

Minaret

March 2023

Official Publication of El Kalah Shrine

From the Potentate



Greetings Nobles and Friends,

As previewed in this article last month, traveling in February was extensive and fun! For the East-west Shrine Bowl on the 2nd, several from El Kalah were present including Past Potentates Jim Sweet and Lynn Larsen and their Ladies. While the game, itself was under-attended, we met several players and celebrities including a famous graduate of Shriners Children's, Alec, plus Nate Burleson of CBS Mornings who played in the East West Shrine Bowl years ago and then for the Seahawks and was inducted this year into the game's Hall of Fame. Bill Belichick led the Coaching staff for the East.

Next leg of travel was to the SIEF (Shriners International Education Foundation) conference on Marketing and Membership in Grapevine Texas. Shriners International has experienced a regular decline in membership for the past 40 years, decreasing from almost one million members to just below 190,000 in 2021.

We all must work together on membership. It is a must! Or our hospitals will outlive our Shriners! El Kalah had one new member initiated at our February stated meeting. Everyone needs to make membership a priority!

The third week travel leg was to Boise, Idaho for the Winter meeting of

the PSNA (Pacific Northwest Shrine Association). There were 103 Shriners in attendance from all 19 member Shrine Centers. In addition to regular members, the Imperial Potentate was present along with the Imperial Chief Rabban, Imperial Captain of the Guard and Imperial Recorder. We had group instruction as well as private discussion with each of those Imperial Nobles. After the Saturday night skit, the Imperial Recorder took the podium and raised \$2650 for Shriners Childrens through a series of “fines” for various offenses of skit cast members. A fun time was had by all. The PNSA was pleased to have El Kalah reps; and we look forward to the Summer 2023 Session in Spokane.

This past week, the Daughters of the Nile held their Festival of Tables at the Bountiful Masonic Temple. A fine-looking event with fun for all! The annual St Patrick’s Day Parade is soon upon us. Please come out to participate or to cheer on those in El Kalah who do.

Your Divan will continue work on recruiting. Our emphasis throughout the year MUST be on recruiting! New members are the life blood of our fraternity. We plan on visiting all regions of the state as we offer Shrine fellowship and fun to all Master Masons. We need your help and participation to make El Kalah grow!

Happy St Patrick’s Day!

Sincerely and Fraternaly,

Al Hokins, Potentate
noblealhokins@outlook.com

From the Chief Rabban



Dear Nobles and Ladies

Welcome to March. Local college and University men’s and women’s basketball teams are getting ready for “March Madness”. The cycle of the earth around the sun

brings us a little closer to the sun and to spring. Though, no doubt we will have more snowy days ahead, we will soon start seeing the buds of spring come to life.

Thus, the buds of El Kalah start to spring to life as well. We have our first call out Parade in Salt Lake City at the St. Patrick's day parade on March 11th, I know that our Parade Marshall this year Shaun Davis will be providing us more details on this. Our clubs and units finally start to meet again. The Shriners Pavilion starts to get ready for summer activities.

March 15th will be the next day we meet. The Divan has a finance meeting at 6:30 followed directly after that by Divan Business meeting. El Kalah's business meeting will be at 7:30 that night. After the business meeting, will be food served, we have been having sandwiches, chips, cookies, and drinks. We look forward to seeing you all there!

May the luck of the Irish be with you this month, may the Grand Architect of the Universe bless you and your families all month long.

Know that I/we in the elected Divan love you and pray for you!

Sincerely,

Daniel Drew, Chief Rabban
nobledannydrew@gmail.com

From the Assistant Rabban



Greetings Nobles!

It's that time of year to order some onions. They will be the same price for bags, cookers and sauce. Also, we will be offering sweet potatoes for sale. As we couldn't pull off the sale last fall. You get a chance to try them out in the spring. A dollar a pound in 5- and 10-pound bags. Deadline for orders

will be April 29, 2023. See flyer for further details. See you at the parades and business meetings.

