

El Riad

Cactus



El Riad Shrine
SIOUX FALLS SOUTH DAKOTA

Ancient Arabic Order of the Nobles of the Mystic Shrine

ElRiad.org

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And His Lady
Sandra

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And His Lady
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And His Lady
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2nd Ceremonial Master
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And His Lady
Rachael

Exec. Divan/NV, Futures Comm., Fall Ceremonial, Rickshaws, Parker Shrine Club, Provost, Shutterbugs, Worthington Shrine Club, Brookings Shrine Club

Official Call of the Potentate: Nobility of El Riad

**MONTHLY
 STATED
 MEETING**

3.11.26

For the Purpose of Old and New Business Your Attendance is Urgently Requested

WEAR YOUR FEZ – DOOR WILL BE TILED

**APRIL
 CACTUS
 DEADLINE
 3.1.26**

Jeremy Swenson, Marshal
 Futures Comm., Big Bend Shrine Club, Twin Lakes Shrine Club, Highlanders, Blast & Cast Club, Watertown Clowns, Blast & Cast North

Ken Krein, Captain of the Guard

Matt Leedom, Outer Guard

Ethan Serck, Chief of Staff
 MSA, Pote's Aides, Parades, Asst. Chief of Staff, Ceremonials, Imperial pilgrimages.

Chad DeVries, Assistant Chief of Staff
 Attend monthly COS meetings

Matt Johnson, Chaplain
 Fall Ceremonial – Necrology

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Pote's Article

Be The Change

Well, it has been a busy six or so weeks since I voted Nay to becoming Potentate. Unfortunately, Illustrious Sir Mark Richard PP informed me that I did not have a vote so here I am. In all honesty, it has been a fun and rewarding time so far. El Riad has been very busy this past month with all the events going on at the Shrine and with members of the Divan, Pote's Aides and other select committee members attending the Midwest Shrine Association Mid-Winter Meetings.

We started the time by holding our annual Divan planning meeting and developed what I believe is a very good plan in moving El Riad forward in 2026. I want to thank all the members of the Divan and their ladies for all of their input in formulating this plan and in implementing it going forward. By working together, we will accomplish our goals for 2026 and beyond.

The Mid-Winter Meetings for the Midwest Shrine Association were hosted by Kem Shrine in Grand Forks ND. I would like to congratulate Kem Shrine, Potentate Geoff Bengtson, MSA President Dale Duchscherer PP, Director General 2026 Steve Renslow PP, and Secretary/Treasurer of MSA Don Thomson for a great Winter Session. I look forward to attending the summer session August 13-15 and I hope that many of the Units,

Clubs, and Nobles will attend also. Midwest Summer Session is always a fun time.

Congratulations to our Fife & Drum Unit on a successful Valentine's Bash featuring Johnny Holms. It is always a great time. Congratulations to our Chanters on a wonderfully successful Rock the Shrine event featuring Pop Rocks. Again, it is always a great time. Both Johnny Holms and Pop Rocks bring back memories of my much more youthful days, what I can remember of them, or as Lady Rhonda says; "What I misremember about them." Finally, I would like to congratulate the Blast and Cast for a fun filled evening at their annual Cabin Fever event. If you have never attended any of these three events, you have no idea of the fun you are missing. If you attend any of these events next year, I guarantee you won't miss any of them again. Once again thank you to all of these Units and their members for the work and dedication that is put forth to make these events successful.

Each month I am going to try to touch on a subject that we have set for a goal for El Riad for the coming year. Sometimes things will be repeated mainly because we don't have ten separate goals and there are ten issues of the Cactus. This month my subject is membership. Our Membership Chairman, Jeremy Swenson and Ethan Serck have been working diligently to come up

with a plan to accomplish this goal, but they can't do it alone. It is the responsibility of all of us to help with this. There are a lot of ways we can accomplish this. Invite one person per quarter to a Wednesday night social.

Sometimes inviting someone down even before explaining what we are about and allowing them to see does a better job of recruiting. Seeing or experiencing is believing. Share stories with friends, relatives, neighbors about your experiences at the Shrine if they can't attend, make the stories fun and entertaining, let them experience through your words. Share on social media, especially the short videos and pictures that our social media committee are putting together on Facebook, Instagram, Snapchat. If I can figure it out, any of us can. Wear Shrine gear when you are out and about, be proud to be a Shriner and show it. Rhonda swears 90% of everything I own and wear has the Shrine symbol or El Riad on it. There are many other ways also. I touched on a very few simple ways. All of this will help us achieve. I will jump off my soapbox now, but please know that our future depends on what we do right now.

Remember to attend Blue Lodge when you can.

Fraternally yours,
Potentate Scott Denney

PUZZLE COMPETITION NIGHT FOR THE LADIES

WHILE THE MEN ARE AT STATED MEETING



**COMPLETED BY TEAMS
MARCH 11 · 6:30PM**

**at EL RIAD
\$5 REGISTRATION FEE
TEAMS BASED OFF HOW MANY SHOW**

CASH PRIZE



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ElRiad.org

SPRINT CARS

Gearing Up For The **Cash Raffle!** by Dan King

Here's hoping you are all having a great 2026 so far. The Sprint Car Unit held our Christmas Party in January. Chad DeVries was elevated to Past President after guiding the Unit successfully in 2025, (and a whole bunch of 2024 due to circumstances). Hat's off to you Chad, your dedication is very much appreciated by this crew. The Unit welcomed Todd Schneider as President, Jay Pifer Vice President, Dan King Secretary/Beer #\$\$%, and the greatest ever Treasurer, (we'd be plumb lost without him), esteemed Michael Olawsky. In February we continued meeting to plan our hosting of the March Wednesday Social meals. The Menu will be published in this issue, hope to see you there. The El Riad Shrine Motor Corps & Sprint Car Cash Raffle is one of our largest projects each year. Tickets may still be available

by contacting any Sprint Car Member, or reaching out to www.elriad.org/sprintcars. Only 500 tickets are sold, First Place takes home \$10,000 after taxes! Second through fifth place win cash prizes as well, please see the poster in this issue for details. The drawing will be held at the Shrine on Friday March 20, with other contests, prizes, food and drinks, always a fun event. You don't have to have a ticket to attend, all are welcome. We'd like to invite any interested Nobles to learn more about the Sprint Cars, we might be a great fit for you. We meet the second and fourth Tuesdays of the month at the Shrine, during the late Fall and Winter months, and out at our practice field the rest of the year. Reach out to any of the officers or members for more information, the March Wednesday night Social is an excellent venue to learn more about us. We attend a dozen or so parades a season in SE SoDak,

and nearby Iowa and Minnesota. Our synchronized routine is a fun alternative to moving slowly through a parade for sure. We're hoping to put together a MSA competition team again this year to add some hardware to the overflowing trophy case! If you like to work hard and play hard, please check us out, next chance. As soon as weather allows this Spring, we'd love to get you in a car to see if this Unit is for you. In the spirit and brotherhood of this great philanthropy, we wish all Nobles and Units a successful and rewarding year.



