



Minaret

February 2023

Official Publication of El Kalah Shrine

From the Potentate



Greetings Nobles and Friends,

Last month, January '23, El Kalah Shriners enjoyed the privilege of having a formal Installation Ceremony for its elected Divan. El Kalah was honored by the presence of Past Imperial Potentate, Al Madsen, who flew to Utah from South Carolina with his Lady, Jan to perform the ceremony. I am humbly grateful to have had Imperial Sir Madsen preside at our installation with the assistance of the Installing Marshal, our own Past Potentate, Jerry Everett. It was both a solemn and a fun time for all present, as it should be. We filled the big room at Cottonwood Country Club with our Ladies, families and guests and with representatives of many of the Masonic organizations in Utah, as well as non-Masons who were invited to come and see what we do. It was solemn because an installation is a time for renewal when a new team of elected officers is put into place. It was solemn because all present heard during the ceremony, the elements of the Shriners Creed which are so vital to our effectiveness as Shriners and as a Shrine Center. It was fun to see the Installing team and the elected Divan all decked out in tuxedos with all the guests in their finest attire.

An installation is classic in any organization. It is essential to have our heritage reviewed regularly, as refreshers for ourselves as well as for all in our community. It is implied that ALL Shriners live by and support the principles of selfless, honorable service in accordance with the principles of our Order as stated in Imperial By Laws. In front of a room full of witnesses, it was refreshing to be reminded once again of what being an **officer is all about as well as being a Shriner**: It is the solemn engagement, under oath, that one elected to office will serve selflessly, honorably, and in accord with the principles of this Order; so that he will thereby earn the honor and respect to which he aspires. Our Temple will prosper only to the extent that all Shriners look to its interests, instead of your own. You will earn honor only to the extent that you serve honorably, because honorable service is the measure of leadership. You will merit respect only to the extent that you observe your duties, because duty is the criteria for leadership.

The Shriners Creed: “Shriners believe in God and that He created man to serve His purposes, among which is service to others in His name. We believe that care for the less fortunate, especially children who suffer from burns and crippling disease, is our institutional calling. We are patriots, each willing to serve his country with fidelity and courage. We cherish independence under law and freedom with responsibility.

We honor family. We respect our parents, wives and children. We should instill in our children the tenets of this creed, and the heritage from which it emanates.

As individuals we pledge ourselves to integrity, virtue and nobility of character. Our intentions will be honorable, our relationships will be trustworthy and our spirits forgiving of each other.

As brothers we offer each other fraternal affection and respect. Together we will support each other in adherence to this creed, so that we and our communities will be the better because of our fraternity and its principles.

As Shriners we look beyond ourselves to serve the needs of others, especially children who cannot help themselves. We believe Shriners Hospitals to be the world's greatest philanthropy, and we covenant with each other to support its "temples of mercy" with spirit, time, talent and means."

Remember, as we became Shriners, we agreed to live by this part of Imperial Bylaws. It is time for us all to revive these words; put them into our daily lives; and live by them! Doing so will make us all better Shriner Masons. And growing El Kalah will become easier as we do so!

The last Wednesday of January my Lady and I went to the Installation of officers for R.W. Moore Chapter, Order of DeMolay at the Salt Lake Masonic Temple. They were very interested to hear of El Kalah's planned Pine Wood Derby in September as were other youth present.

On Sunday, January 29th El Kalah held its annual Memorial Service in memory of those Shriners and Ladies of the Oriental Shrine and Daughters of The Nile. We seek to honor and respect all those who have gone before us.

On February 2nd , several El Kalah Shriners will be at the East-West Shrine Bowl in Las Vegas. We anticipate a fun time as we support Shriners Children's.

The following weekend, I will be at the Shriners Marketing and Membership conference for all Masonic bodies in Grapevine Texas. It should be another grand learning event as it was last year!

The third weekend in February will find me at the Pacific Northwest Shrine Association (PSNA) Winter Business Meeting in Boise, Idaho.

Happy Groundhog Day! Happy Valentine's Day! See you at the St Patrick's Day parade!

Sincerely and Fraternally,

Al Hokins, Potentate

noblealhokins@outlook.com

From the Chief Rabban



Dear Nobles and Ladies

January was an eventful month for El Kalah. We got to say thank you to our out going two term Potentate Jeremy Estes. I wanted to tell him thank you again, for all the hard work he has done the last two years!

Illustrious Potentate Al Hokins was installed as potentate and we had our first Divan and Business meeting for 2023.

The mini bikers club had their monthly meeting where they discussed many important things, including parades. So proud of the work the mini bikers do.

