



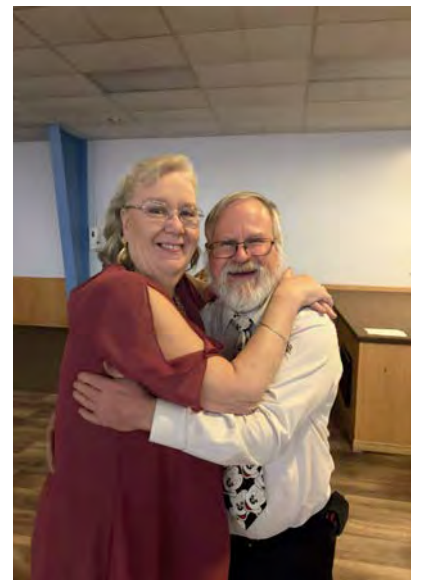
# ARABIAN KNIGHTS

NEWSLETTER FOR ELF KHURAFEH SHRINE

*FEBRUARY 2026*

*EDITION*

*VALENTINE'S DAY DINNER/DANCE HOSTED BY EK SHRINE AND  
LOSNA*





Phil Gean-Potentate

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First Lady Judy

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## 2026



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Chuck Birch-Assistant Rabban

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Greg Dostal-High Priest & Prophet

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Lady Cheryl

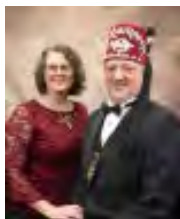


Ed Parks-Oriental Guide

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## APPOINTED DIVAN



Matt Berry-1st Ceremonial Master  
810-938-9314



Brian Wiltfong-2nd Ceremonial Master  
810-874-0178  
Lady Amie 847-404-8094



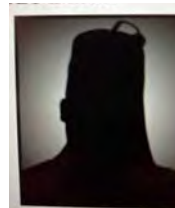
Rob Garceau-Director General  
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Lady Krista



Chuck Brantley-Marshall  
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Lady Reta 248-605-1368



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Lady Crystal



James Doan-Outer Guard  
248-606-1837

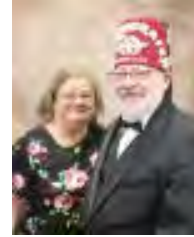


Robert Swartwood-Chaplain  
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Lady Sandy  
810-397-0901



Tim Corrigan-Chief Aide  
989-213-2534 [knobyclown@gmail.com](mailto:knobyclown@gmail.com)

## From your Potentate - Illustrious Sir Philip Gean



From The Potentate

Warmer weather is here and it is time to come out of hibernation! Now is the time to sell the Sportsman raffle tickets as this is when people are getting out and about. Make sure to mention the side raffles as there are quite a few. Please note the **March 1st** Chili cookoff time is 1pm, not 5pm. The wine and bourbon tasting is on **March 7th** and the time is 5pm.

This month's business meeting is at Circus Park Event Center. Check for times as we might have a candidate.

We will be in the poker room twice this month. First on **March 15th** and the second on **March 29th** . If you want to donate your time please let me know as I can always use workers.

The LOSNA court #28 Installation of officers is on the **21st of March** at Swartz Creek Lodge and is a must attend. I will see you there.

Remember that we will have an Easter party for the kiddos on **March 28th**, noon till 4pm.

Your Potentate Philip F Gean



More dinner/dance pictures



**EK SHRINE'S CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

**March 1 Chili Cook-off 1pm CP**

**March 7 Wine and Bourbon Tasting 5pm CP**

**March 11 Board Meeting 5pm CP**

**Dinner 6pm**

**Business Meeting 7pm**

**March 15-18 Poker Room American Legion, Davison**

**March 17 Happy St. Patrick's Day**

**March 21 LOS Installation Swartz Creek Masonic Lodge**

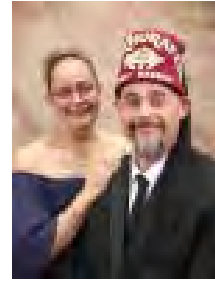
**(Divan are required to attend)**

**March 28 Easter Party 1pm-4pm CP**

**March 29-April 1 Poker Room American Legion, Davison**



**From your Chief Rabban  
Brian Geiser**



## **GREETINGS NOBLES AND LADIES**

**As I stated in last month's issue, Jami and I have been asked to head up the Easter party on March 28th. The ladies have a good plan together. What we need now is a few more volunteers to make this happen. If you're interested in helping, please reach out to myself or Jami. Thank you.**