Wednesday Night Social Upcoming Meals






March 4 – Sprint Car Unit will be serving Darin's cheesy hashbrowns, Arby's sliced roast beef on sesame seed buns, and a dessert for \$8. A second sandwich is only \$3.

March 11 – The Daughters of the Nile will be serving the meal this week. On the Menu are Meatball Subs with a salad and a dessert for \$9.

March 18 – Back by popular demand, the Sprint Car Unit will again be serving Arby's sliced roast beef on sesame seed buns, baked beans, a variety of chips and Birthday Cake for \$8.





March 25 – The new Smokin' Misfits Unit will be serving the meal this week. The Menu includes shredded pork butt, smoked beans and slaw for \$8 with a second sandwich only \$2.

March 2026

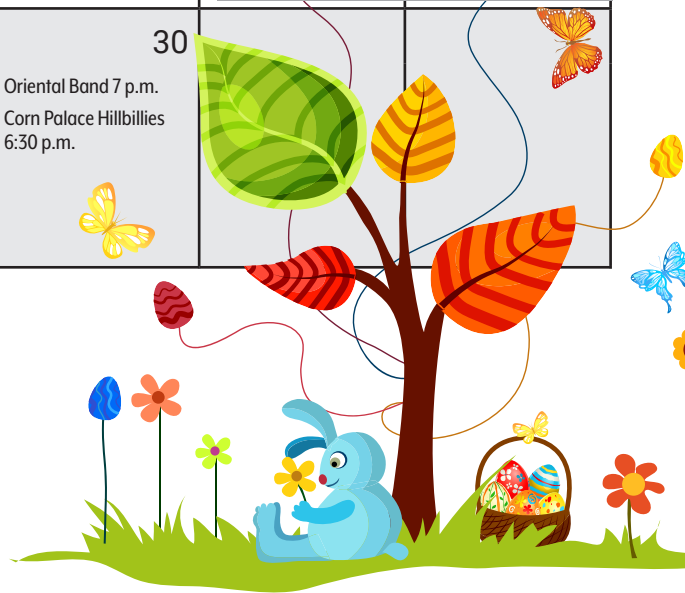
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2 Worthington after Lodge Brookings 5:30 p.m. @ Cubby's	3 Chanters 7-8:00 p.m. Twin Lakes Shrine Club 7 p.m. Rickshaws 6 p.m.	4 Legion of Honor 7 p.m. Happy Hour 4 - 10 p.m.	5 Oriental Band 7 p.m. Clowns 6:30 p.m.	6	7 Daughters of the Nile Dinner & Auction
8	9  B&E (6:00) and BOD (7:00) Fife & Drum Corp 7:30 p.m. Highlanders Pipe & Drum 6 p.m.	10 Chanters 7-8:00 p.m. Lewis & Clark 6:30 p.m. Sprint Cars 6:30 p.m.	11  Stated Meeting Happy Hour 4 - 10 p.m.	12 Oriental Band 7 p.m. Steel Drum Band 6:30 p.m.	13 Dance Club 	14 St. Patty's Day Bash 
15	16	17 Chanters 7-8:00 p.m. Blast & Cast 7 p.m.	18 Motor Corps 7 p.m. Hillbillies - Outhouse 7 p.m. Happy Hour 4 - 10 p.m. Quarterly Birthday Party 	19 Oriental Band 7 p.m. Director's Staff 7 p.m. Steel Drum Band 6:30 p.m.	20 Motor Corps/Sprint Car Cash Raffle	21
22 Fife & Drum Corp 7:30 p.m. Highlanders Pipe & Drum 6 p.m.	23 Chanters 7-8:00 p.m. Provost 7:30 p.m. Sprint Cars 6:30 p.m.	24 Shutterbugs 7 p.m. Classie Autos 6:30 p.m. Happy Hour 4 - 10 p.m.	25 Oriental Band 7 p.m. Corn Palace Hillbillies 6:30 p.m. Steel Drum Band 6:30 p.m. Watertown Clowns 6:30 p.m. Supper 7:30 p.m. Meeting	26	27	28 Horse Corps 10:00 @ Shrine Bldg.
29	30	31 Chanters 7-8:00 p.m.				



April 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 Legion of Honor 7 p.m. Happy Hour 4 – 10 p.m.	2 Oriental Band 7 p.m. Clowns 6:30 p.m.	3	4
5 Easter 	 6 B&E 6:00 p.m. and BOD 7:00 p.m. Worthington after Lodge Brookings 5:30 p.m. @ Cubby's	7 Chanters 7–8:00 p.m. Twin Lakes Shrine Club 7 p.m. Rickshaws 6 p.m.	 8 Stated Meeting Happy Hour 4 – 10 p.m.	9 Oriental Band 7 p.m. Steel Drum Band 6:30 p.m.	10 Dance Club 	11
12 Fife & Drum Corp 7:30 p.m. Highlanders Pipe & Drum 6 p.m.	13 Chanters 7–8:00 p.m. Lewis & Clark 6:30 p.m. Sprint Cars 6:30 p.m.	14 Motor Corps 7 p.m. Hillbillies - Outhouse 7 p.m. Happy Hour 4 – 10 p.m.	15 Oriental Band 7 p.m. Director's Staff 7 p.m. Steel Drum Band 6:30 p.m.	16	17	18
19	20 Chamberlain Circus	21 Chanters 7–8:00 p.m. Blast & Cast 7 p.m.	22 Classie Autos 6:30 p.m. Happy Hour 4 – 10 p.m.	23 Oriental Band 7 p.m. Steel Drum Band 6:30 p.m. Watertown Clowns 6:30 p.m. Supper 7:30 p.m. Meeting	24 Sioux Falls Circus	25 Horse Corps 10:00 @ Shrine Bldg.
26 Sioux Falls Circus	27 Fife & Drum Corp 7:30 p.m. Highlanders Pipe & Drum 6 p.m.	28 Chanters 7–8:00 p.m. Provost 7:30 p.m. Sprint Cars 6:30 p.m.	29 Shutterbugs 7 p.m. Happy Hour 4 – 10 p.m.	30 Oriental Band 7 p.m. Corn Palace Hillbillies 6:30 p.m.	Mitchell Circus	

HAPPY EASTER



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[Facebook.com/BallroomDanceClubSiouxFalls](https://www.facebook.com/BallroomDanceClubSiouxFalls)

Business casual or dressy attire suggested.

Proceeds are for the benefit of the El Riad Dance Club activities. Payments are not deductible as charitable contributions.

CHANTERS



Big Start to 2026! by Jeff Gould

The El Riad Chanters continue to grow their unit numbers with the addition of several young and talented singers, many with choir and all-state choir experience.

While it is not necessary to have extensive experience (many in our unit got their start singing with the radio or in the shower) the additional voices have been a great welcome.