On Sunday January 29th was El Kalah's necrology for all nobles who passed away this last year, previous queens and ladies of Nile. It was a sweet simple ceremony and I am so thankful for all who came.

February will be a busy month of Shriners Bowl in Las Vegas. Grand Lodge communication the 3rd and 4th. The Northwestern Shrine organization of temples will be meeting along with a clowns meeting will be occurring. El Kalah will also have its second Business meeting of 2023.

I am so thankful to you all and for the opportunity to serve you all.

Sincerely,

Daniel Drew, Chief Rabban
nobledannydrew@gmail.com

From the Assistant Rabban



Greetings Nobles!

Our temple has a great need for new nobles. Imperial has provided an awesome easy legitimate way to help in this process. It is called an e-petition. Or in other words an electronic petition. That is sanctioned by imperial. Why, you may ask such a brave change. A generation we could benefit from most for our temple are Millennials and Generation Y. Who are used to having most everything happening instantly. How many times have we wished we had a petition to hand to someone who is interested or forgotten to take it to a business meeting for a reading. In both situations you can find what you need on your phone and the millennials and generation Y can find them too. Easily accessed at Beashrinernow.com. Nobles I challenge you and future nobles to use this new method.

Blake Hansen, Assistant Rabban
brotherblke7@gmail.com

From the Hight Priest & prophet

Nobles and Friends

All of us at various times in our lives are either called to be care givers or in need of personal care ourselves and sometimes both at the same time. I was reminded of this fact again recently when my wife slipped on the



ice at the park while walking our dog and broke her right shoulder the day after Christmas. The amount of care she needed required a team of professionals ranging from the first responders and ambulance crew at the park, the emergency room staff at the hospital, and the orthopedic specialists at the clinic, and all of this was just in the first 48 hours. The temporary loss of the use of an arm has been a difficult and painful process for her but she should make a full recovery in the next 6 to 12 months.

As members of the Shriners, Ladies Oriental Shrine of North America, Daughters of the Nile, and other associated groups, we provide care for children with far more serious injuries and disabilities. These children's recovery time can last anywhere from months or years to even a lifetime of care and treatment. Each of you, by virtue of your membership in one of our organizations, has shown your willingness to serve these children by donating your time, talent, and treasure. The reputation of Shriners Childrens is unsurpassed and because of you the general public knows that they can count on our facilities and teams of care providers when they need us most. This is only possible because of your hard work and dedication to those in need. You should all be commended.

Sincerely and fraternally,
Don Forbes, High Priest & Prophet
dforbs66@cincast.net

From the Oriental Guide



Greetings Nobles, Ladies, and Friends:

I trust all are enjoying the new year and looking forward to the many parades, cookouts, and other family activities we are excited about in El Kalah Shriners. I am getting in shape for walking all over Utah this year again. As the saying goes, "Money talks otherwise you walk." I paraphrased the saying to clean it up to be family friendly. I actually enjoy walking and find it is invigorating for an old guy like me. First parade will be Saturday 11 March for St Patrick's Day in downtown Salt Lake City.

My last message last month on cleft palate left out a person most of us are familiar, Peyton Manning. I am sure many of you may know people who had a cleft lip and palate. The young man who delivered the Harrisburg Patriot News door to door in my neighborhood had a cleft palate. We were about the same age and it was my first encounter with this condition. He had it corrected probably at a young age, and the scar common to the procedure and I asked my parents what caused his scar. They explained it to me. I also wanted to mention there are also other organizations that will provide help to children with cleft lip and cleft palate. Operation Smile and Smile Train are two of the largest charities involved worldwide in addition to Shriner's Children.

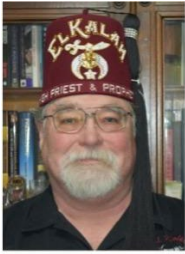
With some good luck we may see the economy perk up, inflation diminish, gas prices go down, and smiles abound. May the new year be kinder and gentler than last year for all of us.

Sincerely and Fraternaly,

Mike Katsonis, Oriental Guide

mkatsonis@yahoo.com

From the Recorder



Welcome to the cold weather everyone, at least we're getting a lot of snow. All I'll say about donations this month is if you have any questions give us a call or an email. The 2023 Divan has been installed and we are working on setting up next year's activities, it will be a fun year. One activity I'm looking forward to is the Pinewood Derby. It's a lot of fun and adults can enter too. Our first parade this year is the Saint Patrick's Day Parade on March 11th. The fire truck and the Yellowstone bus need some work, hopefully we will have them to ride on. Come out and support El Kalah and have a good time.