Blake Hansen, Assistant Raban
brotherblke7@gmail.com

From the Hight Priest & prophet



Nobles and Friends,

For the past several months, after the close of the El Kalah business meeting, we've been gathering in the small dining room next to the kitchen for sandwiches and beverages. This informal get together has been well received by the Nobles who are able to attend and we plan on meeting like this for the foreseeable future. We've recently set out a tip jar to help defer the cost of the food as we get this going with the goal of making the lite dinner self supporting in the near future. We hope that eventually we'll be able to subsidize other events like the summer picnic with any excess funds gathered this way, at no cost to the Shrine.

The primary purpose of any group such as ours, and one of the main reasons most men join us, is for the fraternal bonds we offer. A healthy, thriving organization is not only more easily able to sustain its self in the long term, but is also better suited to provide worthy community services, in our case, Shriners Children's. These relationships also apply to our ladies organizations and auxiliary bodies that support the Shrine, hospitals and clinics. They are an integral part of the Masonic family and in my opinion their talents are underutilized.

One way of strengthening these fraternal bonds is by simply sitting down with your brothers after the business meeting and enjoying a sandwich, a drink, and good conversation. I would encourage all Nobles to join us afterwards, even if you only have a few minutes, and just hang out with the guys for bit before heading home. It's a great

way to catch up with old friends and make new ones.

Don Forbes, High Priest & Prophet

dforbs66@cincast.net

From the Oriental Guide



Greetings Nobles, Ladies, and Friends:

We provide hope to children seventeen years old and younger, their families, and friends; regardless of their ability to pay. Hope is a word we all know, but our definitions may be different from other people, and what we hope for may and probably is. Shriners Children's all individually have their hope and what they hope for. I am sure this is no surprise nor exceptionally intuitive.

My intent this month is to encourage all of us to consider how hope is an important part of our building and strengthening our membership in our fraternity. It is my conviction our membership is composed primarily of men hoping to improve the world in our little corner of the world. By sharing our Shrine activities with our families and friends, we may find new members and encourage sons to join us. The stress of COVID and current economic turmoil have taken the wind out of the sails of many. We need to continue to recognize our fellow Nobles for their contributions no matter how big or small. Seeing the anger, frustration, and divisions in our culture convinces me much of this is the result of many losing their hope. Will joining the Masons and the Shrine help those with a lack of hope? I don't know, I like to hope it will.

Now Faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the convictions of things not seen. What is seen was made out of things which do not appear. I look at this as a prophecy of the studies of modern chemistry and physics, and a good start in defining hope.

Sincerely and Fraternaly,

From the Recorder



I get to wear my official Fez for a bit, a reminder to all the Nobles that haven't paid your dues yet, we have around 90 Nobles that haven't paid the 2023 dues. We really need your support through the dues (and come to the meetings too). For every Noble EL Kalah pays \$85 for Imperial per capita, Hospital assessment and MTA per capita. Then comes the operating expenses, insurance we carry, \$100 to the MTA for each meeting, etc. When we pass the budget look at it and see where our dues go. So please make sure to pay your dues, EL Kalah needs your support.

On the brighter side the parades are starting. March 11th is the St. Patrick's Day Parade; our Marshall Noble Shaun Davis will be getting the details out. Unfortunately, our vehicles, the Yellowstone Bus and the Fire Truck are in need of some repairs. Thanks to a generous donation from a Noble money is not a big problem, we just need the time to get them into a shop. Hopefully the Yellowstone Bus will be available for St. Patty's Parade. If you don't want to be in the parade come and watch and wear your Fez.

Worrying is like paying on a debt that may never come due. **Will Rogers**

Dave Hutchinson, Recorder
elkalahrecorder02@gmail.com

From the Chaplain

Hello, again, Brother Nobles and Ladies;



It certainly seems that Mother Nature is doing all she can to refill our reservoirs and aquifers. I am writing this as February is closing out with another healthy (if you love blizzards and wind) Winter storm. Granted, we need the water to replenish our stocks, but REALLY? C'mon

