



ARABIAN KNIGHTS

NEWSLETTER FOR ELF KHURAFEH SHRINE

MAY 2026

EDITION

FIRST OF JUNE

Night when the south wind wakes the owl
and the owl says it is summer
now it is time to be summer
it is time for that departure
though the blanket dates from childhood
it is time whoever you are
to be going they are older
every one of them there is spring
no longer this is the south wind
you have heard about that brings rain
taking away roofs with a breath
and a season of grapes in one
blind unpredictable moment
of hail this is the white wind that
you cannot believe here it is
and the owl sails out to see whose
turn it is tonight to be changed



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First Lady Judy

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2026



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APPOINTED DIVAN



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



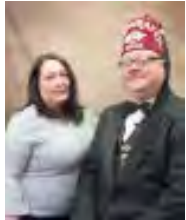
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Lady Amie 847-404-8094



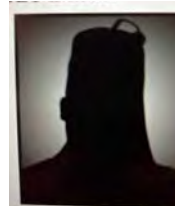
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From your Potentate - Illustrious Sir Philip Gean



This month's business meeting is Wednesday the 10th of June.

The times are the same. Board meeting at 5pm, dinner at 6pm

and the business meeting at 7pm. The dress code is Divan shirt (your choice) or a collared shirt, no shorts.

Please note that the Hospital Drivers meeting is the day before at Andy's Country Chef in Clio. If you are interested in becoming a driver, please contact Pat Finnegan or myself.

The Lexington 100th celebration is on the 12th and 13th and I plan on attending so if you want to go, you will have to make your own reservations.

Please let me know if your meeting dates change so I can adjust my schedule.

Potentate Phil Gean

EK SHRINE'S CALENDAR OF EVENTS

June 10th Business Meeting Circus Park

6pm dinner 7pm meeting

June 14th Flag Day

June 18th Oasis Steak Fry Circus Park 6:30pm

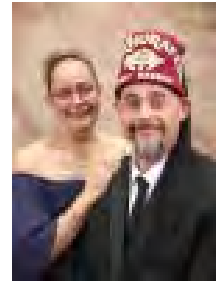
June 19th Juneteeth

June 20th-21st Sloan Car Show

June 21st Happy Father's Day!!

June 27th Hospital Day Chicago 10am-1pm

**From your Chief Rabban
Brian Geiser**



Greetings, Nobles and Ladies

What a whirlwind the past four to five weeks have been for Jami and I. After 20 years living farther south, we have finally moved back to Genesee County. I can already say that a 10-minute drive home is much less stressful than an hour-long commute.

Housewarming Celebration

Now that the move is behind us, we are hosting a housewarming party on June 6 to celebrate being closer to so many of you. Please RSVP to Jami if you plan to attend so I can be sure to have plenty of food ready for everyone.

Northern Clubs Update

Even in the middle of the move, I was able to make a few trips to the northern clubs and introduce the idea of Zoom stated meetings for our northern groups. Most members responded very positively because it would help them stay informed in real time. If your club or unit is interested in this option, please reach out to me so I can add you to the list. We hope to have this up and running around the first of the year, so stay tuned.

Membership Engagement

I am still looking for feedback and fresh ideas to help get our nobles more involved and active. We have welcomed quite a few new members, but we have not seen many of them participating yet. Please reach out to them, ask what they would like to see done differently, and share that feedback with me or a member of the divan so we can continue to grow our membership.

Closing

As always, I look forward to seeing everyone at the events scheduled for this year. If you need any information, please feel free to reach out to me. I will answer what I can and help find the answers to anything I cannot.

Brian Geiser
Chief Rabban



Shriners
Children's™

the most
AMAZING
CARE
anywhere™

**From your Assistant Rabban
Chuck Birch**



Happy Spring Nobles!! We're finally getting some warmer weather so we can begin to have outdoor fun. Hopefully your Shrine Club/Unit has some events/parades scheduled so that you can join together for some Shrine fun. Speaking of outdoor fun, the Midland Area Shrine Club will be holding its 33rd Annual Golf Outing on Sunday, July 19th . Get a foursome from your Shrine Club, or come by yourself, and we'll add you with other singles to form a team. It is always a great time of fellowship and golf, with great prizes, food and stories/lies to tell about your golfing.