Now for the thought for the month: *Live in such a way that you would not be ashamed to sell your parrot to the town gossip.* Will Rogers

Dave Hutchinson, Recorder
elkalahrecorder02@gmail.com

From the Chaplain



Hello, again, Brother Nobles and Ladies;

I pray that all of you are surviving this crazy snowy weather we are experiencing without too many problems. I know it is getting a bit monotonous for me, plowing the drive and shoveling the sidewalk, then having another wave of weather come in and cover up my hard work. I tell myself we need the water, but it is still a lot of work to keep up with Mother Nature!

As I prepare this article, we have held our elections, and our new cadre of Divan Officers are in place. The first meeting was held 18 January, and it was a great meeting, with everyone enjoying the brotherhood and fun unique to Shriners. Illustrious Sir Al Hokins, our new Potentate, has some great ideas for our Temple activities, as do

several other Nobles, so it should prove to be a very busy and entertaining year. Get involved, come to the El Kalah Shriners Temple meetings, and help us make this a very enjoyable and productive year.

Now, it is levity time. Once again, I am going to amuse you (I hope) with some of the ridiculous stories and jokes that pass through my emails. This month many of my anecdotes are from the perspective of a Senior, but I hope the younger Nobles will get a chuckle, also. Enjoy.

The ability to speak several languages is an asset, but the ability to keep your mouth shut in any language is priceless. ~ When I get a headache, I take two aspirin and keep away from children - just like the bottle says. ~ Just once, I want the prompt for username and password to say, "Close enough." ~ Becoming an adult is the dumbest thing I've ever done. ~ I hate it when I can't figure out how to operate the iPad and my tech support guy is asleep. He's 5 and it's past his bedtime. ~ Today's 3 year-olds can switch on laptops and open their favorite apps. When I was 3, I ate mud. ~ Tip for a successful marriage: Don't ask your wife when dinner will be ready while she's mowing the lawn. ~ If God wanted me to touch my toes, He would've put them on my knees. ~ Why do I have to press one for English when you're just going to transfer me to someone I can't understand anyway?

Finally, some Commandments for Seniors...

- > You don't need anger management. You need people to stop irritating you.*
- > Your people skills are fine. It's your tolerance for idiots that needs work.*
- > Even duct tape can't fix stupid – but it does muffle the sound.*
- > It would be wonderful if we could put ourselves in the dryer for ten minutes, then come out wrinkle-free and three sizes smaller.*
- > Lately, you've noticed that people your age are much older than you.*
- > "One for the road" means peeing before you leave the house.*

I bet many of you can relate to these!! BCNU

Chuck Warren, Chaplain

From the Board of Governors



Last month I had the privilege of attending the Board of Governors for Salt Lake City Shiner's Children's as a new member. I, along with three other new members attended an orientation by El Kalah's own Merlin Larsen, PP who is now Vice Chairman of the Board. We then toured the facility guided by Scott Anderson, Emeritus Member of the Board before joining the Board of Governors' monthly business meeting. The Board heard reports from Natalie Raleigh, RN, MSN, CCM, Clinic Director, Debbie Mitchell, RN, MSN, Clinical Manager, and Kristen Carroll, MD, Medical Director, as well as the chairmen of the Executive, Finance, Plant & Facilities, Human Resources, Marketing, Nominating, Strategic Planning, Transportation Fund, and Volunteer Services Committees. I have been assigned to the Human Resources and Marketing Committees. At the business meeting I heard about the challenges and opportunities Shiner's Children's, Salt Lake City is presented with. I was encouraged by the direction the Board is leading Shiner's Children's and I hope to be useful contributor to that end. I also want to thank El Kalah Shrine Divan for recommending me to the Board for membership.

The Board discussed the mutually beneficial collaboration with Primary Children's Hospital, new therapeutic technology to be implemented this year, and volunteer opportunities. Due to COVID there has been restrictions on volunteers but now many of those restrictions have been lifted and volunteers are once again needed.

I am looking forward to my four-year term on the Board and I will keep you in the loop of important Shiner's Children's events with Minaret articles.

Sincerely and fraternally,

Jim Sweet, PP

Board of Governors

Jsweetinogden2@yahoo.com

A Flexible Mind



The book, The Metaphysical Club by Louis Menand tells the story of the men who reportedly shaped the mind of America. It is an entertaining mix of history and philosophy. Oliver Wendel Holmes, Jr., a lawyer, William James, a medical doctor and Charles Sanders Peirce, a scientist, formed a discussion group they called The Metaphysical Club. Their ideas came to be called Pragmatism. It became a way of thinking to cope with the conditions of modern life, an idea to cope with ideas.