**We are still looking for feedback on new ideas to get our nobles back involved and active; we still have quite a few nobles that have joined but we have not seen much of them. Please reach out and get their thoughts on what they would like to see differently to help our membership grow and please communicate this to the divan.**

**As always, I'm looking forward to seeing everyone at all our events that are scheduled for this year. If there is any information you need, please feel free to reach out to me and I will answer what I can and get you the answers for anything I can't answer.**

**Brian Geiser**

**Chief Rabban**



**Shriners**  
Children's™

the most  
**AMAZING**  
**CARE**  
anywhere™

**From your Assistant Rabban  
Chuck Birch**



Greetings Nobles, we're almost 2 months into 2026, and things are going fairly well. Our Circuses were pretty successful despite the weather deciding to not cooperate, again. The attendance at our business meetings continues to be lower than we would like. The Divan would prefer that our meetings overflow with Nobles, so that we can get ideas and opinions from a larger cross section of our Nobles. Please consider attending our meetings and events. We try to schedule events, ie: Chili Cookoff, Bourbon and wine tasting, etc, that would appeal to and be enjoyable to most members AND their spouses/families. Sales of the Sportsman Raffle tickets are slow, and please sell, sell, sell!!! This is a major money maker, and the Temple needs those funds to continue to provide our Shrine family with a wonderful place to meet and prosper. It's not that we would just like to see the attendance numbers rise, but we like to see and catch up with old, and new, friends. Our Fraternity stresses brotherhood and friendship, but it's hard to do this with people not showing up. Very much looking forward to seeing all of you Nobles at our upcoming events!!

Yours in the Faith, Chuck.



**From your High Priest and Prophet  
Greg Dostal**



We are planning a bus trip to Chicago to celebrate Fezzy's 100th Birthday Bash on June 27, 2026! We will be departing from Circus Park at o'dark thirty and returning the same day. On the way home, we'll be stopping at Cracker Barrel for dinner. The final details are still being arranged, but the cost will be approximately \$80 per person. All are invited — spouses, friends, and non-Shriners are welcome to join us for this special celebration!

What I need from you now is a commitment if you plan to attend. Please send me an email at [n8kfe@charter.net](mailto:n8kfe@charter.net), or text/call me at 989-488-3320. Be sure to include the number of people in your party.

Let's make this a memorable celebration for Fezzy's 100th!

Thank you.  
Greg Dostal

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As we run headlong into 2026, we wanted to remind everyone to mark your calendars for the Annual Midland Area Shrine Club Golf Outing!

 Date: July 19, 2026

 Location: Sandy Ridge Golf Course  
2750 Lauria Rd  
Midland, MI 48642

We'll have all the fun and frivolity you've come to expect from past years, so be sure to plan on joining us.

We look forward to seeing you there!

Fraternally,  
Midland Area Shrine Club



**From your Oriental Guide  
Edward Parks**



**Greeting Nobles**

I hope everyone is doing well and healthy. We had a terrific Valentines Day Party and a big Thank you to all that attended. March 1st is our Chili Cookoff at Circus Park. Cost is \$10.00. Doors open at 1:00pm then from 2:00 until 5:00 will be judging and eating. Winners will be decided at 5:00. There will be games and fellowship. We are still asking for more entrants so please make your best chili and enter it.

**\*\*\*Advanced Notice\*\*\***

Sept 09—Sept 13 is the GLSA in Dayton Ohio.

Elf Khurafeh is the host temple. It will be held at the Marriott at the University of Dayton.

1414 S Patterson Blvd Dayton Ohio 45409

937-223-1000

Rates are \$149.00 a night

Please book your rooms ASAP

We encourage all Clubs and Units to Attend.

