

# El Kalah Shriners



## Minaret

November 2023

Official Publication of El Kalah Shrine

### From the Potentate



Greetings Shriners and Friends,

November is upon us and 2023 will soon fly away. The final Thursday of October was scheduled awhile back for the Holiday lights to be installed on my home on the bench. The light install crew rang the doorbell as the snowplow went by the house. The crew passed on installation. Almost the same thing happened last year – when they never did get back to install lights.

November is a very special month with two Federal Holidays. Please take a moment to remember our veterans and the origin of Veterans Day – formerly Armistice Day to commemorate the end of WWI which was to have been the war-to-end-all-wars. The Armistice ending that horrible event was signed in a railroad car in France at the eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month of 1918. One year later, in 1919, the holiday had its origin.

The first USA celebration using the term Veterans Day occurred in Birmingham, Alabama, in 1947. Other countries celebrate it, too. Veterans Day honors all of those who have served the country in war or peace — dead or alive — although it is largely intended to thank living veterans for their sacrifices.

A law passed in 1968 changed the national commemoration of Veterans Day to the fourth Monday in October. It soon became apparent, however, that November 11 was a date of historic significance to many Americans. Therefore, in 1978 Congress returned the observance to its traditional date. Of course, the favorite of many is Thanksgiving which is also this month. Food, Family, Football & Fun! Not to forget, El Kalah Shriners gather to watch some ice hockey the day following Thanksgiving. Noble Blake is again tending to those details. Hope to see you there.

Membership remains THE critical area for El Kalah! Everybody should be working on bringing in new Shriners!

Have a wonderful Thanksgiving Season!

*Al Hokins, Potentate*  
noblealhokins@outlook.com

---

## A Quality of Valor is.....

From the beginning, Catherine Roberts, Founder of 'Quilts of Valor,' had definite ideas about standards of excellence for Quilts of Valor: I knew a Quilt of Valor had to be a quality-made quilt, not a "charity quilt." A Quilt of Valor had to be quilted, not tied, which meant hand or machine quilting. It would be "awarded," not just passed out like magazines or videos, and would say unequivocally, "Thank you for your service, sacrifice and valor in serving our nation."

"Not everyone answers the call to serve our country. It is those rare individuals who are selfless enough to sacrifice so much so we can all enjoy the freedom we have. We'll never know exactly what each Veteran experiences and how they are touched by war. But we can welcome our Veterans home, support them and their families, and thank them for their service whenever possible."

*Lori Thompson, Executive Director 2021 - Present*

Two of our El Kalah veterans were each awarded a Quilt of Valor in a special ceremony in October, 2023. The formal presentation was arranged by the Utah Grand Chapter of the Order of Eastern Star. It took the OES about a year from the time that they decided to nominate these men until the formal presentation was made at a dinner during the annual Grand Chapter meeting. Chaplain and National President of the National Sojourners, Chuck Warren was a foreign language specialist and intercept operator. Potentate Al Hokins flew 53 combat missions taking hostile surface-to-air missile fire in Southeast Asia in a B52d bomber, delivering over 2,100 tons of ordnance during the Vietnam War. Dinner attendees enjoyed seeing a total surprise which honored the military contributions of these two Shriners.

During this month when we honor our Nations' veterans, we take special pride in the military contributions of ALL our El Kalah veterans!

Thank you veterans and God bless America!

Submitted by Potentate Al Hokins

---

## From the Chief Rabban



Dear Nobles and Ladies of El Kalah

The last few months I have been defining each of the jobs of the Shrine Divan as dictated by the imperial shrine.

This month I will define the job of the Chief Rabban. "The Chief Rabban in the absence of the Potentate and the

Chief Rabban shall preside." In December I will Discuss the definition of the Potentates job description.

During October we were able to have our most attended business meeting of the year. I was able to present a small educational, which I will do here: Kenneth Rooks was running in the US Steeple 3000 Meter Championship and fell 2 minutes into an 8 minute race. It was a bad fall at that. He fell to last place in the race. Kenneth got back up, and

began running and jumping. With 3 laps remaining in the race Kenneth had gotten back with the pack of runners. With 2 laps remaining in the race Kenneth had moved into the middle front of the pack of runners, and on the last lap Kenneth was sprinting with the top 4 runners to see who would win the race. Kenneth Rooks, won the race! It is a true story of life that even when we fall, we just pick ourselves back up, and start our internal engines, and run the race of life, and win!

[https://youtu.be/wT1ody\\_cpCA](https://youtu.be/wT1ody_cpCA)

My Nobles and ladies I hope your autumn has been an eventful one.

Sincerely and Fraternally,

*Daniel Drew*, Chief Rabban  
nobledannydrew@gmail.com

---

## From the Assistant Rabban



Nobles,

We have worked hard this summer with the parades, visitations, golf tournament and Walk for Love. Now time to have fun. How about going to a hockey game? November 25 we are set to go to a hockey game as a temple with our families. See flyer for further details.