Your Elected Divan, (particularly our treasurer Jeff Downing), continues the efforts to get our IRS problems solved and all our clubs/units reinstated and in non-profit status. This has been an enormous effort, but we are finally seeing the light at the end of the tunnel!!! When you see Jeff, please thank him for the fantastic effort he put into this endeavor!! Please have a safe and enjoyable Memorial Day weekend and we'll see you soon.

Yours in the faith, Chuck.



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



Nobles,

As we swing into summer there are lots of things that keep us busy. On the 10th is the regular business meeting. As the Divan Membership Chair I am looking for a co-chair. There are lots of membership resources available to help from the Imperial and even training events. I am looking for someone that will make this into a multiyear project. As with every Masonic group we need new members and this is a way to move the needle.

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Registration is now open for **G.L.S.A. in Dayton, Ohio**. This event is open to **all Nobles and their families**, and we encourage everyone to begin planning to attend.

We are proud to host **G.L.S.A. this September in Dayton**, with **John Arnould, PP** serving as President for the 2026 year.

Dates: September 9 – September 13

Host Hotel: Marriott at the University of Dayton

1414 S. Patterson Blvd.

Dayton, Ohio 45409

Please share this information with fellow Nobles and family members.

Looking forward into June the Chicago Hospital will be celebrating **Fezzy's 100th Birthday Bash** on June 27, 2026!

Get involved—you'll be glad you did!

Yours in the Faith, Greg Dostal HP&P

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



Happy spring nobles,
Hoping the onions sales are going well thank you again for helping to raise funds
For your club or units and the temple. We still have some extras at the temple.
Reach out to your temple rep, myself, or the temple directly and we will work to
get them to ya.
THANK YOU again.

Ryan Stanley PP
Onion chairman

From your Oriental Guide Edward Parks



Greetings Nobles

It looks like warmer weather has finally found us so let the outdoor events begin.

To all clubs and units if your planning on entering the Montrose Blueberry Parade it's time to get your parade applications in.

You can go to montroseblueberryfestival.net and download the parade application .

June 7th Loons game is cancelled

June 10th business meeting is at Circus Park Dinner at 6 Meeting at 7 Nobles these Meetings are being held for You and we encourage you all to attend.

June 14th there is NO poker room at Burton Eagles

June 18th Oasis is having there Steak Fry Please contact Bob Hardin or Verne Barnaby if you plan to attend so they know how many steaks to get.

June 20th and 21st is the Sloan Car Show It is being held at Crossroads Village Oasis is a food vendor at this event .They can use some volunteers to work it so if your able Please contact Bob Hardin and Verne Barnaby .

June 27th is Hospital Day in Chicago this is an outdoor event there WILL NOT be a tour of the facility.

G.L.S.A. Sept 9th -13th

If you haven't made your reservations, please make them soon.

E.D.M. Festival is in the works. If you would like to be part of this event Contact Matt Berry .

To our new Nobles–Please come to these events to help out or even observe what we do. We would love to see you .

Yours In Faith

Oriental Guide

Edward Parks



SHRINERS CHILDREN'S OHIO

2026



CELEBRATION

Extraordinary Mission. Life-Changing Care.

AUGUST 21-22

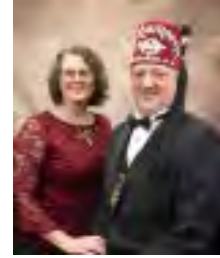
Dayton Dragons | Antioch Shrine Center | Top of the Market
Dayton, Ohio



Don't miss the opportunity to learn about the amazing care happening at Shriners Children's Ohio and all the exciting things on the horizon!

Scan the QR code now!

From your Treasurer~~~~Jeff Downing P.P.



Notes from the desk of the Treasurer

By the time this article gets published, the accounting firm and I will be well underway with preparing and filing all of our outstanding 990s and reinstatement forms. Our target for completion is mid-July. At that time, we should have everything up through 2024 complete and filed. We have filed extensions for our 2025 filings, and are looking to complete those prior to the November deadline. Once those filings are complete, we will finally be caught up. However, I still need club financial statements from a few clubs. If your club is one of those clubs, I will contact you and request your statements as quickly as possible. Our timeline depends on you!