Spring. It is nearly time to consider what garden you intend to plant this year, lay out the plot, and think about ordering or buying the seeds/stock you will need to get things going. God has Blessed us with beautiful mountains and plains, but also a short growing season, so we need to adjust. I grew up in Ohio working on a truck farm as a teen and learned a lot about how the professionals go about things. The farm owners all had greenhouses so they could start their plants long before it was time to plant them into Mother Earth. And that was with a much longer growing season (April through September was common)! Much of what you buy in the grocery store was harvested long before it was ripe, so much of the flavor never developed. If you want to experiment, it is easy to plant a few seeds (tomatoes are a great example) in small pots of composted potting soil and watch them sprout. If you plant in March, you may have great plants ready to transfer to the garden in early June (if you water them properly and give them the proper exposure to Sol). Good luck, and if you get too many beautiful tomatoes – share with those who didn't plan ahead!

While you are waiting for your garden plants to germinate, enjoy these tidbits.

I need a better attorney. The judge said I was exonerated, and Leon appealed.

An airline passenger nervous about flying began talking aloud to Rudy. "Well, here we go," she said. "I love transatlantic flights, only I can never sleep on planes. I'm so glad I have a nice person sitting next to me. I love meeting new people. How are you?" Rudy thought fast and responded, "Parlez vous francais?"

A partygoer tried to impress Sylvia by boasting about his exploits at sea. "After the ship went down," he said, "I survived a week in open

water on just a can of sardines.” “Bless your heart,” our girl replied, “However did you keep from falling off?”

Blake’s grandparents lost their life savings on a cruise. What his grandfather thought was a wall safe was actually a porthole.

The General had grown anxious over rumors of an impending strike from the enemy. So, he summoned Corporal Dave. “I want you to climb that mountain and report any signs of military activity,” he ordered. Corporal Dave trudged up the mountain. As soon as he crossed the ridge, he saw a squadron of planes heading their way. “Planes coming!” he promptly radioed back. “Friends or enemies?”, the General demanded. “Dave lifted his binoculars to the sky. “They are flying very close together,” Dave replied, I think they must be friends.”

This evening my wife sweetly informed me, “You have not been yourself today. To what do I owe this unique pleasure?”

Shaun says that computers used to be user-friendly. Now they’re just downright flirtatious.

Chuck Warren, Chaplain
chuckwarrensr@aol.com

From the Board of Governors



Greetings All!

Over the next several months I will be highlighting portions of the 2022 annual letter to the staff Shriners Children’s, Salt Lake City from Dr. Carroll, Chief of Staff.

As you will see 2022 was a year of challenge, change and success. I hope you keep the staff, their patients and families in your thoughts and prayers throughout this year.

Dear Shriners Children's Clinic team-

This is our first full year [2022] as an outpatient facility; bittersweet it has been. We all miss our wonderful employees of the past, the activity and sounds of our operating rooms and in-patient unit. We still are looking forward to advancing our relationship with Primary Children's Hospital to create something meaningful, new, and important to the wellbeing of children in that space. Talks continue. Primary Children's Hospital, leadership of Shriners Hospitals for Children [Atlanta] and our local leaders [Salt Lake City] are searching for a solution that exists-but is still somewhat elusive. We will build something new and wonderful with our partners at Primary Children's Hospital and the University of Utah, but we need some more time to do so.

In the meantime, all of us at Shriners Children's Clinic [Salt Lake City] continue to care for our patients and their families with love, compassion, and incredible expertise. Thank you for all you do.

With the help of our departmental leaders, here is a synopsis of our accomplishments in 2022 as an outpatient facility:

Stay tuned folks for more from the amazing staff of Shriners Children's.

In-Kind giving is always welcome at Shriners children's, Salt Lake City. Here is the link to the giving guidelines: [**Giving Guidelines**](#).

Sincerely and fraternally,

Jim Sweet, PP

Board of Governors

Jsweetinogden2@yahoo.com

A call for BILDUNG in our ritual



the book, *The School and Society, The Child and the Curriculum* by John Dewey was printed in 1899. It has never been out of print because its basic principles still resonate today.

