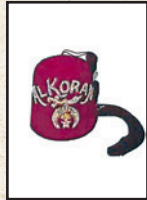


Al Koran Shriners News



The Al Koran

published monthly by
Al Koran Shriners
P.O. Box 81184
Cleveland, Ohio 44181
Phone (440) 546-9866

T (USPS 543-180)
Al Koran Shriners News

Periodicals Postage Paid at
Cleveland, Ohio and
additional mailing offices

(440) 546-9866

(800) 234-1876

FAX: (440) 546-1793

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ELECTED DIVAN

Potentate Bru Lewis
Chief Rabban Michael Spisak
Assistant Rabban Brandon Gould
High Priest & Profit James Barone
Oriental Guide Michael Krake Jr.
Treasurer Jay Flack
Recorder Thomas Klecan, P.P.



BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Robert Frankel, President
Ron Murphy, PP
Dan Andrews
Mike Miranda

AL KORAN EDITOR & PUBLISHER

Jay Flack, Treasurer and Sheila Flack

SUBMISSIONS

All articles, advertising and suggestions should be sent to the address listed below and marked ATTN: Al Koran Magazine or email to: alkorannewsletter@gmail.com

MEMBER INFORMATION

For information on Dues, Assessments, Regulations or to report Illness or Death of a Noble please call the Business Office as listed above.



Bru Lewis, Potentate

First of all, a BIG THANK YOU to all who put their trust in me to guide Al Koran in the coming year, and congratulations to those also elected! What an honor and privilege it is. I promise you I will do my best to uphold, maintain, and improve Al Koran in as many ways as possible. What an act to follow in Illustrious Sir Terry Hamilton. Twice Potentate, an Emeritus Representative, Shriner's Children Ohio Board of Governors, his list of accomplishments and accolades goes on and on. Thank you Illustrious Sir Hamilton for your service, outstanding guidance, and mentoring this past year.

As for me, there are times I feel my head might explode in all the things I am trying to take in. I have a lot to learn and experience in this "Noble" journey. Being a 5x Past Master of Blue Lodge is a good foundation, but the Shrine is a different animal, yet one which I have come to love and feel a personal renewal in my own enthusiasm. Our primary purpose as Shriners and their Ladies is to help children. What more can be said!

Hailing from Mansfield, OH, I am very happily married to my very supportive Lady Melissa going on 24 years, am the father of three children, each of them unique in their own ways. I also have 4 wonderful grandchildren, including a special needs granddaughter. Still working for another year and a half I serve as Director of Quality and Human Resources at Hy-Production Inc. in Valley City Ohio. I am a Scottish Rite 32 degree Mason, a York Rite Mason, a Kentucky Colonel, and co-founder of The Richland County Young Guns Brotherhood (a Blue Lodge Association).

My Primary Goals for 2024 are (1) Driving Membership – highlighting younger membership, (2) Promoting True Brotherhood and Fun, and last but not least (3) Partnering more often with our Sisters in the LOSNA, our Brothers in the Prince Hall Shriners, other Shrine Temples, and between our own Clubs and Units.

We will be bringing back our very successful Sportsman's Raffle this year. Like last year the seller of a winning ticket will receive a \$50.00 gift card from Fin-Feather-Fur. The person that sells the most tickets will have their hospital per diem dues paid for life. If those are already paid you can have the cash value in a gift card. And as always if you don't want a gun that you have won you can get a gift card for the value of that item to use at the Fin.

Please continue to support all of our Clubs and Units by attendance, donations, volunteering, and by your love.

Bru Lewis, Potentate
Something to Wrap Your Love Around



Official Call of the Potentate

The next regular monthly business meeting will be **JANUARY 15, 2024** to be held at **Berea Masonic Center** (Quarry Lodge), 366 Eastland Road, Berea. Dinner will be served at 6:00 with **RESERVATIONS** called in to Recorder Tom Klecan...by the previous Thursday.

Bru Lewis, Illustrious Potentate
Thomas Klecan P.P., Recorder

Es Selamu Aleikum

Divan Directory



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Bru Lewis

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Recorder

Thomas Klecan P.P.