*Blake Hansen*, Assistant Rabban  
brotherblke7@gmail.com

---

## From the Oriental Guide

Greetings Fellow Nobles, Ladies, and Friends:

I find it interesting to look up famous Shriners. This month I found some Shriners who I did not know were Shriners.



We have a Noble with the first name of Marion, who starred in 142 motion pictures, won an Academy Award for Best Actor, Joseph Stalin (Yes, that communist Joseph Stalin) tried to assassinate him and Nikita Khrushchev rescinded the order when he replaced Stalin, he never served in the military, and his voice was used in Star Wars.

Next, we have a Noble with the first name of Erik, who fought a robot named Q, wrote a book on how to escape prison, and died from appendicitis.

A Noble named James, who started his own jazz orchestra that he led for 50 years and innovated his music by using two split Tenor Saxophones.

This last Noble will be easy to identify because his first name and history gives him away. His first name is Thurgood, was appointed as the 96<sup>th</sup> associate justice of the US Supreme Court, successfully argued Brown vs Board of Education before the US Supreme Court, and Founded the NAACP Legal Defense and Education Fund.

If you attend our next Shriner business meeting on 15 November and are trying unsuccessfully in finding out who these four Nobles are, I will be glad to tell you. I also plan to post them in my December Minaret letter. We have a hockey game the weekend of Thanksgiving on Saturday, 25 November, so if you like hockey or just want a break from turkey leftovers, come out and join us.

Happy Thanksgiving to all our Nobles, Ladies, and Friends

Sincerely,

*Mike Katsonis*, Oriental Guide

mgkatsonis@yahoo.com

---

From the High Priest & Profet



Don Forbes, High Priest and Prophet  
dforbes66@comcast.net

---

## From the Recorder



Hello Nobles,

We're getting close to the end of the year and don't forget to get your dues paid. As I said last month, a person is in danger of suspension for NPD after 1 year so make sure your 2023 dues have been paid. Imperial will mail out a post card on November 30<sup>th</sup> to those who could be suspended. I have sent emails or snail mail to all the Nobles who are behind in their dues, if you have any questions, please get ahold of me.

Along with the Imperial Per Capita increasing this year, the cost of a life membership will go up by \$600.00 on January 1, 2024. If you have any interest in getting a life membership (PCM) in the Shrine, now is the time to do it. The current cost is \$900.00 and is good until 12/31/2023.

El Kalah will be having a hockey night on November 25<sup>th</sup> at 6pm. The cost is \$25/seat, contact Blake Hansen to RSVP and to pay.

*"Do all the good you can, for all the people you can, in all the ways you can, as long as you can."* — Hillary Clinton (inspired by John Wesley quote)

Dave Hutchinson, Recorder  
elkalahrecorder02@gmail.com

---

## From the Chaplain



My Dear Brother Nobles and Ladies.

As I write this November epistle, I look out the door and my beautiful mountains are beginning to show a very light frosting of snow, the blaze of colors we had last month are beginning to fade, and I have reset the thermostat from Cool mode to Heat mode. However, the weather is still beautiful, so I hope everyone is enjoying the great outdoors at every opportunity. Father Frost has already visited us up here in the mountains.

We had a very productive meeting in October. The matter of the sale of the Kelly's Grove facility was voted upon and rejected, so we will have the option to rent it out for profit to the Temple, or to be used by our members as they wish. We had some Past Potentates and Old Friends & Nobles we haven't seen recently in attendance, for which we are thankful. It is always a pleasure in any of our Masonic Family Organizations to see our Dear Brothers, Nobles, Sisters, etc. COVID made that very obvious to all of us, I believe. I hope to see more of you at upcoming meetings. We miss you!

Remember – we have a website and a Facebook page that are available to all of us.

Time to tickle your funnybone (I hope)..

*Pote Al found a magic lamp with a genie who offered him three wishes. "For my first wish," Al said, "I'd like to be Rich." "OK, Rich," the genie replied. What's your second wish?"*

*Danny assigned one of his students to write an essay of 250 words about a car. He turned in the following: "My uncle bought a car. He was riding in the country when it broke down. I guess this makes 25 words. The other 225 are what my uncle said when he was walking back to town but they're not fit for publication."*

*PPote Jim ordered an extension course called "How To Deal With Life's Disappointments." Yesterday he got the first lesson by mail. It*

*was an empty envelope.*

*Blake had his first stand-up gig in front of an audience recently. It didn't go well. He started his bit and some guy started to heckle him, yelling, "Hey you! Down in front! We're trying to watch the movie!"*

*Dave mailed a Valentine's Day card and our tax return at the same time last year. Now he can't remember which one he signed "Guess who? XOXO."*

*A police officer knocked on Mr. Bill's door and told him his dogs were chasing people on bikes. Bill responded, "My dogs don't even have bikes!"*

So, if you think you can do better, the job is your!

Be safe, stay healthy, and hope to see ya down the road soon.

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 of 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.

Lastly, from Kristen,

Clearly, many folks have been so busy. I thank them sincerely for all their efforts to improve our patient's lives.

I want to acknowledge the retirement of Mike Allen and the continued



wonderful support we get from our IT team. Thanks to Wade Gundry for help now, and even more importantly, in March as we transition to EPIC medical records system.

