



Minaret

January 2023

Official Publication of El Kalah Shrine

From the Potentate



Greetings nobles,

I hope everyone is doing well. I hope you all had a Merry Christmas and happy holidays. As this year comes to an end, I want to say thank you to all of you for allowing me to serve as Potentate for the last 2 years. It has been a great experience, with this job you will not make everyone happy, but I hope that I left El Kalah just a little better than it was when I started. One of the best perks of the job was being able to meet all my new friends and brothers. Thank you to everyone who helped with the successes that we had this last year. I would as that we continue to support our new leadership and continue the direction we have been going.

Some of the biggest needs that need to continue is membership growth as well as looking for ways to increase our funds. This will always be an ongoing battle that we must find a way to fight through. We do all of this to support our work with the children that need our help. Read our recorders article to see how you can donate.

I want to personally congratulate all the newly elected Divan Members as well as our Potentate Elect Al Hokins. You guys will have a great year and I am here to help in any way that I can. Here is to a happy and successful year for everyone!

Jeremy Estes, Potentate

Noblejeremy.estes@gmail.com

From the Chief Rabban



Happy New Year to All!

Go Utes! Win the Rose Bowl!

I humbly thank you for electing me to serve El Kalah Shriners as Potentate! I am honored by your support and especially the support and dedication of those who came out to vote on that cold, Wintery December night. Thank you

again!

I offer my hearty congratulations to the newly Elected Divan! I look forward to working with them and am excited about the opportunities ahead as we continue to work together to grow El Kalah Shriners while having fun as we proceed.

We would be remiss if we did not recognize and thank our most recent Potentate (X2), Illustrious Sir Jeremy Estes. Ill Sir Jeremy, as you know, served two consecutive terms, one of which was negatively impacted by COVID limitations. Ill Sir Jeremy, Thank you very much for a job well done - 2021 & 2022!

There will be an installation function open to Shriners, their friends and families mid-January. Date, time and place to be announced.

On January 28th, El Kalah will hold the annual Necrology ceremony at 1:00pm in the Colonial Room of the Salt Lake Masonic Temple. Dress warmly. And in early February, we will be heading down to the Shrine Bowl in Las Vegas.

My Lady, Sylvia and I again wish each of you a very Happy New Year, 2023!

Sincerely and fraternally,

Al Hokins, Chief Rabban

hotex61@msn.com

From the Assistant Rabban

Dear Nobles and Ladies, Happy New Year!



I wanted to say thank you to everyone who reached out to me in December after my mom passed. The love and support you all gave me meant the world to me, and showed my friends and family what Freemasons and Shriners are really all about, which is brotherly love and friendship.

As the new year starts we will once start a new in many things, including a change in leadership. As it should be our elected Divan Line is progressive so you will see the same faces of elected Divan members just in new positions. I am thankful for your love and support in electing me Chief Rabban. I look forward to working with Potentate-Elect Al Hokins, Assistant Rabban Blake Hansen and the rest of the elected and appointed Divan Members this upcoming year.

May the 2023 year be a wonderful and blessed one for you and your loved ones.

Fraternally yours *Daniel Drew*, Assistant Rabban
[**nobledannydrew@gmail.com**](mailto:nobledannydrew@gmail.com)

From the Hight Priest & prophet



Nobles,

WOW what a year that was 2022. And boy, was it a fast one. "Tempus fugit." Onion sales, baseball and hockey outings, a pinewood derby, a bbq and parades of course. That's what our temple did, a busy year. Remember Nobles, you're an "El Kalah Shiner, we work hard and play hard!" Well, get your FEZ's ready, we'll be right back at it this year with more of the same.

I would like to thank Illustrious Potentate Jeremy Estes for his leadership and hard work in getting our temple back on course these past two years. Job well done brother!!! I also welcome the confidence you have reposed in me to take on another year in the Divan as your Assistant Rabban. Let me know what I can do for you and the temple.

Blake Hansen, High Priest & Prophet
[**Brotherblake7@gmail.com**](mailto:Brotherblake7@gmail.com)

From the Oriental Guide



Dear Nobles, Ladies, and Friends:

Thank you to all who voted for my re-election to the office of Oriental Guide. I enjoy serving El Kalah and ask that you let me know if there is anything I can do to help make our organization better.

We provide a variety of services for children 17 years of age and younger, regardless of their ability to pay. This includes Orthopedics, Burns, Scoliosis, and Cleft palate. I want to share how important I believe our service to children with cleft palates are. I once read there are places where children born with a cleft lip, or a cleft palate are not fed because the child with this disfigurement is believed to be a devil child and are neglected and allowed to die. This is certainly a horror for our culture, but in some other cultures apparently not.

