

March 2021

Minaret



Utah Shriners

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF EL KALAH SHRINE

Happy
St. Patrick's Day
From
El Kalah Shrine!

Divan

Jeremy Estes	Potentate
Michael Clark	Chief Rabban
Daniel Drew	Assistant Rabban
Dave Hutchinson	High Priest & Prophet
Blake Hansen	Oriental Guide
Al Hokins	Recorder
Bill Voorhees	Treasurer

Appointed Officers

Tim Stenner	1st Ceremonial Master
Bryan Gorum	2nd Ceremonial Master
Brett Renolds	Director
Mike Katsonis	Marshall
John Merrick	Captain of the Guard
Doug Kunkle	Outer Guard
Chuck Warren	Chaplain
Justin Anderson	Aide
John Limb, PP	Advisor
Glen Cook, PP	Attorney
Jim Sweet, PP	Editor

Trustees

John Liley	Third Year
Jason Varner	Second Year
John Limb, PP	First Year

Shriners Hospital for Children, Salt Lake City

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Scott Anderson, Rick Graham,
Hugo Rodier, MD, Brett Crockett, Merlin Larsen

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

Membership

Living Potentates

1985 Jerold R. Cochran	2003/2019 Robert N. Shupe	2013 William H. Broyles
1987 Blaine H. Simons	1998/2005 Michael W. Roshek	2014 James L. Sweet
1988 Aaron E. Saathoff	2006 Frederick G. Kidston	2015 M. Lynn Larsen
1992 Gerald J. Everett	2007 Lawrence K. Fielden	2016 Joel E. Meza
1993 David B. Edwards	2008 Jon H. Harris	2017 Jason C. Varner
1997 George Auer	2009 Marvin E. Morton	2018 Paul Madsen
2001 Glen A. Cook	2011/2020 John D. Limb	2021 Jeremy Estes
	2012 Douglas J. Backes	

March Birthdays

Vincent D Androwsky	3/1	Larry H Beaslin	3/12	James B Johnston	3/25
Jeff Hamilton	3/1	Scott H Andersen	3/15	Harold D Adams	3/25
John L Elwell Jr/PGM	3/3	Stephen Sawyer	3/16	I Eugene Overfelt	3/26
William C Riddle Jr	3/3	J Guy Johnson	3/17	Charles G Matlock	3/28
Hugo Rodier Md	3/3	David H Nelson PGM	3/21	John R Merrick	3/30
Dwight D Hammargren	3/6	Victorino M Fernandez	3/22	James R Pratt	3/31
Travis M McGuire	3/8	Michael J Hanson	3/24	Lawrence K Fielden,PP	3/31
Tommy K Thompson	3/9			Greg G Brown	3/31

Black Camel

Robert F Hawks May 5, 1935 ~ February 17, 2021

Rest in Peace

New Members

YOUR LODGE BROTHER'S NAME SHOULD BE HERE!

Welcome New Members!

From the Potentate



Greetings all!

We hope everyone is safe and sound. With the rollout of more vaccines, I am hoping to open to in-person meetings in the near future. We are waiting on the ability for our Nobles to be allowed to have the vaccine. As for now we will continue to have our meeting on Zoom. The next meeting will be on March 17. Watch your emails for the link.

We as a Divan are still hopeful to have some great activities this year. More to come on those as they are planned. There are many who are very exciting. We are also having the onion sale again this year. Look for the flyer in this Minaret for the details.

We should have the El Kalah Dinner Club up and going very soon. Stay tuned for our first meeting/Dinner.

As always if you need anything please reach out to me or any of our Divan members, we are here to help. Again, I hope you and your families are safe and sound.