John Dewey was one of the pioneers of American education. He believed that every educational subject was an aspect of a greater whole, an extrasensory entity—the divine will, or the Absolute. At the time, this philosophy was known as BILDUNG, a German concept that education should aim to the apprehension of spiritual oneness. You may suspect Dewey to be an unbalanced religious fanatic. Far from it—he was one of the founders of pragmatism, a progressive, liberal philosophy or proposition that something is true if it works satisfactorily. The meaning of a proposition is to be found in the practical consequences of accepting it, and that unpractical ideas are to be rejected.

“Knowledge is inseparably united with doing,” Dewey wrote, in opposition to the prevailing “method of education where facts are handed down from teacher to pupil as disembodied information... knowledge is [thus] cut off from the activity in which it has its meaning, and becomes a false abstraction between knowing and doing.”

Our masonic ritual aims to imprint our minds and hearts with DOING so that we may apply the spiritual lessons inculcated therein in our lives. Dewey reminds us we do well to do so with a BALANCE of conservative and progressive values in a pragmatic way.

Hugo Rodier, MD
hugorodier@gmail.com

From the Parade Marshall



Hello Nobles and Ladies,

Salt Lake St. Patrick's Day Parade Information:

Thank you to those who have responded as to your organizations participation in the St. Patrick's Day Parade. I have heard back from Job's Daughters, Ladies of the Oriental Shrine, Daughters of the Nile, El Kalah Fire Brigade, El Kalah Clowns, El Kalah Mini Bikes and our Past Potentates. It looks like it will be a great

parade with nearly everyone participating!

We have a need for a driver of the Yellowstone Bus, if you are interested please reach out to me.

The 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 Entry Number, the parade application has been submitted 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 already requested that the entire Masonic Family is placed together as a single entry and have received confirmation that we will all be together this year as a single Masonic Family Unit. I do not anticipate receiving our entry number until Thursday Evening March 9th, which was the same time it was published last year, at which time I will disseminate the information as promptly as possible to all Heads of Organizations. For those of you who have not been through this before it is a bit of a Right of Passage to all collectively nervously bite our nails the week of a parade wondering "Where oh where is our Entry Number?" I have had multiple communications with more than one of the members of the parade committee and our entry is confirmed and they are looking forward to our participation.

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, but make sure you make a lot of noise as we pass so we know you are there.

If you have a Fez please wear it! Even if you are not in the parade it is encouraged and appropriate to wear your Fez if you are an active

Shriner or Lady of the Oriental Shrine. There are no restrictions on wearing your Fez in public and we should never hesitate to do so!

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 Marshal
shaundavis815@icloud.com

From the Daughters of the Nile



Greetings Ladies, Nobles and Friends:

It is with mixed emotions that I write this last article as the Queen of Lybia Temple No. 32. We will have the open installation on Saturday, March 18th at 10:00 AM in the Egyptian Room in the Salt Lake Masonic Temple, 650 E South Temple, Salt Lake City.

It has been an honor and a privilege to have been a Queen for second time in the Daughters of the Nile.

This has been a great experience working with all of the ladies in Nile. It has been such a wonderful opportunity to get to know what we do has such a beneficial outcome for Shriners Children.

On Saturday, February 25th, the Daughters of the Nile held their Annual Festival of Tables at the Bountiful Masonic Temple. It was a very festive event. The tables were all beautiful; and there was a silent auction with an excellent selection of choices. Everyone had fun browsing before the closing.

Pr Tirzah, Robin Tomassetti and PQ Deanna Adams, JPQ, did a great job (which was a tremendous amount of work). Thanks to all the ladies who gave their time to help with a really nice event!

I would like to close with another big thank you to everyone who gave me their support and love and caring for my year as Queen.

Wishing you all a Happy St Patrick's Day!

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

sylviahokins@gmail.com

From the Ladies Oriental Shrine



As I prepare to move to the ranks of Past High Priestess, I want to thank El Kalah and Daughters of the Nile for all of your support during my tenure. I recently read a couple of articles in the Scottish Rite magazine about Daughters of the Nile and Ladies Oriental Shrine and made a few observances, not only about the Ladies Organizations but Imperial, as well. We are different in many ways and yet we have many goals that are the same. The primary one being the hospital and support and loving the kids that need us. So, I will always have these organizations in my heart and will help in any way I can. Congratulations to Candice Sweet (Queen elect, Daughters of the Nile) and Lady Jessica Norton (High Priestess Elect, Ladies Oriental Shrine). May your tenures be prosperous and blessed and may Sylvia and I take a well-deserved rest, before getting back in the game! I will see you all at the St. Patricks Day Parade, if not before.