In closing if any of our nobility have a question or have something you need, please reach out to your Divan Officers. Our phone numbers are located in your calenders.

Thank you. Yours in Faith

Edward Parks

Oriental Guide

**WELCOME TO DEER CAMP**

**MAKE YOUR  
BEST CHILI AND  
ENTER!  
ALL CHILI  
ENTRANTS RSVP  
CAPRICE @ 810-  
391-3048**



**CHILI  
COOK-OFF**

**CALLING ALL  
CHILI MAKERS!!!!**

**SUNDAY MARCH 1ST  
DOORS OPEN 1:00 PM  
TASTING BEGINS 2:00 PM  
WINNERS AT 5:00 PM**

**\$10 AT THE  
DOOR  
BYOB /  
MIXERS  
AVAILABLE**

**DEER  
CAMP  
THEMED  
GAMES &  
FUN**

**CIRCUS PARK / 4240 WILSON RD, CLIO / EKSHRINE.COM  
ED PARKS 810-597-2711**

# PATIENT CARE IS PRIORITY

## Two SC locations collaborate to create custom devices

Shriners Children's Ohio and Shriners Children's Lexington are collaborating to meet the needs of some of our patients who have a limb loss due to a burn injury.

Kim Perkins, PT, manager of our rehabilitation program, worked with Eric Miller, manager of Pediatric Orthotic and Prosthetic Services (POPS) in Lexington to create custom prosthetic devices for burn survivors living with amputations.

One of the patients Eric met with was six-year-old Nathaniel. He suffered a critical



burn injury from a car crash. He was initially treated at a different hospital in California but came to us for the rehabilitation phase of his care journey.

## SCC celebrates National Women Physicians Day

Shriners Children's recognized the impact women physicians make across our healthcare system in February.

Dr. Mukherjee, medical director of spinal cord injury/rehabilitation services at Shriners Children's Chicago, was featured in an article, where she shared insights on her journey into pediatric rehabilitation, the importance of teamwork and mentorship, and what continues to inspire her work with patients and families.

"I've had so many (mentors or role models who influenced my path)! People who helped me learn my field and demonstrated breadth and depth of ability," she said. "My colleagues also inspire me daily."



One Children's Place - 2 West  
Dayton, OH 45404  
SHRINERSOHIO.ORG

2211 N. Oak Park Ave.  
Chicago, IL 60707  
SHRINERSCHICAGO.ORG



From your Treasurer~~~~Jeff Downing PP



I'm writing this article on Friday, February 13th – one day before I head off for the first REAL vacation Lady Laura and I have taken since being appointed to the Divan by Illustrious Sir Dave Karcher. Therefore, this will likely be a short article since I have a serious case of vacation brain right now.

Numbers are in for the circus, and unfortunately, they are not where we hoped. We did not have the benefit of having the elephants for ride income this year. We have been told that the elephants have been retired due to age, and it's not likely that Carden International Circuses will look for more elephants. Along with the circuses, there have been a few other items that have exceeded budget, so be prepared to review and amend the budget at a business meeting in the near future.

I'm pleased to announce that our 2023 review of financial statements is complete and we are about halfway through the 2024 review. Once we complete that review, the next step is filing our 990s for the temple and association. Once we have three consecutive years confirmed and approved by the IRS, we will be reinstated as a tax-exempt nonprofit again. We will likely need to file an extension for the 2025 tax year to buy us 6 months to complete the 2025 990, but once that is complete, we will be in compliance with the IRS and Shriners International.

That's about it from the Treasurer's desk for this article. Thanks for having faith in me to do this job! Please remember to keep our sick and shut-in nobles, first responders and military, and especially our Shrine kids in your thoughts and prayers.

Now, if you'll excuse me, I need to go finish packing for my trip to some warmer latitudes! Bon Voyage!!!