C: 440 520-8101

Email: klecantom@hotmail.com

Calendar of Events

JANUARY

- January 1 Happy New Year!!
- January 8 Board of Directors / Divan / Hunters Meeting
- January 13 Installation of Al Koran Officers
- January 15 Al Koran Monthly Business Meeting

FEBRUARY

- February 12 - Board of Directors/Divan/Hunters
- February 14 - Valentine's Day
- February 16 - Treasurer's Birthday
- February 19 - Business Meeting

For a detailed **Calendar of Events** see Al Koran Website

FOR SALE!

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until February 28th.**

**The Van can be seen at
Al Koran office.**

Paper Deadline!

For those of you that submit materials for the Al Koran News:
I need your letters, ads and photos in a timely manner,
so that I can assemble the newsletter with
enough time for artwork, layout, printing & mailing.

Deadline is 2nd Wednesday each month.

Thank You, Jay Flack., Editor & Publisher

From the Recorder

Let's get 2024 Going !

Remember, the Shrine was founded for fun and fellowship, and because of the fun and fellowship, it grew quite rapidly. Yes we have a great philanthropy in our Hospital system but we really owe most of our success to the fun and fellowship. So for 2024 our goal should be to revitalize ourselves with loads of fun and fellowship.

We have a lot of new things going on. We have changed Web Masters and hope to have the web site even more informative and useful for you in 24.

Remember as you get your events and meetings in order let me know so I can input them into the calendar, so you have a ready reference for events and for planning future events.

I have to mention the fact that the prices for publishing, preparing, and mailing the newsletters keeps increasing. We face quite the dilemma, because as issues decrease in number, the prices actually increase. Your Divan has been discussing this topic, and have made several suggestions for decreasing costs; we are exploring those options and will let the nobility know before we make any changes.

By the time you read this 2024 should have arrived. So those who have not paid your dues please do so, otherwise you are considered to be not in good standing and are not allowed to participate in Shrine, Club, or Unit events. To those who have paid, thank you, and thank you for paying the added per capita increase.

Consider coming to a business meeting, especially if it has been a while since you attended one. Yes, we still conduct a lot of the same boring business items which any organization must take care of, but you will pick up the latest news concerning our Hospitals as well as upcoming events.

You can reach me by e-mail at klecantom@hotmail.com, clevelandshriners@gmail.com, or call the office **440-546-9866** and select #1 Recorder.

Tom Klecan PP - Recorder, Al Koran Shriners

NOVEMBER 2023 MEMBERSHIP

November 1st	807 Regular	6 Associates
Creations	2	0
Restorations	0	0
Affiliations	1	0
Demits	1	0
Suspensions	1	0
Resignations	2	0
Deaths	3	0

NOVEMBER 30 805 Regular 5 Associates

Total Membership as of NOVEMBER 30, 2023

810 Nobles

DONATIONS

In Memory of Howard Claes

Barbara A. Tuemler

In Memory of Sherman & Jeanne Allen

Allen Family Trust

IN MEMORY

Nobles lost to the Black Camel

November 2023

Noble Joe L. Gregory

Noble James E. Ryan Sr.

Noble Mark Stepanovich

Note: Reports are posted as received, not necessarily in chronological order.

2024 Divan and Trustees



Mariners Log

By Bob Stanley M.S.A.

In January, with the darkness of winter upon us, the brightest week is always the week of the Cleveland Boat Show. If you need to find a Mariner, this is the place to look for him while the boat show is open.

During the Festive Christmas Season, the Mariners made a \$200 contribution to the Al Koran Childrens Christmas Party. \$200 to the Erie Shrine Hospital, and \$200 to the Dayton Shrine Hospital.

In the history of the Greater Cleveland Boating Association, this Scribe has found that in 1998 the Al Koran Mariners Yacht Club was named G.C.B.A. Boat Club of the Year.

There have been three Mariners who were named Greater Cleveland Boating Association "Boater of the Year." They were Lou Key-1997, Bill Collins-2000, and Dave Zmek P.P.-2012.

Sunshine Chairman P/C John Baker has informed me at this writing (December 1) that sick bay is empty. Keep taking your vitamins and avoid all the falls during old man winters months of snow. To our lucky Florida snowbirds, do not forget your sunscreen.

Congratulations to our Rear Commodore Rob Frankel who was elected "Chief" of the Hunters Unit for 2024. Rob has many activities planned for the Hunters in 2024.