Our big fundraiser of the year, Rock the Shrine was another huge success, and we are right now scheduling our 2026 tour, with patriotic events and venues being part of our retinue.

Please join us and see what we're about! We practice Tuesday at 7pm in the El Riad room-

Contact Jeff Gould (605) 201-5147 for information or to schedule an event

This month in Chanter History

1948 St Moritz – The Post WWII Chanter World Tour made its way to the site of the 1948 Winter Olympics in St Moritz, Switzerland.

Robert Uecker (Chanter Bob Uecker's Grandfather) El Riad Chanter Unit Treasurer and amateur inventor was able to bring his hobby runner sled (built in Sioux Falls for the hills near the stock yards) to try out on the slopes of Switzerland.

"Bob's sled" turned quite a few heads and many local sledding enthusiasts copied Uecker's innovations.

In 1952 and subsequent Olympics, Bobsledding has been a major Olympic event, with few historians aware of its Chanter roots.

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In Memory of Leo Cwach:
Lewis & Clark Shrine Club

In Memory of Bill Anderson:
Peggy Teslow
Gail Gustafson
John & Ralynn Whitelock
David Lewis
David Neiman
Nathan Headley
Kent Quail
Sandra Thompson
Scott & Barbara Anderson
Franklin Gilbert
John Archer
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Lloyd & Sue Siemonsma
Triple D Acres
Doug Schneider
Duane & Jean Wehrkamp
Paul & Barbara Halstenson
Donald Cooper & Terry Walter

In Memory of Bob Johnson:
Lloyd & Sue Siemonsma

In Memory of Howard Swier:
Lloyd & Sue Siemonsma

In Memory of Michael McCann:
Doug & Sandy McFarland

Donation:
Anonymous



Black Camel

Larry R. Fuller
Clitherrall, MN
Dec. 23, 1943 – Jan. 26, 2026
Created: May 17, 1980

William D. "Bill" Anderson
Sioux Falls
Sept. 6, 1931 – Jan. 28, 2026
Created: Nov. 6, 1976

We are sorry to say that Nobles sometimes pass away without our acknowledgement. As they are Brothers, they are due the recognition of their passing. Please assist in notifying the Temple when a Noble expires.

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email office@elriad.com.

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GRAND VIEW

◆ PAY DUES ONLINE

◆ CALENDAR OF LODGE EVENTS

Update your profile information including address, contact information, profile picture, concordant body membership, spouse information, emergency contact information, military service information, communication preferences, and more!

Member Portal found on the Grand Lodge Website can be used to Register and Gain Access

You will need your Member ID to register. If you are not able to find this please contact your lodge secretary or the Grand Secretary at gs@sdgrandlodge.org. Please include your Full Name

If you are having trouble you can watch the How-To videos



#1 REGISTER

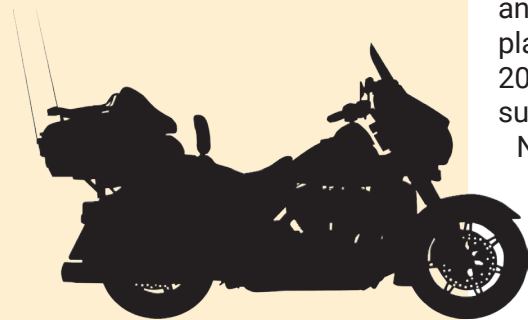


#2 MOBILE

MOTOR CORPS

Welcome to 2026!

by Tom Anderson, P.P. Commander



First and foremost; thank you all for the support and prayers for our Brother Uncle Bill Anderson who passed on January 28, 2026. He will be missed!

February brought us to Midwinter session up in Grand Forks, ND. Planning for MSA and MSMCA competitions in August. El Riad was well represented at the MSMCA meeting. All 3 Motorized units were in attendance. Great ideas were brought forth and discussed, valid points were brought to the forefront, especially regarding slide trikes. This group of contenders have very specific parameters not associated with 2 wheel or 4-wheeled vehicles. Rules of engagement in the obstacle course need to be addressed. Our very own Jerry Hauff 2nd Vice President gave a report on MSA. He informed the group of where and when activities will be taking place in Sioux Falls, SD. August 2028. Looking forward for a great summer session in Grand Forks, ND in August.

March is when we have the Motor Corps/Sprint Car

Cash raffle! Vice Commander Chris (Chilli) Hahn is getting everything organized; from prizes, coordinating food and working with the Sprint Cars so this event is spectacular! If you still need a ticket, please contact a Motor Corps or a Sprint Car member to get one. Remember you can't win if you don't have a ticket! Ills. Sir Scott Denney was presented ticket #001 at the 1st stated meeting in February. Good luck Ills. Sir. Scott.

Back to winter. Now is the time to start getting ready for the 2026 riding season. Spring is closer than you think! Road Captain Dave Murphy is gearing up for the riding season and competition. Our 1st quarter dinner ride/outing will be in March. Dave's Lady Jessica is gathering emails from the ladies so they will be in the know as to what is going to happen! As you know how good of communicators we men are!!

May the road rise up to greet you and take you on a fantastic journey!

Remember it's the journey not the destination!

Wednesday Night Social Upcoming Meals

May 6 – Pancake Feed
May 13 – Potato Bar





MARCH 21ST
FUNDRAISER
STOMP'S BIRTHDAY BASH

SCAN TO BUY



\$5 FROM EACH TICKET GOES BACK TO THE EL RIAD SHRINE

FUN FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY, INCLUDING FACE PAINTING, STOMP'S MASCOT FRIENDS, AND THE EL RIAD CLOWNS!

Cash Calendar

Winners: January 2026

Date	Winner	Sold By
1	Tom Kewley	Chanters
2	Mark Janke	Sprint Cars
3	Colleen Seward	Horse Corps
4	Tina Van Riper *	Shutterbugs
5	Vicki Uhrig	Shutterbugs
6	Kris Sandman	Clowns
7	Josh Brown	Director's Staff
8	Andy Holzwarth	Oriental Band
9	Tammy Wiese	Ritualistic
10	Michael Slama	Lewis & Clark SC
11	Jon Kirby *	Fife & Drum
12	Jaylyn Moe	Horse Corps
13	Jeff Davis	Horse Corps
14	Wyatt Bergsmith	Director's Staff
15	Deb Atkins **	Blast & Cast
16	Adalyn Kumm	Lewis & Clark SC
17	Kirk Otteman	Lewis & Clark SC
18	LeaAnne Thompson *	Horse Corps
19	Mark Neuharth	Big Band
20	Colton Doyle	Ski Unit
21	Richard Courtney	Oriental Band
22	Sarah Harangody	Steel Drums
23	Tony Stern	Ritualistic
24	Simon Mummert	Motor Corps
25	Gale Nittberg *	Horse Corps
26	Tami Link	Blast & Cast
27	Rilyn Schilling	Fife & Drum
28	Scott Erstad	Horse Corps
29	Schoenhard's Cabinetry	Chanters
30	Jeremy Milander	Lewis & Clark SC
31	Monte Sangl	Classie Autos