Fraternally,

Jeff Downing, P.P. - Treasurer



**From your Recorder**

**Phil Brack, P.P.**



**Greetings. We have survived another Circus along with the cold and snow. Thank you to all that came out and helped. We averaged 47 Nobles per day at Flint and 43 at Saginaw. These numbers do not include non-Shrine volunteers and the ladies. We couldn't do it without you.**

**We are scanning dues cards for every Temple business meeting and event. Earn enough points and receive a ¼ zip or full zip jacket with a Shrine Temple logo. More details to follow.**

**If you wish to be an Associate Board Member or a Full Board Member of the Shriners Ohio or Shriners Chicago hospital, please contact me and I will provide you with the forms and information you will need.**

**Nomination. In January of each year, the Chairman of the Board of Governors shall contact, in writing, the Potentate of each Shrine Temple that sponsors the Hospital (with copies to the Recorder of each such Shrine Temple and all members of the Board of Governors). soliciting nominations for all anticipated vacancies which occur on the Board of Governors at the end of that calendar year. The Recorder of each such Shrine Temple shall promptly distribute/publicize this information to Temple Membership in the Temple newsletter and any other applicable application requesting nominations for anticipated vacancies on the Hospital Board of Governors. The letter will specify the requirements and professional skills or experience necessary or desired for selection as a Board of Governors member and will enclose a copy of the Job Description for Board of Governors Members approved by the Board Trustees. All nominations accompanied by the required application form are to be submitted to the Nominating Committee of the Board of Governors not later than May 1 of that year. The Nominating Committee of the Board of Governors shall evaluate all nominees and determine those who meet the qualifications of the membership skills list. above, and select from those qualified the individuals whose skills and experience will satisfy the current and/or anticipated requirements of the Board of Governors. The Nobles selected by the Nominating Committee of the Board of Governors shall be asked to participate in in-person interviews at the Hospital, to be conducted by the Nominating Committee. The Nominating Committee of the Board of Governors shall then make its recommendations for nominations to the Board of Governors. Upon approval of those recommendations by the Board of Governors, the nominations shall be forwarded no later than September 1 to the Chairman of the Board of Trustees, with a copy to the Executive Vice President, for approval by the Board of Trustees.**

**Don't forget, dues are due. Call me if you need some help.**

**Until next month.**

**Respectfully submitted, Philip Brack P.P. Recorder**

# SAVE THE DATE!



**Shriners**  
Children's™  
Chicago

## Fezzy's 100<sup>th</sup> Birthday Bash



*Shriners Children's Chicago invites you and your family to celebrate our milestone 100<sup>th</sup> birthday at a special outdoor event.*

**Saturday, June 27, 2026**  
**10 a.m. – 1 p.m.**

Bring your loved ones to enjoy food, activities, and a day of appreciation for 100 years of our amazing care.

**LOCATION:** Shriners Children's Chicago hospital yard  
2211 N. Oak Park Avenue, Chicago, IL 60707

**From the Chaplain Robert Swartwood**

**Until next month, be well.**

Robert L. Swartwood

Attorney at Law

164 W. Vienna Street

Clio, MI 48420

(810) 686-7687

Fax: (810) 686-7683

[RLSWART06@aol.com](mailto:RLSWART06@aol.com)



### **Elf Khurafeh Shrine Black Camel Report**

**These Nobles have been reported deceased since our last meeting.**

**\*\*Graham Whipple Chesaning 1-16-2026**

**\*\*Lloyd J. Williams Davison 2-13-2026**

**From your First Ceremonial Master**

**Matt Berry**

Hello Nobles,



Hope you are all doing well. We had a great turnout at the Valentine's Party, and I truly hope that if you couldn't make it this year, you'll come out next year — I promise you'll have a blast!

The EDM Committee will be sharing its meeting night with the Davison Shrine Club on the 4th Tuesday at John's Pizzeria in Davison, MI, starting at 6pm. We have a real need for nobles who would like to participate in this new and exciting fundraiser, so please feel free to reach out to me if you'd like to help. All EDM meetings will also include a virtual option to join.

The Davison Shrine Club, in an effort to increase visibility, is looking into purchasing Vidalia Onion banner flags (like what the circus uses on the floor). If you, your club, or your unit is interested, please reach out to me. We'll be getting pricing and placing the order soon.

Looking ahead, we have the chili cook-off coming up, and my better half will be making some awesome chili — so please come out and show your support for all these wonderful cooks.