If anyone ever has questions or concerns about our finances, please feel free to contact me and set up a time to visit. I will gladly share any records on our finances with any noble, and I'll do my best to explain things and answer any questions. I feel it is important to run a transparent Treasurer's office and to maintain your trust in me.

Thank you all for the great things you do for the Shrine and our Shrine patients! Please keep them and our military and first responders in your prayers.

Fraternally,

Jeff Downing, P.P. - Treasurer



From your Recorder

Phil Brack, P.P.



Greetings,

It's almost summer and I for one am ready. The Sportsman's raffle was a success. Thank you to all that helped out. Noble Jon Jacobs and Jared Julien will be taking over as Chairmen for this event. I want to thank all of you for your support you gave me while I was Chairman.

If you know a Noble that has an email address but is not getting this newsletter, have them email me at recorder@ekshrine.com and I will update their record. If they have not registered with webfez, they can do that by going to <https://webfez.shrinenet.org>. Once they register they can look at their personal information and see if changes need to be made. I have also been informed that the "My Card Viewer" app has been fixed. You may have to uninstall it and reinstall it or it may have updated itself, but supposedly it is better.

Don't forget, dues are due. We still have \$17,000 plus owed in dues. This total will increase in August when the 2027 dues notices come out. Call me if you need some help. (810) 686-2641 ex2.

Until next month.

Respectfully submitted, Philip Brack P.P. Recorder.

Elf Khurafeh Shrine Black Camel Report

These Nobles have been reported deceased since our last meeting.

Donald M Tarbutton Gaylord 4/22/2026



From our Chaplain—Robert Swartwood, P.P.

As we enter into the main time of year where people are traveling and enjoying the outside world, be in awe as you enter into God's playground and all the benefits we receive from the creator. It should be a time of enjoyment and reflection, rest and relaxation, family joys and memories made. Also, a time of reflection on what is important in this life and all of the benefits we have received. My prayer is that God watches over each and every one of you and keeps you safe and healthy as you engage in your activities. And, as always, be mindful of what is dear to Shrine families everywhere and that is the treatment of the children that we serve. Your Chaplain

Robert L. Swartwood

Attorney at Law

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RLSWART06@aol.com



SAVE THE DATE!



Shriners
Children's
Chicago

Fezzy's 100th
Birthday Bash



Shriners Children's Chicago invites you and your family to celebrate our milestone 100th 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 your First Ceremonial Master

Matt Berry



I hope each and every Noble has had a wonderful spring and is looking forward to the summer season!

I have been busy working with the EDM Committee as we continue planning what we believe will be an exciting and successful event. If you have any questions or would like more information, the committee can now be reached by email at edm@ekshrine.com.

I recently had the opportunity to travel to the White Pine Shrine Club for some amazing food, great fellowship, and a chance to speak about the EDM Festival. I truly appreciate the warm welcome and the continued support.

One exciting update regarding the festival is that we have been informed by the county parks that we will be able to use the train from Crossroads Village to offer train rides during the event. This is a great addition and something we believe attendees will really enjoy.

If you would like to serve on the committee or receive the latest information, please feel free to reach out. We are still looking to fill the following open committee positions for the EDM Festival:

Sanitation

Parking

Box Office

Have a great start to your summer!

Matt Berry

1st Ceremonial Master

FROM BARRY THURSTON



FROM THE CAMEL'S MOUTH ABOUT HOSPITAL TRANSPORTATION VANS

(Thanks to Al Bahar Shrine for this article)

“We have clarified the allowed usage of the Hospital Transportation Vans and here is a summary of what we received from Shriners International.