*\$100 Winners **\$300 Winner



Winners: February 2026

Date	Winner	Sold By
1	LeaAnne Thompson *	Horse Corps
2	Angie Shade	Hillbillies
3	Justin Haider	Blast & Cast North
4	Craig Johnson	Clowns
5	Mike Seykora	Oriental Band
6	Ron Berg	Blast & Cast
7	Dusty Foltz	Clowns
8	Gale Nitteberg *	Horse Corps
9	Dallas Brusse	Horse Corps
10	Justin Foxhoven	Lewis & Clark SC
11	Sheryl Farrell	Steel Drums
12	Crystal Nelson	Horse Corps
13	Paul Bohr	Horse Corps
14	Chris Odman	Horse Corps
15	Randy Hofer **	Culinary
16	Lori Buechler	Lewis & Clark SC
17	Jodi Timmerman	Lewis & Clark SC
18	Bryan Pippitt	Lewis & Clark SC
19	Bonnie Noem	Horse Corps
20	Terri Holter	Horse Corps
21	Jenna Brodkorb	Fife & Drum
22	Karen Westerman *	Festival of Trees
23	Kim Niemann	Culinary
24	Lindsay Stern	Ritualistic
25	Kenneth Helm	Shutterbugs
26	Steve Wheeler	Blast & Cast
27	Paul Schelhaas	Lewis & Clark SC
28	Tammy Krein	Horse Corps

*\$100 Winners **\$300 Winner



FIFE & DRUM CORPS

We Have Entered **Our Busy Season!** by Bruce Norton

Boy, as usual this time of year, we have no shortage of news to report and people to thank. The nationally recognized Fife and Drum embarks on the busiest time any Shrine unit anywhere deals with. Johnny Holm on Valentine's Day,, hosting Wednesday bar, and then our big St Patty's Days Bash! and Shamrock Shootout beer pong tourney on March 13...Whew!

Some really big thank you's to Mike (Mofo) Fitzgerald for handling calendar sales again in 2025. A really, really big thank you to Cory Gray for single highhandedly taking care of reserved table sales for Johnny Holm. This is no where close to being as easy as Cory makes it look, but it is The difference in the success of this event. Thanks also to Craig (Roscoe) Ross for handling ticket sales, and our 2026 Brigadier Nathan Streich for coordinating all the other moving parts of our

28th Johnny Holm party. Sure look forward to reporting on this in the next Cactus.

I'll also be reporting on February Bar with our big Valentine's Dinner hosted by Brad and Tami Streich February 11. This has been one of the best Wednesday bars of the year, many times serving over 200 meals! Then comes our St Patty's Day Bash! and 15th Annual Shamrock Shootout beer pong tourney March 14th Not to early to sign up (see flyer in this Cactus) as we'll cap entry's at 200 teams. Fun to note this is the second biggest beer pong tourney in America!

An early thank you to Brad and Lady Tami Streich for all their work in securing "Backer" donations to Shriner's Healthcare. Over the years, they have asked their business partners to contribute with great success. As I write this, they already have secured eight Backers, each making a \$750 donation to Shriner's Healthcare.

For the nine years we have been applying this program, we've now generated over \$60,000 to Shriner's Healthcare...Amazing!!

Also starting something that looks to be REALLY fun is our first annual Fife Fish Fest at the Archer Lodge on February 28th. This is another fun Fife family event with several ice fishing huts of our members being hauled in for use. Can't wait to see how this goes.

Finally, I cannot issue a bigger thank you to our 2025 Brigadier, Mike Archer for all he did on behalf of our group. Mike is a rare talent and we couldn't be more grateful for his great service. Nathan Streich takes over now as our 2026 Brigadier and already showing early signs of greatness. Cannot thank Nathan enough for stepping up to lead our group this year.



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15TH ANNUAL FIFE & DRUM



SHAMROCK SHOOTOUT!

TRY YOUR LUCK AT BEER PONG!
SATURDAY MARCH 14, 2026

REGISTRATION STARTS @ 11:30 A.M. | TOURNAMENT @ 12:30 P.M. | EL RIAD SHRINE

200
teams allowed
to compete!

2 person teams | \$50 per team

Prize money for first three places and drink tickets for fourth place!
Entry into the tournament includes at least three games guaranteed.

For entry forms, please contact Mike Archer at (605) 321-5459 or email: Mike.Archer34@gmail.com. You may also fill out the form below.

SHAMROCK SHOOTOUT!

Team Name _____

Team Captain Name _____ Mobile Phone _____

Team Player (1) _____ Player (2) _____

Payment attached Yes No

You may scan entry forms to Mike Archer or deliver to El Riad Shrine on the corner of 14th St & Phillips Ave prior to March 14.

Must be 21 to enter. For questions, contact the El Riad Shrine at 336-1117. Proceeds to benefit the El Riad Fife & Drum Corps.

22nd Annual FIFE & DRUM CORPS

st. patty's day
BASH

Come Shamrock the house with the O'Fife & Drum!
El Riad Shrine, Downtown Sioux Falls

SATURDAY
MARCH 14, 2026

FREE admission all ye day and night!

Doors Open Early at **11 a.m.** | Reserved tables available

12:30 p.m. • Big Beer Pong Tourney

5 – 7 p.m. • Cory Gray

7 p.m. – close • Allen Goodroad Band

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TOURNAMENT AND FOOD!**



Must be 21 to attend. For questions, contact the El Riad Shrine at 336-1117. Proceeds to benefit the El Riad Fife & Drum Corps.

Valentine's Bash



PHOTOS BY DARRELL GRIGGS




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Pote's Trip



L to R, PP Mark Richard; PP Tor Bergstrom, Kem Temple; and Noble Sean Lund, El Zagal. MSA was well represented on Pote's Trip.



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**2nd Place
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**3rd Place
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**4th Place
\$500**

**5th Place
\$250**

**FIRST TICKET DRAWN GETS THEIR \$100 BACK. MUST BE 18 OR OLDER TO ENTER RAFFLE.*

The El Riad Temple (510 South Phillips Avenue)

MARCH 20, 2026

Doors Open at 6:30 pm

With Cash Bar, Food, 50/50 Raffle and Other Fun Games!

Important Information

Each person who purchases a raffle ticket is entitled to attend, with their group, the Appreciation Party held at the Shrine Temple on March 20th, 2026 at 6:30 pm. There will be food available. Cocktail tickets will be on sale. There will be many other door prizes given away during the course of the evening. Must be 18 or older to enter the raffle. Additional guest may attend and can purchase tickets for the door prizes, but not the five major prizes.

You need not be present to win the six major prizes.