Remember to mark your calendars for Saturday, January 13, 2024. This will be the installation of our 2024 Potentate Bru Lewis and all the Al Koran Shrine Officers. This annual affair will be held at Toscana Party Center (A.K.A. Fraternal Order of Police) at 4972 E. 71st Street, Cuyahoga Heights, Ohio. Come out and enjoy this gala evening and meet our 2024 Al Koran Shrine Officers.

The January business meeting of Al Koran Shrine will be held on Monday, January 15. The location will be in the official call of the Potentate in the January Al Koran Magazine on page 2.

As in past years, there will be no January meeting of the AL Koran Mariners Yacht Club. For information regarding meeting dates, membership, or activities of the Al Koran Mariners Yacht Club, please contact Commodore Ronn Murphy P.P. at 216-702-6785.

Finally, the best New Year Resolution is "Stay Safe, Stay Healthy, and Enjoy Life."

God's Speed

The following 2024 Al Koran Mariners Bridge Officers were installed on Sunday, December 17.

Commodore	P/C Ronn Murphy P.P.
Vice Commodore	P/C Bob Kolar
Rear Commodore	Robert Frankel
Fleet Captain	Frank McEvoy
Treasurer	James Dettmer
Secretary	P/C Bob Stanley
Directors	P/C Mark Cain & P/C Bob Stanley

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Legion of Honor

At our LOH October meeting, we elected Gordon Hastler P.P., Commander for the year 2024.

The Legion of Honor Unit meets the 4th Monday of every month, except for the months of November and December due to the holidays. Our meetings are held at 6 PM at St. Matthews Episcopal Church, 9549 Highland Drive, Brecksville, Ohio 44141.

Our membership is composed of military veterans and associate members. The associate members are not veterans but volunteer to help our unit to achieve our goals. At the present time, several of our associate members are very active. If you are a veteran or you would like to help out as an associate, please contact Jack Conner, Adjutant, P.P., at 440.590.5260.

The Legion of Honor wishes you and yours a Healthy New Year.

Hunter's Unit

Last Month the Hunters held their election of Officers and the Chief Elect decided to hold our Installation at the same time and place as the Divan. The date is Saturday, January 13th, at the Toscana Party Center, 4972 East 71st Street, and the doors will open at, 6:00PM. The Officers to be installed are Robert Frankel Chief, Asst. Chief Dan Andrews, Secretary Al Paynter and Treasure Russ Arndt.

The 9th of December a few of the Hunters plus Evie Probert helped with the Kid Christmas Party by preparing and serving the Hot Dogs and etc. A THANK YOU to the few that helped. I didn't see any kid that didn't have a smile on their face along with the designs of the paint that was expertly applied. There is always someone saying "look what I did" and someone that doesn't, and the one that doesn't is Kay and Dave Stelmach. They have been preparing this and a number of these events for years. And I think credit is due. So, THANK YOU KAY AND DAVE for keeping the Christmas spirit going.

Hunting is still going on and maybe you enjoy fishing, or maybe none of the above, we are still meeting once a month. Like I tell everyone " the only thing I ever killed was a fifth". Come join us, we are meeting on the 2nd Monday after the Divan Meeting about 7:00, at the Engle Road Office.

Oriental Guide

Greetings from Youngstown,

I am Mike Krake Jr, the newly elected Oriental Guide for Al Koran Shrine Temple.

I live southeast of Cleveland in the Youngstown area with my wife Miriam. We have been together now for over fifteen years. She has accompanied me to many Masonic events, and looks forward to many more.

As the service manager at Generator Specialist I handle technical support for my technicians, quote jobs, and source parts. I schedule and work on the RV generator jobs at the shop, and run the fuel delivery truck when requested. I'm lucky to work with my father, who started the business in 1977, and also heads the outside sales.

Down the street from our shop is the Youngstown Shrine Club, where I have been a member for over six years. I am a former Director and a Past President. For many years I was also the Chairman of the YSC Chili Cookoff, which is held during the OH State vs. Michigan football game.

I am the current Secretary and a Past Master of Colonel J. Hillman Lodge 481 in Poland, Ohio. Notably, I was part of the committee that merged Poland Lodge into Wick Lodge. I handled all correspondence between the two Lodges and Grand Lodge during this time, and 93 Endowed Memberships upon completion.

In the York Rite, I'm a member of Youngstown Chapter 93, Buechner Council 107, and St. John Commandery 20.

I am also a 32nd degree Mason of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite for the Valley of Youngstown, and the current Most Wise Master of the Youngstown Chapter of Rose Croix for the 2023-2024 term.

