not about a morbid, unhealthy desire to*

*cross the river Styx. Read on with an open, Masonic mind. "And will [the philosopher] think much of the other ways of indulging the body, the acquisition of costly raiment, or sandals or other adornments of the body? Instead of caring about them, does he not rather despise anything more than nature needs? I should say that the true philosopher would despise them." (Ibid)*

A true Mason would despise them, too. At least we are advised to do so by the Senior Steward in the preparation room before being initiated into our mystic fraternity. *"Would you not say that [the philosopher] is entirely concerned with the soul and not with the body? He would like, as far as he can, to be quit of the body and turn to the soul... the soul runs away from the body and desires to be alone and by herself." (Ibid)* We open our Lodges by reminding ourselves we are spiritual entities, not bodies (*"As an Entered Apprentice, whence came you?"*) and that we are to *"subdue our passions,"* or body. *"He who thinks nothing of bodily pleasures is almost as though he were dead... The mind is gathered unto itself and [material things do not] trouble her, neither sounds nor sights nor pain nor pleasure... she has little to do with the body... but is aspiring after being." (Ibid)*

But we are very much alive, striving for BALANCE: let's enjoy the pleasures of the body, but not be governed by them. That is what *"subdue our passions"* means. *"The body introduces a turmoil and confusion and fear into the course of speculation, and hinders from seeing the truth, and all experience shows that if we would have pure knowledge of anything we must be quit of the body." (Ibid)*

We are told the same thing in the Fellow Craft degree lecture. You may wish to review it. The Master Mason degree makes it clear that we are being raised from a mortal body to a spiritual one, in quest of the Lost Word, or our true identity and that of Grand Architect of the Universe. When we truly understand them, we stop fearing death. So, this pandemic makes us ponder our mortality. Good. I hope it also motivates us to devalue the *"worldly distinctions and equipment"* inherent in our mortal coil.

*Hugo Rodier, MD, Board of Governors, Shriners Hospitals for Children*

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# From the Chaplain



Dear Nobles;

I hope everyone is healthy and safe and that you all have successfully survived the recent pandemic. It has certainly been an unsettling and scary time for us all, especially those of us who were most vulnerable – the elderly and/or with other health issues. The decision to “home-quarantine” seems to have worked pretty well. By the time you read this article, I hope we will have returned to whatever is “normal” as a result of all the turmoil. One thing we all need to be aware of is the tremendous amount of stress many of us, our peers, and our dear families have been subjected to during this past several weeks. Since the stressful period has continued for such a long time, many symptoms we might never have recognized before may come about and cause additional stress on our relationships with our family members and others. It may take some time for all of us to fully recover (assuming we ever do!!). Be kind, be patient, and share your love generously with everyone, and it will be returned manifold.

I hope many (most?) of you have heard via Facebook or some other means of communications that we have added a new Facebook page that we hope will help improve our communications within El Kalah Shriners. Go to Facebook and log in to [el kalah shriners \(internal\)](#). Join with us in spreading the word throughout the Nobility that this is the preferred site for us from this point forward. The Facebook site for the public, [kalah shriners Est. 1891](#), is still active. Many thanks to Past Potentate Paul Madsen and Noble Shaun Davis for their help in getting this accomplished.

*Now, for a few chuckles: While reading the newspaper, a man saw an article about a beautiful actress/model who married a boxer known for his aggression. “I will never understand how the biggest jerks get the most attractive wives,” he said. “Thank you, dear,” his wife replied. ~~ A motorist on his first visit to traffic court grumbled as the police clerk handed him a receipt for his fine. “What am I supposed to do with this?” he asked. “Keep it,” the clerk replied. “When you get four, you get a bicycle.” ~~ People ask us how we’ve been married so long. We take time to go to a restaurant twice a week. A little candlelight, soft music, dinner and a long walk home. She goes Tuesdays, I go Fridays.*

See you soon!