El Riad Shrine
510 South Phillips Avenue, PO Box 1203
Sioux Falls, SD 57101-1203
Telephone 605-336-1117

Proceeds go to: **El Riad Motor Corps & Sprint Car Units**
Payments are not deductible as charitable contributions
www.ElRiadMotorCorps.org + www.ElRiad.org/SprintCars
Check us out on FACEBOOK



El Riad SHRINE 83rd Annual Circus



Save The Date

Chamberlain, SD – National Guard Armory

Tuesday, April 21, 2026 – 12:30pm & 7:15pm
Wednesday, April 22, 2026 – 12:30pm & 7:15pm

Sioux Falls, SD – Sioux Falls Arena

Friday, April 24, 2026 – 9:30am 12:30am & 7:00pm
Saturday, April 25, 2026 – 9:00am, 2:00pm, 7:00pm
Sunday, April 26, 2026 – 12:30pm & 5:00pm

Mitchell, SD – The World's Only Corn Palace

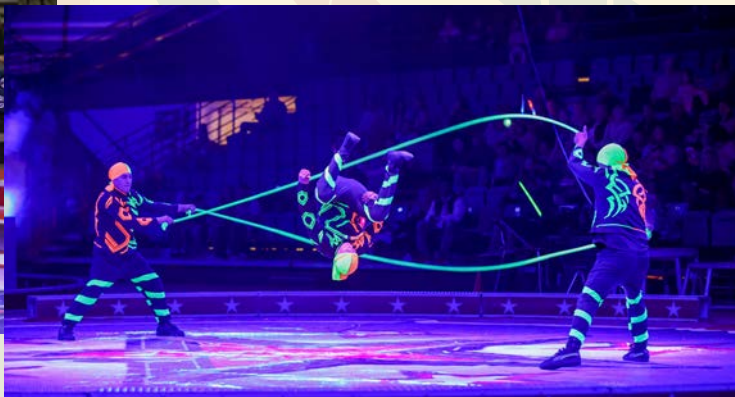
Monday, April 27, 2026 – 7:00pm
Tuesday April 28, 2026 – 10:00am, 4:30pm, 7:15pm
Wednesday April 29, 2026 – 4:30pm & 7:15pm

Yankton, SD – Yankton Area Ice Arena

Friday, June 19, 2026 – 1:00pm & 7:00pm

Winner, SD – Tripp County Fairgrounds

Saturday, June 20, 2026 – 8:00pm






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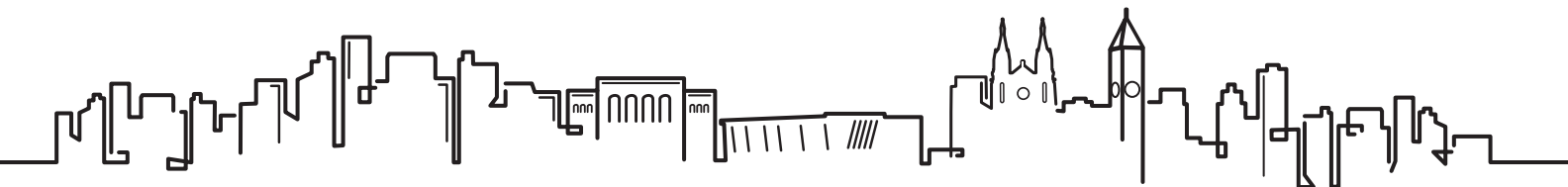
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SHUTTERBUG/PIXELS



Our Camera's **Have Been Busy**

Shutterbugs and Pixels were out in force at the annual meeting and Installation in January. Photos of the event and portraits were taken. Thank you all for all you do!

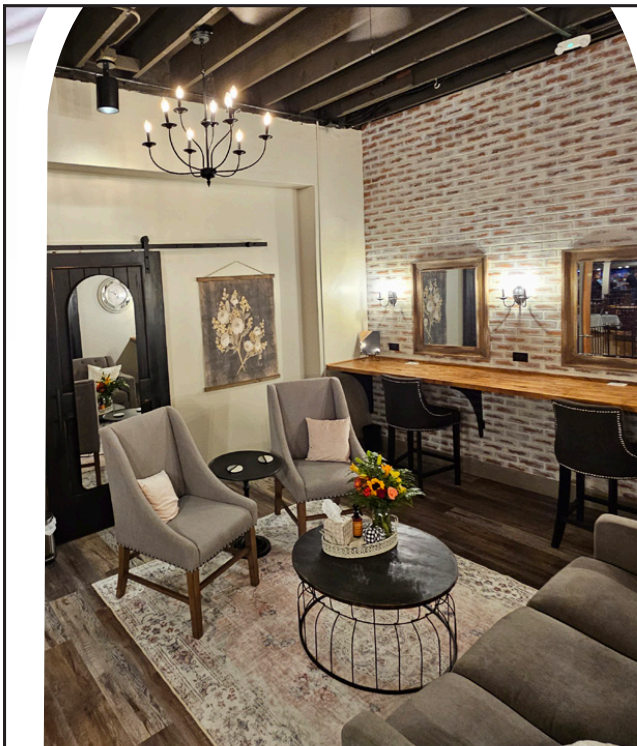
February 20, we worked the Jobs Daughters dance. We photographed the event and took

photos of the guest in all their fancy dress and outfits. Dads you look great too! As always, this event is well attended and fun to work.

If you or your Unit have an upcoming event and you would like a photographer there please contact the Shutterbugs/Pixels so we can get your event recorded for

prosperity! And get into the Cactus!

Spring is a busy place at the Shrine with Dances, Raffles and Parties! Circus is in April and don't forget to get you photos for the 2027 cash calendar. Due by May 1 or sooner.



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Happy Birthday!

March 2026

Gordon Bourne 3-1
Robert Helming 3-1
Dustin Johnson 3-1
Dale Long 3-1
George Roberts 3-1
Triston Hanson 3-2
Kirk Anderson 3-3
Alan Machmiller 3-3
James Pfeifer 3-3
Ernest Wevik 3-3
Martin Appelhof 3-4
Joshua Brown 3-4
Jerrid Bruyer 3-4
Michael Colby 3-4
William Psychos 3-4
Josh Shepperd 3-4
Lloyd Siemonsma 3-4
William Brandriet 3-5
Robert Brown 3-5
David Denson 3-5
Scott Fokken 3-5
James Gulson 3-5
Roland Pearson 3-5
Joseph Relhak 3-5
Donald Gromer 3-6
Lyle Wagner 3-6
Adam Drey 3-7
Claude Olson 3-7
Mark Peterson 3-8

Cole Robbins 3-8
Troy Wheeler 3-8
Marlin Andernacht 3-9
Stanley Jarovski 3-10
John Dougan 3-11
Darin McDonnel 3-11
Terry Steenholdt 3-11
Ronald Goergen 3-12
Kevin Goff 3-12
Wade Lunders 3-12
JamesNaumann3-12
Earl Albert 3-13
Franklin Bult 3-13
Richard Dougherty 3-13
William Erickson 3-13
Cory Gray 3-13
Aaron Hensley 3-13
Kenneth Hofmeister 3-13
Stephen Schendel 3-13
Donald Jensen 3-15
David Neiman 3-15
Lee Schaffer 3-15
Todd Sorensen 3-15
Jeremy Van Wyhe 3-15
Craig Converse 3-16
Wilmer Ohlendorf 3-16
Patrick Ostermyer 3-16
Leo Baumgart 3-17
Dean Christensen 3-17