Kimberley Stenner, High Priestess

navetusa@gmail.com

Shrine Family Calendar of Events

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

March 9 6:30pm Ogden Nile Club business meeting, University Broiler&Grill, Ogden. Lee Warren 801-866-8255

March 11 St. Patrick's Day Parade, Shaun Davis, 801-209-7333

March 12 Daylight Savings!

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

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

March 18 10:00am Lybia Temple #32 Daughters of the Nile Installation of Officers, Salt Lake Masonic Temple, Candice Sweet 801-791-5376

March 23 7:00pm Ladies Oriental Shrine business meeting, Salt Lake Masonic Temple, Kimberly Stenner 801-663-0766



you are cordially invited to

*the open installation of officers
of Lybia Temple #32
Daughters of the Nile*

Saturday March 18, 2023

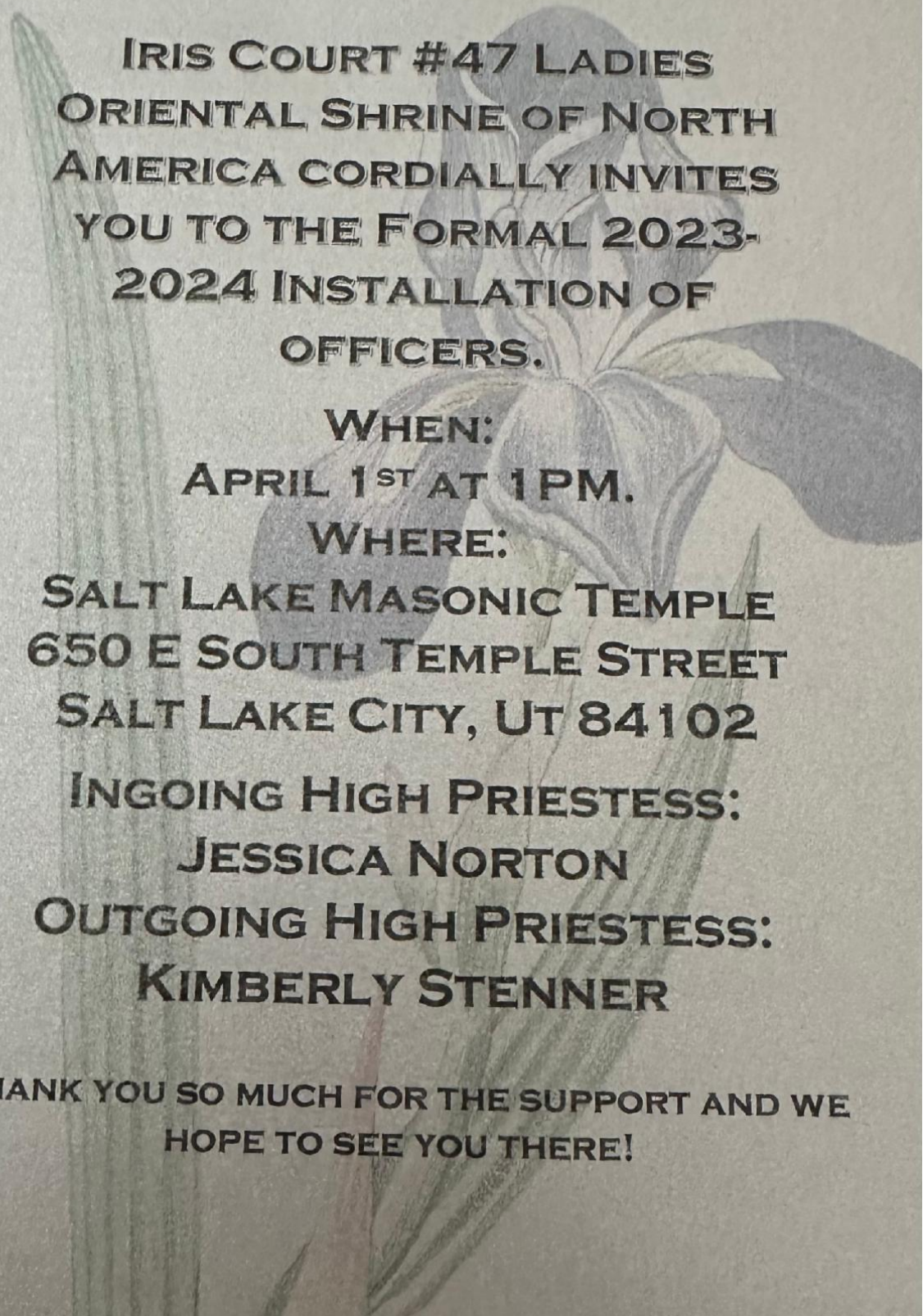
10 o'clock in the morning

*When Candice Sweet
will be crowned Queen*

*Salt Lake Masonic Temple
650 East South Temple Street
Salt Lake City, Utah
Egyptian Room*



*Sylvia Hoken, PQ, Queen
Nicole Maxwell, Princess
Recorder*



**IRIS COURT #47 LADIES
ORIENTAL SHRINE OF NORTH
AMERICA CORDIALLY INVITES
YOU TO THE FORMAL 2023-
2024 INSTALLATION OF
OFFICERS.**

**WHEN:
APRIL 1ST AT 1PM.**

**WHERE:
SALT LAKE MASONIC TEMPLE
650 E SOUTH TEMPLE STREET
SALT LAKE CITY, UT 84102**

**INGOING HIGH PRIESTESS:
JESSICA NORTON
OUTGOING HIGH PRIESTESS:
KIMBERLY STENNER**

**THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR THE SUPPORT AND WE
HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE!**



2023 EL KALAH SHRINERS SWEET POTATOES SALES

EL KALAH SHRINERS IS NOW SELLING SWEET POTATOES.