*Chuck Warren*, Chaplain

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# From the Legions of Honor



Greetings, Brother Legionnaires;

I believe all of you are already aware that the Annual National Convention in Amarillo, TX was cancelled due to the Coronavirus pandemic. We were on the agenda to receive our Charter at that event, but now we are waiting for it to arrive from National Hq. via "Snail Mail". I have been in touch with the National Adjutant and our 2<sup>nd</sup> LCDR Steve Walker who assure me that we are now a legitimate Legion.

The next National event for IALOH is the Annual Wreath Laying Ceremony at Arlington National Cemetery. Details derived from the IALOH website are as follows: *International Association Legions of Honor, 41st Annual Arlington Wreath Laying, DoubleTree by Hilton, 300 Army Navy Drive, Arlington, VA 22202, October 28 - November 1, 2020*

*The new hotel contract has been signed and the new hotel is the DoubleTree by Hilton in Crystal City, Arlington, VA. The hotel is within minutes of many landmarks including the Washington Monument, United States Capitol and White House. You can easily access the nation's capital with their complimentary shuttle service to Pentagon City Metro, Reagan National Airport (DCA), and Fashion Centre Mall, or walk two blocks to the Metro, adjacent to the mall. See the hotel flyer for more information.*

*There is no longer a Housing Chairman due to the new hotel contract. You must contact the hotel directly to make a hotel reservation. See the "Hotel Reservation Instruction" flyer for reservation instructions. The new registration forms are available in two different applications. One is printable where you print the form and then fill it out. The other is fillable, where you can fill the form out online and then print or save it to your computer. The same is true for the Arlington Bus list form. If you have any questions, please let me know. We hope to see you at Arlington. David Smith, PC, International Adjutant, HP: 386-752-0475, CP: 785-633-8527, Email: [adjutant@ialoh.org](mailto:adjutant@ialoh.org).*

There is a lot of information regarding the organization and much more available on the website at <http://www.ialoh.org/home.html> I encourage all of you to check it out. Once all the "dust has settled" from the pandemic, we will resume our meetings. I will be in touch.

Be safe and stay healthy.

Chuck Warren, Adjutant

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# Children's Charity Challenge\*



The 7th Annual Children's Charity Golf Classic is now scheduled to take place Sept 12. It has been set back a month in hopes the coronavirus will not be an issue by then. We have changed the format a bit, there will be no sit-down lunch and auction. However, the actual tournament will be bigger and better than ever. Thank you to all who have been helping to make it a success once again and the list of great people grows every year.

Our charity organization is also growing fast. This year will welcome our first **Virtual 5k Run**. More information is forth coming. In a nutshell, runners register and receive a tee shirt and medallion for participating. The cost to register is only \$40. Participants run their 5K on their own time and place and report their run times. There will be various prizes will be given. Runners must run anytime between July 11 and July 18. In addition to all this, we will have an online **Silent Auction** on the charity website: [www.childrenscharitygolf.org](http://www.childrenscharitygolf.org).

We will be auctioning over \$8,000 worth of great items! You can see detailed information and registration forms on the website. Or call 801 455 7815 for more information.

Our goal is to write the biggest check possible to Shriners Hospitals for Children—Salt Lake City. So please join us, this year especially. Our wonderful Shriners Hospital has been hit hard by the fallout from this awful coronavirus, just like everyone else. **So please make it a point to help where you can and have some fun while doing it.**

Lynn Larsen, PP, Director

*\*Children's Charity Challenge is a 501c3 corporation not affiliated with El Kalah Shriners.*

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## From Daughters of the Nile



Daughters of the Nile,

A warm hello to our Shriner Family. Thank you for the opportunity to share with you news of Lybia Temple. These last weeks have been difficult for all of us. We have missed the camaraderie we share. However, we have been busy. We held a Zoom installation of the elective officers of Lybia Temple on April 5<sup>th</sup>. We are now planning an open, informal, in person installation of the remainder of our Temple on June 6<sup>th</sup>. My theme for the year is Smiles. My Class is called Nile Smiles. A fitting theme. Smiles make us all feel better, whether given or received! Our work will continue with a smile to benefit the Hospital and to have fun doing it.