I would like to thank the Nobles for their vote of confidence in electing me, and I have much to learn from those around me. I look forward to the upcoming year and all that it will bring.

Thank you again, -- Mike Krake Jr.



Greetings BSrs!

Our next gathering will be Jan. 28, 2024 at 1:00 PM at Havana's choice in Brunswick. In all likelihood, it will be inside - but who knows, if we are having a warm spell, it might be nice enough in the heated pavilion. Either way - We hope to see you there.

— Mike Spisak, The Humidor



Mid Ohio Donations



New Members: Tyler Tevis and Eric Blinn.

Krazy Kops

Greetings fellow Kops!

-Mike Spisak, PD, Sect/Treasurer

We will be having our annual Kops Christmas party with the wives at J Bella's in Strongsville at 6:00 PM on Saturday January 20th. Dinner will be heavy appetizers and a cash bar. More details to follow. We will have our annual white elephant gift exchange/steal, and we promise to keep the stealing to a minimum so it doesn't take all night.

We hope to see you and your better halves on Jan. 20th!

Al Koran Boosters

"Al Koran Boosters" help to defray the cost of publishing and mailing our magazine. To be a "Booster" please send a check, payable to Al Koran, for \$10 per person listed to Al Koran Headquarters. Names are listed for one year, after which it is time to renew. Renewal dates are shown after your name.

BOOSTERS	exp. date	BOOSTERS	exp. date	BOOSTERS	exp. date
James & Lois Parkinson	1/1/24	Joe & Becky Kevern	11/1/24	Russ Arndt	11/1/25
Joe & Danelle Zemek	1/1/24	Lee & Betty Pilous	12/1/24	Mark & Debbie Bollinger	4/1/25
John & Joanne Larson	2/1/24	Al Budney	1/1/25	Richard & Linda Saxby	11/1/25
Joe and Joann Dugan	3/13/24	Art Moore	1/1/25	Norm Melchreit	12/1/25
Dale & Carolyn Haas	3/1/24	Creighton & Winnie Bradler	1/1/25	Fredrick & Mary Freer	1/1/26
Ronald H. Mills	4/1/24	Chuck & Barbara Bradler	1/1/25	Paula Bodenstein	11/1/26
John D. Baker	4/1/24	Mike Brookins	2/1/25	Gary Brookins	11/1/26
Dan Frenz	5/1/24	Steve & Kim Behm	3/1/25	Scott & Jana Grim	3/1/27
Stan & Betty Updike	5/1/24	Debbie Saiter & Fudge	3/1/25	Roger A. Van Norstan	7/1/27
William Miller	6/1/24	Jay & Sheila Flack	4/1/25	Joanne Larson	1/1/28
Phil & Rita Welce	6/1/24	Virginia Briggs	4/1/25	Sandy Angstrom	2/1/28
James & Naomi Rice	7/1/24	Rosemary Hixenbaugh	4/1/25	Ralph & Eda Thadeus	7/1/28
Ford & Nadya Cole	7/1/24	Barb Fyfe	5/1/25	Donald & Debbie Meuser	10/1/30
John E. Haught	7/1/24	Evie Probert	6/1/25	Norita M Hinerman	4/1/32
Ken & Beth Weidig	11/1/24	Ray & Kay Wilson	11/1/25		
Jack & Marge Conner	11/1/24	Tom Scharf	11/1/25		

Al Koran Children's Christmas Party pictures



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Installation of Officers

SEMI-FORMAL



2024



ENTERTAINMENT
OPEN BAR

and other select Clubs and Units

Saturday January 13th, 2024



Toscana Party Center
4972 East 71st Street
Cuyahoga Heights, Ohio



Doors Open 6:00pm for Appetizers, Buffet Dinner 7:00pm

Dinner Menu: Caesar Salad, Hand-carved Beef with Gravy,
Chicken cordon Bleu, Stuffed Shells, Au gratin Potatoes,
Glazed Baby Carrots, Rolls /Buter / Assorted Pastries.

Coffee, Tea, Milk, and an *OPEN BAR*

\$45.00 / per person Donation

Reservations must be made by January 7th

Contact: Tom Klecan, Recorder 440-520-8101

More Al Koran Children's Christmas Party pictures



Elves recuperating after the Childrens Christmas Party



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