Please everyone, take care of yourselves. Look out for your fellow nobles, give them a call, and ask how they're doing. We all benefit when we support each other, and it's always nice to get a call from a friend and brother.

Fraternally,

**Matthew Berry**

**1st Ceremonial Master**



This one's for the girls

Jami Geiser–Chief Rabban's Lady



BE  
THE WOMAN  
WHO FIXES  
ANOTHER  
WOMAN'S CROWN  
WITHOUT  
TELLING THE  
WORLD IT WAS  
CROOKED...

Hello again nobles,

Don't forget to get your onions orders in by April 1st to me at 810 394-1860 or to Phil Brack in the office. We are also working on getting the sauces back in stock.

Ryan Stanley PP, Onion Chairman

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From your 2nd Ceremonial Master

Brian Wiltfong



Greetings Nobles & Ladies,

As a Noble who hasn't even been with the Shrine for a year yet, and who now finds himself as 2nd Ceremonial Master, I would just like to state for the record that I am absolutely amazed and humbled by how much my fellow Nobles do, and how much they contribute to the Shrine. The last year has been a whirlwind of events and activities, and I've tried to be involved in as much of it as work and random illnesses would allow. During that time, I have seen a great many Nobles and Ladies doing tremendous work, going above and beyond the call of duty, to make sure that these events have gone off without a hitch and have had as much impact as possible for the community.

And those events keep on coming...Coming up in rapid succession are the Chili Cookoff (bring your own Beano) on March 1st , the Wine & Bourbon Tasting (one of my personal favorites!) on March 7th , our next Business Meeting on the 11th, which features a chili bar (how could you not want to attend just to get your hands on that?!?), and finally the Easter Party on the 28th (egg-stuffers wanted). An enormous "Thank You" to all of the Nobles and Ladies who are making these upcoming events possible, and an incredible amount of heartfelt gratitude to our Illustrious Potentate Phil Gean for nominating me to be 2nd Ceremonial Master, which allows me to work alongside such amazing people.

Excelsior! Brian Wiltfong 2nd Ceremonial Master

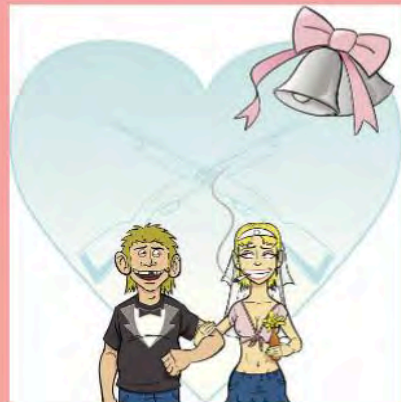
**CLAN #55 INVITES YOU ALL TO ATTEND!!**

Hillbilly Clan 55 brings you  
the annual  
**Spring  
Fling**

Circus Park  
Sat. April 25th

5:00 pm doors  
5:30 pm ceremony  
6:30 pm dinner

\$25 per person  
\$40 per couple




**There will be a special wedding vow renewal ceremony for the Geiser's. They will be bringing us the John Vance Band for our entertainment.**

**Beer & Soda provided---BYOB.**

**Great food and dessert. RSVP to**

**Jami at 517-915-8324 or**

**Chuck 248-605-1322**



ELF KHURAFEH  
SHRINE INVITES YOU  
TO THEIR ANNUAL

# EASTER PARTY

---

*LUNCH AND PICTURES WITH  
THE EASTER BUNNY*

---

DONATIONS APPRECIATED.  
GAMES. CRAFTS. FUN. FOOD. PRIZES!  
THERE WILL BE A RAFFLE FOR TWO (2) TABLETS. WINNERS  
WILL BE DRAWN AT 3:00PM. MUST BE PRESENT TO WIN.  
CHILDREN GET ONE FREE RAFFLE TICKET, EXTRAS WILL BE  
AVAILABLE TO PURCHASE.

**28**  
**MARCH**

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**CIRCUS PARK EVENT CENTER**  
**4240 W WILSON RD CLIO, MI**  
**48420**

**1PM-4PM**