With Hope and Best Wishes

*Linda Adams, Queen, Lybia Temple #32*

## From Ladies Oriental Shrine



Dear Nobles and Ladies,

I hope this month finds everyone healthy. Saturday, April 25<sup>th</sup> was supposed to be my installation. As you can imagine, I've been sad and disappointed about planning an event for 4 years, and then having it cancelled. I have an amazing court and wonderful friends. On that Saturday the Ladies of Iris Court and a few Shriners donned in Fezzes and masks, horns a honking, gave me a car parade in front of my house. I am overwhelmed with love and gratitude. A special thank you to Lady Janice Jensen, for putting it together and Mike "Bootz" and Tiphannie Clark for heading the parade in the Shriners Fire Truck. The neighborhood was impressed. It is a comfort to know you can reach out your hand and someone else's will curl around it.

*Lady Julieann Chapman, High Priestess Elect, Iris Ct #47*

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# Imperial Session Cancelled

Dear Nobles,

Based on data and opinions of public health experts and community officials, Shriners International has cancelled its 2020 Imperial Session, scheduled for July 2020, in Kansas City. In determining whether the 2020 Imperial Session could be responsibly held, the perspective of Shriners International was to take a global vision with local focus. The Imperial Session is truly an annual international gathering at one physical location. The Imperial Divan, the 2020 Convention Corporation, and the staff of Shriners International closely monitored developments and worked closely with the Kansas City Health Department in planning the 2020 Imperial Session. This planning was always undertaken with the hope and expectation that the convention would proceed, as long as it was reasonably safe to do so, based upon the trajectory of the Coronavirus and governmental quarantine and/or stay at home orders, actions based upon data and opinions provided by public health professionals.

Based on the information provided by public health professionals and recent governmental extension of existing public health orders, Shriners International determined that the safety of attendees and the safety of the community could not reasonably be provided on or before the start of the 2020 Imperial Session in Kansas City and therefore cancelled the 2020 convention, due to the impossibility of safely hosting it.

Imperial Sir and First Lady, Jeff and Cheryl Sowder, are extremely sorry that they will not be able to personally welcome Shriners from all over the world to celebrate fun and fellowship in Kansas City. They have dreamed and planned for more than a decade to have Shriners join them for an incredible experience in Kansas City. While the worldwide pandemic prevents us from meeting in Kansas City and renewing our acquaintances, it does not prevent us from renewing our commitment to the important work of the Shrine.

Additional information related to governance issues for Shriners International and Shriners Hospitals for Children, in the absence of the respective annual meetings of each corporation, will be provided in the near future.

In spite of our disappointment, Shriners are encouraged to stay safe, stay strong, and stay involved with everything we can do now in preparation for doing more in the future.

Yours in the faith,

*Jeffrey L. Sowder*, Imperial Potentate

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## **Minaret Supporters**

The annual postal delivered Minaret subscription is now available for \$30. Send payment to Shrine office or use PayPal.

Electronic issues are free to all El Kalah Shrine members and anyone for the asking. Contact the Shrine office to be put on the email list.

If you received this issue by email, then you are on the list.

Contact the editor for information about the Minaret.

### **El Kalah Shrine Office**

Bill Voorhees, Office Manager

Phone (801) 364 4421

Fax (801) 363 7818

utahshriners@gmail.com

www.ElKalahShriner.org

Office Hours Monday thru Thursday

9am - 2pm

### **Subscription Deadlines**

Jim Sweet, PP Editor

Copy and photos for each issue are due on the 15<sup>th</sup> day of the preceding month and must be submitted in softcopy to:

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