- The Hospital Transportation Vans are to be used for transporting children and parents for hospital business. This takes priority over any other usage.
- The Hospital Transportation Vans may be used in parades if there is not children in need. If there are any beads that come up the van must be pulled and used for the needs of our children.
- The Hospital Transportation Vans may NOT be used to transport Shriners and/or their parade gear to/from the parades or any other activities other than the Driver and Co-Driver for a parade. No exceptions will be granted.
- The Hospital Transportation Vans may NOT be used to tow floats in the parades. No exceptions will be granted.
- The Hospital Transportation Vans may NOT be used to transport Hospital Staff to clinics of Hospitals without the express written permission of the Hospital Board of Directors (This is the National Board of Directors, not the local Board of Governors for a Hospital/Clinic).
- Any vehicle purchased by a Temple, with or without Hospital Transportation Funds, that is used primarily as a Hospital Transportation Van will fall under these rules.

It is important that it is understood that the temple's ability to transport SHC patients is a special exception to otherwise applicable laws that prohibit health systems from transporting patients as part of its service. Our temples have been specifically excepted from the application of that law. However, the vans the temples operate are limited to that purpose. It is up to SHC to provide the transportation of its staff and supplies outside of vans dedicated to the specific purpose of transporting patients and their families.”



DINNER TICKETS BEFORE
JUNE - \$12.50 EACH

STREET DANCE

Chicken BBQ

1PM - 6PM
\$15 EACH



DINNER TICKETS BEFORE
JUNE - \$12.50 EACH

Festival

CAR CRUISE
\$10 PER CAR

MUSIC THROUGH OUT THE DAY

SATURDAY
JUNE 13, 2026

BIKE RUN - KICK STANDS UP
AT 11 AM
\$10 PER PERSON

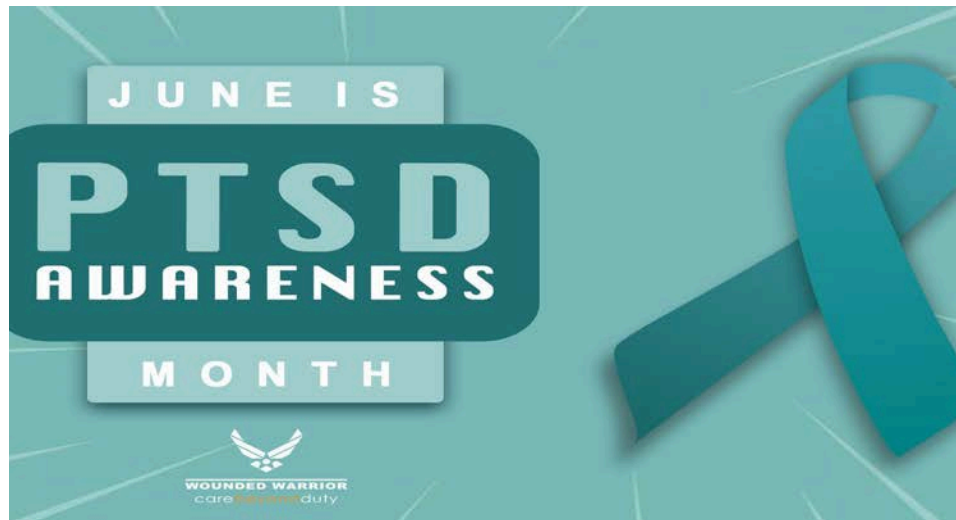
MASONIC LODGE

191 PAGE STREET, WEST BRANCH, MI

STOP AND HAVE FUN

Contact JOE
989-909-1099

This one's for the girls
Jami Geiser-Chief Rabban's Lady



PTSD: KNOW THE SIGNS. TAKE ACTION.

What is PTSD? Post-traumatic stress disorder is a mental health condition that some people develop after experiencing or witnessing a traumatic event such as combat, a natural disaster, a car accident, or sexual assault.¹

PTSD By the Numbers

12 MILLION

12 million adults in the U.S. have PTSD during a given year. This is only a small portion of those who have gone through a trauma.¹

94%

94% of Airmen who received PTSD treatment continued to progress in their career.²

2.5x

Women are 2.5x more likely to develop PTSD than men.¹

Signs & Symptoms

- Flashbacks
- Poor self-care
- Irritable, frustrated, angry
- Feeling anxious
- Trouble with memory and attention
- Trouble sleeping, insomnia
- Fatigue
- Feeling depressed

Evidence-Based Treatments for



Many proven PTSD treatments are available, such as:

- Prolonged Exposure Therapy (PE)
- Cognitive Processing Therapy (CPT)
- Eye Movement Desensitization & Reprocessing (EMDR)
- Stress Inoculation Training
- Treatment with specific medications effective in PTSD

Where To Get Help A variety of resources are available to service members and their families. If you are experiencing a crisis, seek immediate help, contact the Military Crisis Line at 988 then press 1, or dial 911.