Jeffrey Nelson 3-17
Herbert Bose 3-18
Donald Budde 3-18
Robert Ellsworth 3-18
Donald Loudner 3-18
Paul Nester 3-18
Patrick Pringle 3-18
Miles Schumacher 3-18
Joseph Greve 3-19
Steven Knape 3-19
Chad Larson 3-19
Michael Olawsky 3-19
Dean Peterson 3-19
Craig Ross 3-19
Roger Dearduff 3-20
William Schepeler 3-20
Dennis Wasmund 3-20
Matthew Beal 3-21
Nicholas Fiegen 3-21
Steven Hansen 3-21
Alan Aspaas 3-22
Rex Christensen 3-22
Terry Knutson 3-22
Michael Bates 3-23
Terry Greene 3-23
Greg Kerska 3-23
Kenneth Tesch 3-23
Dennis Purvis 3-24
Steven Abraham 3-25

Timothy Cadwell 3-25
Curt Hauff 3-25
Christopher Jensen 3-25
Brian Lindgren 3-25
Donald Roxworthy 3-25
Kenneth Jones 3-26
Larry Rolfs 3-26
Thomas Hurd 3-27
Gregory Van Luvanee 3-27
Robert Brenner 3-28
Russell Hanson 3-28
Jackson Olson 3-28
Timothy Schendel 3-28
Dallas Olson 3-29
Mark Keiser 3-30
Gavin Wigg 3-30
Joseph Alick 3-31
James Fitzgerald 3-31
Skyler Loewenberg 3-31
Marvin Stavig 3-31



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OF THE MONTH**



El Riad Shrine

6:45 - 10:30 p.m.

Dance lesson at 6:45 p.m. (free with admission)

Danceable music starts at 7:30

Business casual or dressy attire suggested.

Costs: \$15 per person, \$7 with a student ID

ElRiad.com

facebook.com/ElRiadDanceClub

facebook.com/BallroomDanceClubSiouxFalls

Presented by the El Riad Dance Club & Ballroom Dance Club

Proceeds are for the benefit of the El Riad Dance Club activities. Payments are not deductible as charitable contributions.



BROTHERHOOD for a new generation

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My Dad's Car

Remember the car in the Back To The Future movies that Biff Tannen owns in 1955? How about the car that Danny Zuko drives in the 1978 movie GREASE? The cream-colored car that Mr. Miyagi has in the original The Karate Kid movie? All are post-WWII Ford Deluxe models, with Tannen's primarily a 1946 Super Deluxe model, Mr. Miyagi's is a 1947 Super Deluxe, and Zuko's is a 1948 Deluxe.

What's significant about those cars? They are all my dad's car, a 1948 Ford Super Deluxe 2-door with 58,000 miles on it. It was the pinnacle of Ford's pre-WWII design, as the body style is basically the same as the '41-'42, '46-'47 model years. Ford halted commercial production early in World War II and dedicated its workforce and resources to the war effort, thus no 1943-1945 passenger vehicles. In fact, the 1942 model was only available for 4 months. The post-WWII models had several cosmetic changes from the earlier models but a complete design makeover didn't occur until the 1949 model year. Ford released the first 1949 model in June 1948, thus becoming the first major automaker to provide an entirely redesigned car since the end of the war.

The only issue with my dad's car is this: it's still my dad's car. Dad passed it on to me over 20 years ago and he's been gone for over a decade now. One could technically now call it "my car",



but it's not. As happens with many classic cars, they are forever linked to their original owners. My dad grew up in Pierre, where his father was the bulk oil dealer there. Dad graduated from high school in 1941 and he grew up around vehicles. As an adult he acquired and tinkered with many old cars and trucks and tractors and baling equipment and... you get it. He restored a number of post-WWII cab-over trucks because he said they were easier as the overall cab had no frills or upgrades to deal with. Dad acquired his 1948 Super Deluxe at an auction in Deadwood in the mid 1980's from a North Dakotan who had finished a complete restoration to "stock" condition. Dad said it reminded him of the cars he drove in college after the war and the ones he had when dating my mom, whom he married in 1952. He continued to tinker with several cars after purchasing the 1948 but as the years went by, he sold all other cars but this one. This was his favorite.

Now, I enjoy the car immensely and it has become part of my family. Two out of three daughters had the car in their weddings, and the third would have but the car was "in transit" at the time of her wedding (she still brings that up with me from time to time). I truly enjoy owning and displaying and driving this car, and every single time I get it in, I remember my dad, great memories and nostalgia, and it opens a car door to the past - my past.

So, what is my car, you might ask? Think back to Steve Bolander's (Ron Howard) car in American Graffiti. It's a white 1958 Chevrolet 2-door Bel Air Impala, the debut year for the Impala. I'm still looking for it. Call me. If I don't answer right away, I just might be out taking a drive in my dad's car.



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El Riad Hospital Transportation Fund	\$ _____	TY: _____
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El Riad Keith Rose Building Fund	\$ _____	
Shriners Hospitals for Children	\$ _____	
Unit and Expense Loan Fund	\$ _____	
Hospital? Twin Cities ___ Chicago ___ Cincinnati ___	\$ _____	
\$100 Million Dollar Club	\$ _____	
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The Shriners operate 22 hospitals in North America dedicated to treating children with orthopedic problems and burn injuries. There are 18 orthopedic hospitals, three burn hospitals and one Shriners Hospital that provides orthopedic, burn care and spinal cord injury care. All care and services provided by Shriners Hospitals are totally without cost to the patient or family.

Since the founding of Shriners Hospitals in 1922, about \$5.5 billion has been spent to provide quality and compassionate medical care to more than 675,000 children with orthopedic problems, severe burn injuries or spinal cord injuries. Most of these services are paid for by the Shriners Hospitals for Children Endowment Fund.

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- I prefer to make a cash donation at this time (of \$100 or more).

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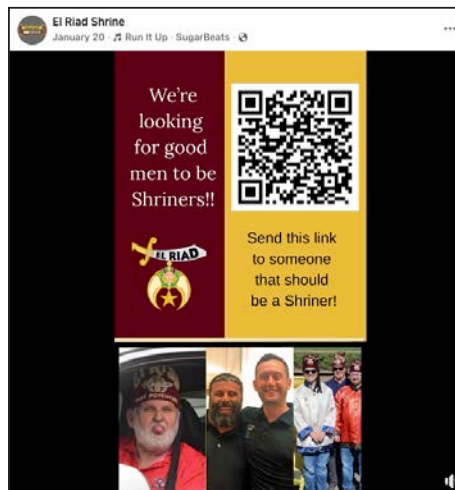
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MEMBERSHIP

We Continue to Generate New Members !

by Bruce Norton

Thanks to some nifty work by our marketing Nobles, our digital footprint is growing. We are seeing thousand's of views on our Facebook posts while also generating interest in joining El Riad. In the third week in January, seven new member requests were received. This is very positive and demonstrates how effective social media can be. It is vital to our future that we have a strong social media presence, especially with emerging tools like AI to take advantage of. Our ask is every time you see an El Riad post, please share it with a comment of your personal experience. This is free to do and makes such a difference.