Thank you to our engineering team who keeps this place running! They respond to over 400 requests a month- and take care of outside too!

Thank you to our hardworking environmental services, working with few folks, they keep us clean and organized.

Thank you especially to Dwight, Jose and Valerie in Nutrition Services! How do they care for all of us?? How do three people do so much work and keep the food so delicious? All that cooking, cleaning, and ordering...Thank you!

Thank you to Natalie for taking on leadership and thank you to our amazing Board of Directors and outgoing chair Mark Michaelson for all your dedication to us.

With love and appreciation, always.

Kristen

Doctor Kristen Carroll, MD, Medical Director  
Shriners Children's, Salt Lake City

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 Gelines](#)**.

*Jim Sweet*, PP, Board of Governors  
Jsweetinogden2@yahoo.com

---

## Suzuki's Enlightenment

*"The enlightened person walks on the ground. The unenlightened walks two inches above it."*



Ponder the meaning of the above statement before reading on.

Once in a while, as masons “*who delight in the mysteries of our profession,*” we need a reminder that conceptualizing and judging have a dark side. Sure, we need to make sense of our environment and formulate a philosophy that gives meaning to life and our relationships. However, we may get carried away and lose sight of the Unity of all things. Thinking ourselves separate from Earth, and all creatures therein can have devastating consequences. Judging, according to the TAO, is the conceptualizing that leads to creating differences and separation where none exists. A world of things and people living independently of one another is an illusion, says the TAO.

“*Walking two inches above the ground*” alludes not only to said separation, but to “overthinking” to a point that we live in the clouds, detached from what really matters—relationships. We may then fall victim to ideologies that seek to exploit this separation for gain.

The enlightened person understands that simple living, in touch with Mother Earth and all its creatures is all we need. Concepts and ideologies then appear as “*a mirage, as shadows... that constantly collide in conflict and persecution.*”

*Hugo Rodier, MD*  
hugorodier@gmail.com

---

## From the Daughters of the Nile



Hello friends,

Lybia Temple is excited to welcome Her Majesty Patricia Larimore, Supreme Queen, to Salt Lake City this month. SQ Patty visited Shriners Children's eleven years ago as a Princess and now returns to visit as Supreme Queen.

Although a lot has changed in those eleven years, Shriners and Daughters of the Nile have remained steadfast in their mission of seeing that all children have a chance to rise to their full potential regardless of their ability to pay for expensive medical care.

I'm proud to be a part of helping children become the very best they can be and I invite you to come along with me on this journey. If you'd like to know more about Daughters of the Nile please let me know because I'd love to talk to you.

*Candice Sweet*, Queen, Lybia Temple No. 32  
cswt12@cs.com

---

## From the Ladies Oriental Shrine



Hello Nobles, Ladies, and Friends.

November is a very fun month! There's Veterans Day, thanksgiving, lots of fall leaves, and we're high in the planning of our Christmas party! It's December ninth so please let our first ceremonial lady Kristie know if you will be there! It's always a fun time! Also, we will be bringing in two new ladies into our court so I'm very excited for that!! November is our Ogden meeting! We meet at the Ogden Masonic temple and have a fun time! We are also selling our rada knives still! They make great holiday gifts!

I think that's all for now!

*Jessica Norton*, High Priestess  
jessimono26488@gmail.com

---

## Shrine Family Calendar of Events for November

2<sup>nd</sup> Ogden LOS Club, University Broiler, 6:30 pm

- 5<sup>th</sup> Daylight Saving Time Ends
  - 9<sup>th</sup> Ogden Nile Club, University Broiler, 6:30 pm
  - 11<sup>th</sup> Corinne #5 Oyster Fry 4 pm – 8 pm
  - 11<sup>th</sup> Layton Veterans Day Parade
  - 11<sup>th</sup> Veterans Day
  - 15<sup>th</sup> El Kalah Divan Meeting, SLCMT, 6:30 pm
  - 15<sup>th</sup> El Kalah Regular Meeting, SLCMT, 7:30 pm
  - 16<sup>th</sup> Daughters of the Nile Stated Session, SLCMT, 7:00 pm
  - 23<sup>rd</sup> Ladies Oriental Shrine Regular Meeting, SLCMT, 7:00 pm
  - 23<sup>rd</sup> Thanksgiving Day
  - 25<sup>th</sup> Ogden Holiday Electric Light Parade
  - 25<sup>th</sup> Hockey Game
  - 26<sup>th</sup> Minibikes Club Meeting, American Legion, 4:00 pm
-



VS.

El Kalah Shriner's Hockey Night

November 25, 2023 @ 6 PM

Tickets \$25 a seat.

Cell 801-850-2434 or

[brotherblake7@gmail.com](mailto:brotherblake7@gmail.com)

Pay cash, check or

Venmo @Blake-Hansen-29

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

[Unsubscribe mr.billv@icloud.com](mailto:mr.billv@icloud.com)

[Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data Notice](#)

Sent by [jsweetinogden2@yahoo.com](mailto:jsweetinogden2@yahoo.com) powered by