Fraternally Yours,

Jeremy Estes, Potentate

From the Chief Rabban



Fellow Nobles and Significant Others,

We are slowly climbing the hill to get back on track with an active Shrine. Although we would all like to see the green flag drop and everyone be off to the races, I am afraid it's going to be baby steps for the time being. Although the Divan has opted to continue with Zoom meetings for the first quarter, clubs and units can now meet while maintaining CDC compliance. THIS IS A GOOD THING! We can also perform "virtual" short forms, this is a good thing as well as our numbers sadly continue to drop due to the Black Camel and demits, we need to do everything and make every effort we can to rebuild our Nobility. I do know Illustrious Potentate Estes is making every effort he can to connect with past members and find out..."why?". We are also looking at options to help those behind in their dues and on suspension lists to get those Nobles active again. We have a couple new Units in the insipient stages that may attract new or rekindles past Nobles.

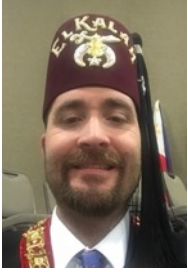
Other items to look forward to are a couple new fundraisers and temple family functions coming down the pipeline as well as hospital fundraisers. Our Vernal Nobility has ideas for candy sales which is all done inhouse and is a very viable idea. They have also talked of a family outing of rafting trip starting at Flaming Gorge dam. Another event we are trying to bring back after being halted by Covid is the Utah Kids Ride on May 22, last year would have been the 25th Annual. This year will simply be the 25th Utah Kids Ride. I am looking forward to being able to sit down with our fellow Nobles face to face, or "Mask to Mask" to catch up and move forward in getting over the past year. As we all try to be positive in hopes of someday soon the "New normal" is forgotten and we can go old school again, or some variation thereof to be active again, the Governor said it yesterday, I will be in a parade somewhere on the 4th of July and not wearing this, as he held up his mask.

Lady Tiphonie and I hope everyone is staying in good health wish everyone the best

Sincerely and Fraternaly

Michael "BOOTZ" Clark, Chief Rabban

From the Assistant Rabban



Dear Nobles and Friends.

March brings spring a renewal of the earth. It also brings a renewal of our commitments. Your divan is committed to the nobility and ladies to help bring about growth and brotherly love and friendship.

In that vein, a new club has been formed. A dinner club, where we will travel to blue lodges jurisdictions the night before their blue lodge meetings and go to dinner at a restaurant or pub, with the blue lodge members, wives, family members (when applicable), and investigators, and then the next go to their blue lodge and do their educational on El Kalah.

Though the vaccine is allowing more people to meet, we will follow CDC guidelines for these dinner meetings.

As part of this, once we open up, we hope to grow and create New shrine clubs outside of the Wasatch front. To help encourage continual involvement, for the first time having these clubs will be able to zoom into our business meetings from their blue lodge rooms as they will be able to be tiled. Only, a tiled lodge room under imperial bylaws are allowed to participate this way. But doing this will allow growth of El Kalah!

As El Kalah has the oldest membership of Appendant masonic body in Utah doing El Kalah will continue to meet via zoom for the second Quarter. The divan will vote to either meet fully third quarter or to do a hybrid meeting where you will meet as clubs at your masonic building in a lodge room, tiled, and the divan, only, will open at the Salt Lake Masonic Temple.

Please know that you are always on our mind, and we discuss your welfare and what we can do to serve you almost on a daily basis. The divan truly loves you all.

Sincerely and Fraternaly,

Daniel Drew, Assistant Rabban

From the High Priest & prophet



Dear Nobles and Ladies,

March is bringing more optimism about getting out from under the COVID. The pace of vaccinations is picking up in Utah and our Governor opened them to a larger portion of our population. As soon as I am eligible (I'm just short of 65) I'm going to get the vaccination. With the case count and intensive care cases going down it is looking better and better. Our Most Worshipful Grand Master has opened the

Blue Lodges for face-to-face meetings and hopefully the other bodies will follow suit in the near future. The Divan reviews the COVID information frequently to see when it would be proper to resume in person meetings. Our primary concern is for the safety of all Nobles. Once we open El Kalah to regular meetings we have a host of things planned.

We wish that the Zoom meetings would be better attended, we understand that Zoom can't replace face-to-face meetings but given our circumstances it's the best that we have. If you don't know how to use Zoom or are just having trouble with it please contact me or another Divan member for help, we will be able to hook you up with someone who can help. Our next meeting (Zoom) is March 17th at 7:30 pm.