Trusted Advocates
Communicate with those you trust. Family members, fellow peers, and Command Leadership are there for support through challenging times.

Chaplains
On-base services for all Airmen and Guardians, regardless of religious beliefs. Contact the unit chaplain, or after duty hours, contact the Command Post and request the duty chaplain.

Military Treatment Facility (MTF)
On-base facilities that offer short- and long-term medical treatment options. Contact the local MTF to schedule an appointment.

Military OneSource
Provides health and wellness resources and 24/7 confidential help.
☎ 800-342-9647
🌐 <https://www.militaryonesource.com/>

Military and Family Life Counseling (MFLC) Program
Located on base at A&FRC and offers short-term counseling to Service members and their families for various life skills. MFLC does not provide medical treatment. Contact the local A&FRC to use MFLC services.

National Center for PTSD
Information resource within U.S. Veteran Affairs and the world's leading research and educational center of excellence on PTSD and traumatic stress.
🌐 www.ptsd.va.gov

Military Crisis Hotline
Connects service members and families in crisis with trained counselors 24/7.
☎ 988, then press 1 | 📱 Text 838355
🌐 Chat online at www.veteranscrisisline.net/get-help/military-crisis-line

Vet Centers
Offers confidential social and counseling services for service members and families.
☎ 877-927-8387 | 🌐 www.vetcentersa.gov



¹ U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs. PTSD Basics. (2019). https://www.ptsd.va.gov/publications/learn_more/ptsd_basics.asp
² National Center for PTSD. Help Rate: PTSD Awareness. (2016). https://www.ptsd.va.gov/publications/learn_more/help_rate.asp
³ U.S. Air Force School of Aerospace Medicine. USAF Public Health Report. (2013, Year 1). (2013).
⁴ U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs. How Common is PTSD in Women? (2011). https://www.ptsd.va.gov/publications/learn_more/women_admin.asp



The Midland Area Shrine Club will be holding its 32nd Annual Golf Outing at 9am on Sunday July 20th, 2025. Businesses and individuals from all over the Great Lakes Bay Region will be supporting over 40 families that receive the care and assistance needed.

Available are different levels of sponsorship to allow you to determine how much goodwill you would like to gain while still being able to have a positive impact on the lives of the Community. Attached is a breakdown of the various sponsorships. As always we are also in need of Gift Certificates/Goods that we can hand out as thanks to our golfers. If you would like to get your business involved in this manner please contact me at:

John Berry
989-708-6295



SPONSORSHIP LEVELS

\$800 DINNER SPONSOR

1 PAID TEAM ENTRY
RECOGNITION AT DINING TABLES

\$600 CART SPONSOR

1 PAID TEAM ENTRY
RECOGNITION ON ALL CARTS
DINNER RECOGNITION

\$100 HOLE SPONSOR

SIGN ON 1 HOLE
WITH OPTION TO HAVE A
REPRESENTATIVE ON THAT HOLE
FROM YOUR GROUP.

CONTACT: JOHN BERRY
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Freeland, MI 48623
989-708-6295
jcberrypr@gmail.com

Checks made out to
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or MASC

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**ARABIAN KNIGHTS IS GOING TO BE A MONTHLY
PUBLICATION THIS YEAR. IF YOU WANT A MAILED COPY, PLEASE PAY THE
TEMPLE \$30**

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ELF KHURAFEH TEMPLE
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4240 W WILSON RD
CLIO, MI 48420 EMAIL: INFO@EKSHRINE.COM

**All Clubs, Units, Committee Chairs, Divan, and Nobility are encouraged to submit
monthly articles.**

Thank you all so very much for your support to keep this publication going