Speaking of AI, I asked Grok AI to produce an article about El Riad's "Philanthropy, Community Engagement, Fellowship" emphasis and within seconds, it returned the article below. I've deleted most of the content it returned, but otherwise didn't change a thing. The more we can take advantage of these advanced resources, the better we get!

Join El Riad Shrine: Embrace Fellowship, Philanthropy, and Community Impact

In the heart of Sioux Falls, South Dakota, stands a legacy of brotherhood and benevolence that has endured for over a century. Since its founding in 1888, El Riad Shrine has been a beacon of fellowship, philanthropy, and community engagement, inviting men of good character to join a fraternity that combines fun, purpose, and lasting connections. Whether you're seeking meaningful relationships, opportunities to give back, or ways to get involved locally, becoming a Noble at El Riad Shrine could be your next great adventure.

The Power of Philanthropy: Making a Difference for Children.

At the core of El Riad Shrine's mission is a deep commitment to philanthropy, particularly through support for Shriners Children's hospitals. Our members contribute to life-changing healthcare for children, regardless of their ability to pay. In the heart of Sioux Falls, South Dakota...

Fellowship: Fun, Friendship, and Fraternity

What truly sets El Riad Shrine apart is the unbreakable spirit of fellowship. With over 35 units and clubs catering to diverse interests—from motorcycling and golfing to music and clowning—there's something for everyone... Fun is our cornerstone, and it binds us together, creating memories and support systems that last a lifetime.



8.13.26

24th Annual Tournament Information

- Noon shotgun start
- Two person teams
- 18 Holes of two person Scramble
- Three flights based on score
- Dinner Banquet to follow

Reserve a spot for your team by 8.1.26

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Night on the Nile
Dinner & Auction

Social 5 pm - Dinner 6 pm - Live Auction 7 pm

Saturday, March 7, 2026



**NEW
LOCATION**

El Riad Shrine

510 S. Phillips Sioux Falls, SD

\$20 Pasta & Dessert Buffet* with Wine Bar

*Gluten Free option will be provided

Event Tickets can be purchased from any Nile member
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Shriners International

Annual Meeting

1.10.26 | El Riad Temple

by John Whitelock P.P., Recorder

The meeting was called to order by Potentate Mark Richard at 1:00 P.M. at the El Riad Shrine Temple. Potentate Richard called upon Chaplain Larry Miller for the invocation. The Potentate led the Nobility in the Shrine Pledge of Allegiance. The Chanters then sang the National Anthem.

Potentate Richard introduced Right Worshipful Brother Brian Pulling, Deputy Grand Master and Grand Master-elect, and Most Worshipful Brother Aaron Zahn, Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of Masons of South Dakota. RWB Pulling congratulated Potentate Richard and the nobility for a successful Shrine year, and encouraged the continued cooperation of the Shrine and the Grand Lodge in growing membership.

The minutes of the December 10, 2025 meeting were, upon proper motion and second approved as printed and distributed.

Potentate Richard then called upon Treasurer III. Sir Les Kruse P.P. for the reading of the financial report for the month of December 2025. Upon proper motion and second, the Treasurer's report was approved.

Potentate Richard then called upon Membership Committee Co-Chairman Noble Jeremy Swenson for the annual Membership report. For 2025, 35 nobles were added via creation (19), affiliation (6), restored (9) and associated

(1). 73 nobles were lost via demit (12), Black Camel (18), resigned (6), associate members dropped (2), and suspended for non-payment of dues (35). The total membership as of December 31, 2025 was 1177, which reflects a net loss of 38 members. Noble Swenson commented on the statistics and thanked everyone for their hard work this past year. He encouraged the nobility to continue to seek out and encourage good men to join our fraternity. After proper motion and second, the report was approved. A copy of the membership report is available in the Recorder's office.

Recorder III. Sir John Whitelock P.P. informed the nobility of a change to Shriners International General Order No. 1, series 2025-2026 by Imperial Potentate Brad Koehn. The change requires any temple that employs raffles, bingo or gaming in fraternal fundraisers to formally obtain a review and approval of the fundraiser by the temple attorney. The change is effective immediately. This issue will be addressed in depth at the temple's annual Unit & Club Seminar on January 17, 2026.

Recorder Whitelock read to the nobility a resolution requesting the El Riad Board of Trustees to transfer funds in the amount of \$76,000 from the Patient Transportation Endowment on deposit at the First National Bank of Sioux Falls, and into the temple's general operating account and patient transportation

operating account. This amount reimburses patient transportation disbursements made from the temple's general operating account, and provides seed money for the 2026 budget year for the patient transportation operating account. Recorder Whitelock moved for the adoption of the resolution. Upon a proper second and vote, the resolution was approved. A copy of the approved resolution is available in the Recorder's office.

Potentate Richard read the Resolution to Shrine Clubs and Uniformed Units. Chief Rabban Scott Denney moved for the adoption of the Resolution. Upon proper second and vote the resolution was approved. A copy of the approved resolution is available in the Recorder's office.

Potentate Richard read the Resolution for the Remission of Dues for worthy and distressed nobles for 2026, and for payment of per capita and hospital portions of annual dues for those nobles who possess lifetime memberships. These funds will be disbursed from the Membership Endowment Fund, and total \$29,495 for 2026. Chief Scott Denney moved for the adoption of the Resolution. Upon proper second and vote the resolution was approved. A copy of the approved resolution is available in the Recorder's office.

Potentate Richard then reviewed the Annual Report for 2025. Each Noble who entered the annual meeting received a copy of

the report. The Potentate asked if there were any corrections. Hearing none, the report Annual Report for 2025 was accepted.

Potentate Richard called upon Chief Rabban Denney for the second reading of the 2026 budget for El Riad Temple. Chief Rabban Denney moved for adoption and upon proper second and vote, the budget for 2026 was approved. A copy of the approved budget is available in the Recorder's Office.

Potentate Richard asked if there was any other business from the floor. Hearing none, he then briefly recessed the Annual Meeting of El Riad Temple to prepare for the election of officers for 2026.

Potentate Richard reconvened the Annual Meeting and called for the nomination and election of officers: four Representatives to the Imperial Session; seven Representatives to the Midwest Shrine Association; and two members to the El Riad Board of Trustees. Nominations for the various positions were made by the Noble so named.

For the office of Potentate – Scott Denney by Noble Ethan Serck

For the office of Chief Rabban – Steve Haase by Noble Chad DeVries

For the office of Assistant Rabban – Bill Thompson by Ill. Sir Charles Brown P.P.