In closing I just hope everyone is getting by, if you need to talk, I'll listen or contact someone else you're comfortable with. Everyone is probably depressed to one degree or another and that is to be expected given our situation. Don't suffer in silence, as Shriners and Masons we are here to help each other.

Fraternally and Sincerely

David Hutchinson, High Priest & Prophet

From the Oriental Guide



Dear Nobles and Ladies,

This will be short and sweet. Two things that make a Shriner: 1. We like to have fun; 2. We fundraise. We have some good and old ideas to raise funds. One starting now - good but old one Onions!!! Buy them by the pound, or bags, grab a cooker and sauce, and enjoy. On your mark set go! Start your selling! See flyer in this issue for more information and the Internal Facebook page.

Fraternally and Sincerely

Blake Hansen, Oriental Guide

From the First Ceremonial Master



Greetings, nobles.

I hope this finds everybody safe and well. I know we are all looking to get back to what we, as Shriners, do best and that is to have fun and support Shriner's Hospital for Children. As more people get vaccinated, I realize that this year might still be pretty restrictive. We are cautiously optimistic that there will be some parades we can actually participate in. I am relatively new to the Shrine and am excited to be part of the appointed divan and am looking forward to contributing in any way I can. Let's all have some fun together.

Fraternally,

Timothy L Stenner, First Ceremonial Master

From the Chaplain



Dear Nobles,

I hope you and your loved ones are in good health and safe during these trying times. As if the Covid-19 problem wasn't enough of a problem, we have the political turmoil to contend with. I'm sure I am not the only one to have noticed how brutally nasty things have gotten, especially the past few months. I know I have tried to cut back "sharing" my personal views or perspectives, which is tough for me, being a Type A personality! Nevertheless, I cherish the Brotherly Love and Friendship of my Brethren and Brother Nobles much more than any loyalty to a political party or candidate. I must confess I have allowed my emotions to overcome my commitment to my Masonic Obligation on occasion and I am definitely not proud of that. I have challenged myself to do better. I refer to it as **my Facebook mentality**. I sometimes get on FB or other social media and get more emotionally focused than I should. I hope I can better keep myself focused on the forum and the audience thereof. I suspect (actually, I know for a fact) that I am not the only one guilty of such slips. Maybe we all can look at ourselves in a mirror and ask the question – "Am I living up to my Masonic Obligation in my daily life?" So mote it be.

I would like to share a reminder with all of you that El Kalah Shriners are meeting via Zoom platform the third Wednesday of every month. Not many Shriners are participating, and we miss seeing you. As the Covid-19 pandemic seems to finally be very slowly subsiding and we have more opportunity to come out of "hibernation", planning for the remainder of this year is discussed at each meeting, along with all the other business matters of El Kalah Shriners. Check the Minaret for details and mark your calendars for the third Wednesday of each month to join us.

Now, for a chuckle or two: *A young man who was an avid golfer had some time to spare one afternoon. He figured if he played fast, he could get in a quick nine holes before he had to head home. As he was about to tee off, an old gentleman shuffled onto the tee and asked if he could accompany the young man, as he was golfing alone. Unable to say no, the golfer allowed the old man to join him. To his surprise, the old man played fairly quickly. Finally, they reached the ninth fairway, and the young man saw a large pine tree right in front of his ball, directly between it and the green. After several minutes of debating how to hit the shot, the old man finally said, "You know, when I was your age, I'd hit the ball right over that tree." With that challenge placed before him, the young man swung hard, hit the ball smack into the top of the tree trunk, and it thudded back on to the ground not a foot from where he'd started. The old man offered only one more comment: "Of course, when I was your age, that pine tree was only 3 feet tall".*

Chuck Warren, Chaplain

From the Recorder



Greetings, Nobles!