By now you may be thinking that “no idea is above all others,” or something to the effect that all ideas and beliefs are valuable. Right That is precisely one of pragmatism’s main tenants. In the words of Holmes, penned after he loses his Yankee idealism after almost dying at Ball’s Bluff debacle in the hands of the Confederates: *“How rapidly the mind adjusts itself. The test of a belief is not immutability, but adaptability.”* Holmes changed his view on the nature of views.

As Masons exposed to each other’s ideas and different philosophies and ideologies, we do well to keep an open mind to consider all viewpoints. Then, we may refine our own beliefs, mindful, respectful and tolerant of other’s truths.

Hugo Rodier, MD

hugorodier@gmail.com

From the Parade Marshall



Hello Nobles and Ladies,

I am very excited to have been selected as this year's Parade Marshall and hope we will have an active and fun parade season! No time to waste, I already have some information to pass along to you. This year's St. Patrick's Day Parade will be on Saturday March 11th, Step-off is at 11:00am. The staging areas and parade route are the same as last year. Staging will be along 600 West, 100 South and West Danes Drive, we will not know our staging location until we have our Unit Number, the parade application is in the works and that information will be sent out as soon as it is available. The Parade will proceed out of the staging area from 600 West onto 200 South and then onto Rio Grande St, through the Gateway Mall and end at 50 North. I have requested that the entire Masonic Family is placed together as a single entry and have initialed communications with the Parade Coordinator to follow-up on this request.

Please come out and support our new Potentate Al Hokins and new Grand Master Travis McGuire! Vehicle space will be limited but we can have as many walkers in the parade as we would like or just come out and watch from the sidelines on Rio Grande St. Make sure you make a lot of noise as we pass so we know you are there!

Please do not hesitate to reach out to me with any questions about this parade or any other parade anytime during the year.

Shaun Davis, Parade Marshall
(801) 209-7333
shaundavis815@icloud.com

From the Daughters of the Nile



Greetings Ladies, Nobles and Friends:

Hoping all are well and surviving all the badly needed precipitation – snow or rain. Seems like we are getting ‘pounded’ regularly at my house.

The R.W. Moore Chapter of the Order of DeMolay held their Installation of Officers during the last week of January. I was privileged to attend the very impressive ceremony. It was wonderful to see the young men doing such a fine job. That was my first time to a DeMolay meeting; it will not be the last. The young men of DeMolay and the young ladies of Job’s Daughters need our support. I would like to see them get it. I encourage you each to consider how you might contribute.

February is going to be very busy! I am excited to be going to the East-West Shrine Bowl in Las Vegas on February 2nd. It will be great to see the Shriners Children. On the 8th of Feb., I will be going to Grapevine, Texas for the Masonic Marketing and Membership conference sponsored by the Shriners. Members of any and all Masonic organizations are invited to participate. Hope to come back with good ideas.

Wishing you all a Happy Groundhog Day! And a fun Valentine’s Day!

Sylvia Hokins, PQ, Queen, Lybia Temple No. 32

sylviahokins@gmail.com

From the Ladies Oriental Shrine



I want to thank the El Kalah Shrine for allowing LOSNA to participate in the Memorial Service in January. It is always hard, but necessary to recognize those who supported both the Shrine and especially the Hospital System. I am excited to attend the East West Shrine game in Las

Vegas and welcome our Grand High Priestess for her Grand Visitation on February 10th will keep us ladies busy in February. There will also be a Membership Bingo at the clubhouse for Lady Pat Murphy. You can contact Lady Mary Carstensen at (801) 870-0698 for more information.

Kimberley Stenner, High Priestess
navetusa@gmail.com

Shrine Family Calendar of Events

February 2 6:30pm Ogden LOS Club business meeting, University Broiler&Grill, Ogden. Kathy Wentzel 801-388-9361

February 9 6:30pm Ogden Nile Club business meeting, Merrill Lee Warren 801-866-8255

February 10 7:00pm LOS Grand Visitation, Salt Lake Masonic Temple. Kimberly Stenner 801-581-1565

February 17 7:00pm Daughters of the business meeting, Bountiful Masonic Temple. Sylvia Hokins 801-294-2449

February 15 7:30pm, El Kalah Shrine business meeting, Salt Lake Masonic Temple, Dave Hutchison 801-773-2197

February 25 9:30am LOS Membership Drive, Silvercrest Senior Apartment clubhouse 2099 W 4700 S Salt Lake City. Kimberly Stenner 801-581-1565