For the office of High Priest & Prophet – Paul Berndt by Ill. Sir Rob Joyce P.P.

For the office of Oriental Guide – John Schuety by Ill. Sir Les Kruse P.P.

For the Office of Treasurer – Ill. Sir Les Kruse P.P. by Ill. Sir Maury Richard P.P.

For the office of Recorder – Ill. Sir John Whitelock P.P. by Ill. James Burma P.P.

In each and every instance of the officer nominations above, there were no additional nominations. By motion duly made and seconded, each was elected by unanimous acclamation, and the Recorder was instructed to cast a unanimous ballot for each noble elected.

The following four Imperial Session representatives were nominated by Noble John Schuety to attend the 2026 Imperial Session in Tampa, FL on July 12-16, 2026: Scott Denney, Steve Haase, Bill Thompson and Paul Berndt

The following seven Midwest Shrine Association Representatives were nominated by Noble Brian Schultz to attend the 2026 Midwest Shrine Association Winter Business Session and Summer Session, both to be held in Grand Forks, ND: Scott Denney, Steve Haase, Bill Thompson, Paul Berndt, John Schuety, John Whitelock P.P. and Les Kruse, P.P.

Ill. Sir David Lewis, P.P. nominated Ill. Sir David Neiman, P.P. and Ill. Sir Charles Brown, P.P. for three-year terms on the El Riad Shrine Board of Trustees, with terms to expire on January 13, 2029.

In each and every instance of the nominations for Imperial Session representatives, Midwest Shrine Association representatives, and Trustees, there were no additional nominations. By motion duly made and seconded, each was elected by unanimous acclamation, and the Recorder was

instructed to cast a unanimous ballot for each noble elected.

Potentate Richard made brief remarks regarding his year as Potentate of El Riad Shrine in 2025, and thanked the Divan and all nobles and ladies for their support. The nobles present responded with a standing ovation for Potentate Richard. There being no further business to conduct, a motion was made and seconded to adjourn. The motion passed and the annual meeting was adjourned at 1:44 p.m.

The public installation of the officers of El Riad Shrine for 2026 commenced at 3:00 p.m. at the temple.

Respectfully Submitted,

John Whitelock, P.P., Recorder
El Riad Shriners



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SHRINERS
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Unit & Club Officers

2026 Contact Information

Back 40 Boys

President: Clayton Wilhelm (Holly)
(Meets as called)

BIG BAND

President: John Bayer (Janean)
(Unit Meets for Ceremonials)

BIG BEND SHRINE CLUB

President: Claude Olson
(Meeting dates as called)

BLAST & CAST

President: Steve Abraham (Laurel)
(Meets 3rd Tuesday @ 7:00 p.m.)

Blast & Cast North

President: Ron Moehring (Sheila)
(Meets as called)

BROOKINGS SHRINE CLUB

President: Dallas Olson (Gwen)
(Meets 1st Monday, 5:30 p.m. @ Cubby's)

CHANTERS

President: Jeff Gould (Elizabeth)
(Rehearsal every Tuesday @ 7:00 p.m., Social @ 8:00 p.m.)

CLASSIE AUTOS

President: Bob Pottratz (Mary)
(Meets 4th Wednesday @ 6:30 p.m.)

CLOWNS

Big Clown: Josh Shepperd
(Meets 1st Thursday @ 6:30 p.m.)

CORN PALACE SHRINE CLUB

President: TBD
(Meets last Thursday @ 6:30 p.m.)

CULINARY UNIT

President: Bill O'Connor (Thomy Jo)
(Meets as called)

DANCE CLUB

President: Chris Karr (Erika)
(Meets as called)

DIRECTOR'S STAFF

President: Joe Bergsmith (Stefanie)
(Meets 3rd Thursday @ 7:00 p.m.)

FIFE & DRUM CORPS

Brigadier: Nathaniel Streich (Mandy Juhnke)
(Meets 2nd & 4th Mondays @ 7:30 p.m.)

GOPHER SHRINE CLUB

President: Michael Simon (Marlene)
(Meets as called)

HIGHLANDERS PIPE & DRUM

President: David Wooters (Julie)
(Meets 2nd & 4th Mondays @ 6:00 p.m.)

HILLBILLY outhouse #1

President: James Hoy (Paula)
(Meets 3rd Wednesday @ 7:00 p.m.)

HORSE CORPS

Trail Boss: Ken Krein (Tammy)
(Meets last Saturday @ 10:00 a.m.)

LEGION OF HONOR

Commander: Ron Knott (Diane)
(Meets 1st Wednesday @ 7:00 p.m.)

LEWIS & CLARK SHRINE CLUB

President: Michael Burns (Jonell)
(Meets 2nd Tuesday @ 6:30 p.m. Social/Eat; Mtg @ 8:00)

MOTOR CORPS

Commander: Tom Anderson (Jane)
(Meets 3rd Wednesday @ 7:00 p.m.)

MYSTIC BREWERS

Brew Master Russ Olson

ORIENTAL BAND

President: JSteve Veenhof (Jackie Krouse)
(Meets Thursdays @ 7:00 p.m.)

PROVOST

Chief: Bill Rise
(Meets 4th Tuesday @ 7:00 p.m.)

RICKSHAWs

Emperor: Eric State (Kayla)
(Meets 1st Tuesday @ 6:00 p.m.)

RITUALISTIC

President: Paul Maxwell
(Meets as called)

ROADRUNNERS

President: Doug Kristensen
(Meets as called)

ROSEBUD SHRINE CLUB

President: Richard Ringstmeyer (Janet)

SHUTTERBUGS

President: Steve Haase (Sandra)
(Meets last Wednesday @ 7:00 p.m.)

PIXELS

President: Shelby DeVries (Chad)
(Meets with Shutterbugs)

SKI CLUB

President: Evan Brink (Jean Saunders)
(Meet as called)

SMOKIN' MISFITS

President: Ron Knott (Diane)

SPRINT CARS

President: Todd Schneider (Michelle)
(Meets 2nd & 4th Tuesdays @ 6:30 p.m.)

STEEL DRUM BAND

President: Keith Backer
(Meets 2nd, 3rd, & 4th Thursdays @ 7:00 p.m.)

TWIN LAKES SHRINE CLUB

President: Kyle Brunick (Cassandra)
(Meets 1st Tuesday @ 7:00 p.m.)

WATERTOWN SHRINE CLOWNS

President: Jeff Gamber (Annette)
(Meets 4th Thursday, dinner @ 6 p.m., meeting @ 6:30 p.m.)

WORTHINGTON SHRINE CLUB

President: Open
(Meets as called)



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Former CEO Steve Scheel joined an episode of Common Cents on the Prairie™, a local podcast by First National Wealth Management, to share the history and legacy of his family's longstanding sporting goods business.

Watch "Inside the Scheels Culture ft. Steve Scheel" on YouTube, or listen on Apple Podcasts! And if you'd like to talk with an expert about your own financial legacy, reach out.



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