What St. Patrick's Day is really about by Bryan Mercier. The other day, a DJ on the radio jubilantly announced that St. Patrick's Day is one of the best holidays of the year because, "You don't need to buy gifts for anyone – you can just drink beer and party." Later on, that day, I saw a sign outside of a restaurant that read: Knock, knock. Who's there? Irish. Irish who? Irish you a Happy St. Patrick's Day!" Stories like these demonstrate that the majority of Americans forget (or don't know) what St. Patrick's Day is about or what they are celebrating. You may be surprised to discover that St. Patrick's Day has nothing to do with: Drinking beer, going to parties or hijacking a religious day for nationalistic reasons.

St. Patrick's Day is about celebrating the life of a Roman Catholic Bishop, Patrick, who converted the pagan nation of Ireland to the Catholic faith. Ironically, Patrick wasn't even Irish. He was kidnapped and sold into slavery in Ireland. It was there that he found God in a profound way that changed his life. Patrick escaped from Ireland and eventually became a priest and then a bishop. After a dream, Patrick chose to travel back to Ireland to teach the Celtic pagans about a one true God. Patrick converted the nation of Ireland with great success. Over the next 100 years, a great number of Catholic priests and nuns would arise, along with a large number of monasteries, convents and schools which would educate people from around Europe. The far-reaching effects Patrick's legacy had would soon to be discovered in the Roman Empire which was devastated and in ruins. It had been decimated by Barbarians, Vikings and other armies. In these dark times, when Christianity in the Roman Empire had only a dim light that was flickering; it was then that missionaries from the newly converted Ireland were sent out in large numbers. These missionaries crashed down upon the Roman Empire like a powerful waterfall. They preached Christianity to everyone and converted Europe back to religious faith in untold numbers including many barbarian tribes. In short, Patrick brought Ireland to the Catholic faith and helped to bring back the world from utter chaos. He spread Christianity throughout the Roman Empire, the same Catholic faith that would invent hospitals, universities and many other things. *That* is what St. Patrick's Day is all about, and that is what we celebrate! It is a religious holiday we celebrate, not a nationalistic one.

Ironically, Ireland does not even celebrate this holiday except in a strictly religious sense. St Patrick might be remembered for his three-leaf clover (or shamrock) which he used to teach people religious concepts.

Have a Happy St Patrick's Day! (and maybe have a Guinness...)

Al Hokins, Recorder

The "Craft Roots?"



Below is an excerpt from the book.
Don't shoot the messenger!

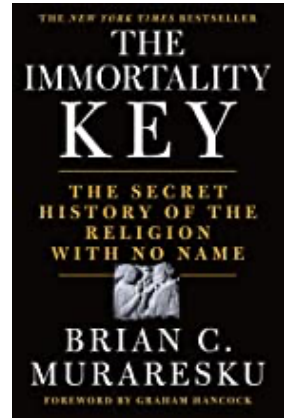
"The most influential religious historian of the 20th century, Huston Smith, once referred to it as the "best-kept secret" in history. Did the Ancient Greeks use drugs to find God? And did the earliest

Christians inherit the same, secret tradition? A profound knowledge of visionary plants, herbs and fungi passed from one generation to the next, ever since the Stone Age? There is zero archaeological evidence for the original Eucharist – the sacred wine said to guarantee life after death for those who drink the blood of Jesus. The Holy Grail and its miraculous contents have never been found. In the absence of any hard data, whatever happened at the Last Supper remains an article of faith for today's 2.5 billion Christians. In an unprecedented search for real answers, The Immortality Key examines the archaic roots of the ritual that is performed every Sunday for nearly one third of the planet. Religion and science converge to paint a radical picture of Christianity's founding event. And after centuries of debate, to solve history's greatest puzzle once and for all.

Before the birth of Jesus, the Ancient Greeks found salvation in their own sacraments. Sacred beverages were routinely consumed as part of the so-called Ancient Mysteries – elaborate rites that led initiates to the brink of death. The best and brightest from Athens and Rome flocked to the spiritual capital of Eleusis, where a holy beer unleashed heavenly visions for two thousand years. Others drank the holy wine of Dionysus to become one with the god. The constantly advancing fields of archaeobotany and archaeochemistry have hinted at the enduring use of hallucinogenic drinks in antiquity.