A cleft palate or cleft lip is the result of the specialized cells and body tissue of a child in the womb that originate from each side of the head and do not join together to complete the formation of the face before birth. This condition can be corrected with surgery, and it is recommended the surgery be started within the first twelve months after birth for a cleft lip, and eighteen months for a cleft palate. The procedure may require multiple surgeries to correct. If not corrected, the child may have problems feeding, speaking clearly, ear infections, hearing problems, and problems with their teeth.

The list of individuals with cleft lip/cleft palate include Tom Brokaw, Mark Hamill, Wendy Harmer, Doc Holliday, Jesse Jackson, Stacy Keach, Rita Macneil, Cheach Marin, Nikki Payne, and Tutankhamun. This condition need not be a challenge, and it is a tremendously humane act of kindness we provide as Shriners. We as Shriners extend the hand of compassion to those who through no fault of their own are challenged. I once was asked by my best friend in high school who had been stricken by polio, if I wished she were different. My answer came out so fast it surprised me. No, then you would be someone else. Regardless of the service we provide to Shriner's Children, these children have more courage than I can imagine. We give them hope and justify their courage, and our existence.

I wish all of you a Happy New Year and a rewarding future in whatever ways you measure rewarding.

Sincerely,

Michael Katsonis, Oriental Guide

mgkatsonis@yahoo.com

From the Recorder



Happy New Year to everybody and I hope you had a Merry Christmas. Thanks to everyone who came to vote and allowed me to stay as Recorder. I enjoy the job and look forward to serving you for another year, 2023 will be a lot of fun for everyone.

Time to start a new year and I really hope 2023 will be healthier and much better than 2022. Part of the new year is paying the 2023 Temple dues and questions have been asked how to donate to the El Kalah Temple or the El Kalah Transportation fund. El Kalah is one of the few Temples that has our own transportation fund, which is separate from Imperial's and this leads to some confusion. There are several choices to send donations, the most common are; 1 - Hospital Donation (Imperial's fund) 2 - Temple Donation (El Kalah's general fund) 3 – Imperial's Transportation fund and 4 – El Kalah's Transportation fund. The renewal notice that is mailed to each Noble has the following section:

Additional Voluntary Contributions:

Shriners Hospital \$ _____
Temple \$ _____

If you want to donate to the Hospital (Imperial's fund) fill in the *Shriners Hospital* line. If you wish to donate to El Kalah Temple, just put the amount in the *Temple* line and it will go to El Kalah for general expenses. If you wish to donate to El Kalah's Transportation Fund, mark either line as EL Kalah Transportation and put the amount in the line. You can also just write instructions as to the distribution of the donation on the remittance notice. Just make sure that you include the renewal notice when you mail in your dues. If you wish to donate to the Salt Lake City Clinic (Hospital) mark the renewal note for this. This is confusing and if you're unsure how to mark the renewal notice feel free to give me a call, 385-214-5268.

Now for the thought for the month: *Even if you're on the right track, you'll get run over if you just sit there.* **Will Rogers**

Dave Hutchinson, Recorder
elkalahrecorder02@gmail.com

From the Chaplain

My Dear Brother Nobles and Ladies;



I hope everyone survived the holidays without too much peripheral damage and are ready for a very Happy and Prosperous 2023. If Christmas worked out well for you and Santa was kind, count your blessings. Otherwise, count the few remaining dollars in your wallet! Don't forget to help out those less fortunate whenever you can. A lot of our fellow humans are suffering during this time of year and could use a helping hand. Please – be thankful to the Grand Architect for your own good fortune and assist him in helping our fellow man.

By the time you are reading this message, the December El Kalah Shriners will have met for the December meeting, and elections will have been conducted. We should wish our new Potentate well and may he, the Divan, and the appointed officers all have a magnificent term in office. Please support all the activities you can and help make El Kalah Shriners continue to be a valuable resource in this community of ours.

There was a lengthy discussion at the El Kalah Shriners Divan meeting 21 December 2022. The subject was donation funds for the transporting of our Shriner's children locally and how to ensure the funds remained local to benefit this area rather than being dispersed to some other repository. It immediately became evident that there is a lot of confusion regarding the various funds, who controls them, and who benefits from them. The Internet information is inaccurate or, at best, misleading, and our own El Kalah Shriners website is silent on this subject. Both need to be updated and this is to be done very soon. Any donations that are intended to benefit the transportation of children to or from the Shriners Children facility in Salt Lake City should be designated to be paid to the order of: **El Kalah Shriners Hospital Patient Transportation Fund**. This can also be abbreviated **E.K.S.H.P.T.F.** Please share this information so we can ensure the funds remain here that are donated locally and that are intended for our local benefit.