SEEING AS WE WERE NOT ABLE TO GET THEM LAST YEAR HERE IS YOUR CHANCE
AGAIN TO TRY THEM.

WE HAVE:
10-POUND BAGS OF SWEET POTATOES - \$10 A BAG
5-POUND BAG FOR \$5 A BAG

APRIL 29, 2023 IS THE ORDER DEADLINE

GET YOUR ORDERS TOGETHER AND GET THEM TO **BLAKE HANSEN** BY
APRIL 29,2023. MAKE YOUR CHECKS OUT TO **EL KALAH SHRINERS**.
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 SWEET POTATOES TO BE BY THE END OF MAY
THANKS FOR YOUR HELP FOR OUR SHRINERS!

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



2022 EL KALAH SHRINERS VIDALIA ONION SALES

EL KALAH SHRINERS IS NOW SELLING VIDALIA ONIONS.

WE HAVE:
10-POUND BAGS OF ONIONS \$12 EACH
5-POUND BAGS OF ONIONS \$6 EACH

ONION COOKERS FOR \$6.00 EACH
VIDALIA BLOSSOM DIPPING SAUCE \$6.00 PER BOTTLE

- GET YOUR ORDERS TOGETHER AND GET THEM TO BLAKE HANSEN BY APRIL 29, 2023. 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 30 BAGS OF ONIONS OR MORE.

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 MIDDLE TO END OF MAY. THANKS FOR YOUR HELP FOR

OUR SHRINERS! Proceeds benefit El Kalah Shriners and are not tax deductible as charitable

contributions.

Shrine Family Photo Album



Several El Kalah Shriners and their ladies and Shriners Children's Salt Lake staff traveled to Las Vegas to attend the Shrine East/West Bowl football game February second.



Queen Sylvia Hokins, Princess Royal Candice Sweet, SCC Administer Natalie Raleigh and husband Zac were on the field for pregame events.



Three Amigos, Potentate Al Hokins and Past Potentates Lynn Larsen and Jim Sweet were also at the game.

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

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