With a single dose of psilocybin, the psychopharmacologists at Johns Hopkins and NYU are now turning self-proclaimed atheists into instant believers. But the smoking gun remains elusive."

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



From the Klown Corner



A bunch of clowns got on Zoom and of course clowned around last week. We plan to have our next meeting in April on ZOOM / or if able at Scooter's (Lynn Larsen) place. P.S. Don't tell his wife!

Blake Hansen Stitches, President

From Ladies Oriental Shrine



Dear Nobles and Ladies,

LOS continues to play it safe and have our meetings via Zoom. We are all anxiously waiting for the vaccine. It has been an unprecedented year and I'm happy to report that as far as I know our members have remained COVID free. Success is the sum of small efforts repeated day in and day out. Keep washing your hands, wearing masks and being safe. Our next meeting is March 25th, it is yet to be determined if it will be

zoom or in person.

Lady *Juliann Chapman*, High Priestess, Iris Ct #47

Shrine Family Calendar of Events

March 17 St; Patrick's Day!

March 17, 7:00pm El Kalah Shrine virtual business meeting. Danny Drew 435-714-0482

March 25, 5:30pm Ladies Oriental Shrine virtual business meeting. Juliann Chapman 801-859-3380

March 27, 7:00pm Daughters of the Nile Installation of Officers, Salt Lake Masonic Temple. Linda Adams 801-466-0128

Send calendar updates to jsweetinogden2@yahoo.com



FUNDRAISER

Help us reach our fundraising goal!

During this exclusive pick up event, you will receive three delicious meals to take home and enjoy with your family for just \$50. You will also learn about how easy family dinners can be and help a deserving cause.

\$10 from each purchase is automatically donated back to our organization.

Event is by invitation only, and space is limited. RSVP today to reserve your spot.

The Menu

Chicken Avignon with Almond Green Beans * Parmesan Crusted Pork Chops * Peach Bourbon Chicken * Penne with Chicken and Peanut Sauce * Surf and Turf Yakisoba Noodle Bowl

Organization

Ladies Oriental Shrine of North America

Details

Thursday March 18, 2021 - 5:30 PM

Dream Dinners
Salt Lake
1140 East Brickyard Road, #28
Salt Lake City, UT 84106
385-259-0504

RSVP

<https://dreamdinners.com/session/879219>

* Fundraiser sessions are limited to one fundraising order per household per fundraising organization.

 DREAM DINNERS.



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EL KALAH SHRINERS IS NOW SELLING VIDALIA ONIONS.

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GET YOUR ORDERS TOGETHER AND GET THEM TO BLAKE HANSEN BY APRIL 25, 2021. MAKE YOUR CHECKS OUT TO EL KALAH SHRINE. THERE IS A \$1.00 PER 5-POUND BAG AND \$2.00 PER 10-POUND BAG BACK TO EACH GROUP WHO SELLS ONIONS.

CONTACT BLAKE HANSEN (brotherblake7@gmail.com) AT 801-850-2434 (CELL). ORDERS CAN BE TAKEN AT THE EL KALAH SHRINE OFFICE, **801-364-4421**.

MAIL CHECKS TO:

BLAKE HANSEN

58 EAST 750 NORTH

AMERICAN FORK, UT 84003.

DELIVERY OF ONIONS TO BE IN MAY. THANKS FOR YOUR HELP FOR OUR SHRINERS!

Proceeds benefit El Kalah Shriners and are not tax deductible as charitable contributions.

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 15th day of the preceding month and must be submitted in softcopy to:

Jsweetinogden2@yahoo.com

El Kalah Transportation Fund Supporters

*Call the office and becoming a Shrine Transportation Fund Supporter.
Donations will go toward points for your Shriner Marot Award.*

FUNDRAISER ADVERTIZEMENTS MUST INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING VERBAGE:

“Proceeds benefit El Kalah Shriners and are not tax deductible as charitable contributions.”

or

“Net proceeds go to Shriners Hospital for Children, Salt Lake City.”



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