Now, it is time to lighten up. I got a fun email from an old friend with a variety of quotes from some famous (and not so famous) people, and I decided to share some of them with you this month. This way, perhaps you will realize I am not the only insane old fool in this world!! Here we go:

- *"To get back to my youth I would do anything in the world, except exercise, get up early, or be respectable." - Oscar Wilde*
- *"Old age comes at a bad time." – San Banducci*
- *"When I was young, I was called a rugged individualist. When I was in my fifties, I was considered eccentric. Here I am doing and saying the same things I did then, and I'm labeled senile." - George Burns*
- *"Inside every older person is a younger person wondering what happened." - Jennifer Yane*
- *"I'm so old that my blood type has been discontinued." - Bill Dana*

- *"The older I get, the more clearly I remember things that never happened." - Mark Twain*
- *"Wisdom doesn't necessarily come with age. Sometimes, age just shows up all by itself." - Tom Wilson*
- *"Always be nice to your children because they are the ones who will choose your retirement home."- Phyllis Diller*
- *"I don't plan to grow old gracefully. I plan to have face-lifts until my ears meet." - Rita Rudner*
- *"I'm at that age where my back goes out more than I do." - Phyllis Diller*
- *"First you forget names, then you forget faces, then you forget to pull your zipper up, then you forget to pull your zipper down." - Leo Rosenberg*
- *"Old people shouldn't eat health foods. They need all the preservatives they can get." – Robert Orben*
- *"Middle age is when you're sitting at home on a Saturday night and the telephone rings and you hope it isn't for you." - Ogden Nash*
- *"At my age, flowers scare me." - George Burns*

If that last one rings a bell for you – welcome to my world!! See ya at the cardiac unit.

Chuck Warren, Chaplain
chuckwarrensr@aol.com

Our Brother Pierre Teilhard de Chardin



Disclaimer: I am not a Catholic nor do I wish to push any belief or philosophy.

If you google "JESUITS," you will find they are just as misunderstood as Masons. Some claim that Jesuits are sympatico with Masonry. If you read the book above, you will see why.

De Chardin BALANCES Christianity with Buddhism[1] and Physics[2] to reach a harmonic UNITY of reality. In my opinion, Masonry strives to do the same, or so we are told in the AASR. For example, De Chardin argues that education (Fellowcraft degree) helps us reach a BALANCED life. He continues saying that this must include a UNITY with our fellowman, which eventually leads to a UNITY with DEITY: *"Our thoughts function like the cells of one and the same brain."* In a most Masonic way, he argues that NATURE teaches all the above, a concept the SW in the 18th degree of AASR highlights: *"[God's] revelations are in the Book of Nature, which we must read by the light of Reason."*

[1] "Buddhism, Freemasonry and Enlightenment," Berry & Adams; Scottish Rites Journal, Nov/Dec 2022, p24

[2] "The Tao of Physics," Capra; Shambhala Publications, 1975

Hugo Rodier, MD

Hugorodier@gmail.com

From the Daughters of the Nile



Greetings Ladies, Nobles and Friends. Happy New Year to All! With Hope for a great and healthy 2023!

The Daughters of the Nile will begin the new year by doing something we were unable to do in the past year. One of our goals for this new year is to work towards helping all the Masonic groups and support each other during all our endeavors in the coming year. We will keep you updated on the things we plan.

My Husband, Al is now the Potentate-elect of El Kalah Shriners! I am so pleased for him. Our 2023 will be a very busy year personally, but in a very good way. We are very excited.

As we say goodbye to one year and hello to another, I wish for you all a year of love and peace.

Sylvia Hokins, Queen

Sylviahokins@gmail.com

From the Ladies Oriental Shrine



January is a time for new beginnings and our court is no exception! We look forward to having a ceremonial in January and getting 2 new members! We had a great time at our annual Christmas party and we appreciate ALL the support of the El Kalah Shrine! Thank all of you so much for attending and supporting our court. Please let us know if you need anything and I look forward to attending your upcoming installation of officers.

Kimberley Stenner, High Priestess

navetusa@gmail.com

Shrine Family Calendar of Events

January 6 6:30pm Ogden Shrine Club Annual Meeting and elections, Hug-Her Cafe, 1220 48th St, Ogden. Jerry Everet 801-721-8372

January 12 6:30pm Ogden Nile Club meeting, Merrill Lee Warren 801-866-8255

January 19 7:00pm Daughters of the Nile Stated Session, Bountiful Masonic Temple, Sylvia Hokins 801-294-2449

January 18 7:30pm, El Kalah Shrine business meeting, Salt Lake Masonic Temple, Dave Hutchison 801-773-2197

How to Donate to El Kalah Shriners

Nobles and friends of EL Kalah, questions have been asked about where money can be donated locally. We have several funds and clubs in EL Kalah that could use additional support. They are:



- El Kalah Transportation Fund
- El Kalah General Fund
- The Fire Truck – for maintenance
- The Yellowstone Bus – for maintenance



To make sure the donation goes where you want, put a note in with the donation saying where you want it to go. If you are donating with your dues write it on your Renewal Notice. If you have questions, please contact a member of the Divan.



Utah Shriners | 650 E South Temple, Salt Lake City, UT 84102-1189

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