

# Al Koran Shriners News



# Krazy Kops and Medina Masonic Groups at the Medina 4th of July Parade









#### The Al Koran

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

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#### **ELECTED DIVAN**

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



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# AL KORAN EDITOR & PUBLISHER Brady Woodworth

#### **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.

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#### August 2024 ... The Al Koran... Page 2



Bru Lewis, Potentate

Dear Nobles and Ladies,

I want to begin by thanking all those who have had me in their thoughts and prayers. To say the months of June and early July was particularly challenging for me healthwise is an understatement. However I am on the mend and am looking forward to getting back into the Potentate's role that you all deserve, visiting and taking part in all Club and Unit meetings and activities. I want to thank my Divan for filling in and carrying on while I was down and almost out. I want to thank Lady Melissa for never leaving

my side, and always being there for me.

What happened: For a year now I have been challenged breathing, have been very tired all the time. Following testing my doctors discovered I had some blockage in a heart artery and needed to have a stent. If you receive a stent you also must go on a blood thinner for a year. A week following the stent placement the blood thinner caused three stomach ulcers that neither I nor my doctors were aware of to begin bleeding heavily, and the blood loss almost did me in. After several days in the ER, transference by ambulance to Columbus Riverside, and a couple of days of hospital admittance, they had it under control. I am currently very anemic and working on getting my blood count back where it should be.

With all that said, we are now into summer break but also parade and event season, and I plan to get out to as many of these as possible and invite all of you to do so as well. Coming up the end of July is the Mid-Ohio Shrine Club Annual Bike Show on the square in Mansfield July 27th. There will be a parade from Ontario down Park Avenue East to the Mansfield square led by both Ontario and Mansfield police departments, a multi-school hot-dog eating contest, celebrity taco eating contest, live music, vendors, and great food! August 17th is the Hillbilly's Pork Chop Dinner and my wife and I were so impressed by this last year and plan on being there.

Onion sales was a huge success this year and a sell-out! Please support the Al Koran Sportsman's Raffle by buying and selling tickets as it is our biggest fund raiser.

If you have not yet reserved a place for the Potentate's Ball Saturday October 12th you may want to get your seat. Max capacity is 125, and this is going to be a different event than recent years past. The theme is the Prohibition Era Roaring 20's, with special décor, drinks, a photographer, and special live music from the 20's up to the present by the acclaimed group Just Jazz Live. If you want to dress in suit and tie as in year's past please feel to do so but we are going to have some fun this year as gangsters and flappers of the Prohibition Era, so dress accordingly if you like.

Brunell "Bru" Lewis, Potentate

Something to Wrap Your Love Around

# Official Call of the Potentate

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

We will be going dark for July and August and will not have any Stated Meetings

# **Divan Directory**



Illustrious Potentate
Bru Lewis
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Email: brudee613@wmconnect.com



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Treasurer
Jay Flack
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Recorder Thomas Klecan P.P. C: 440 520-8101 Email: klecantom@hotmail.com

# Calendar of Events

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

#### **AUGUST**

August 3rd – Youngstown Shrine Club Harmony & Horsepower Event

August 3rd – Krazy Kops Parade in Independence

August 11th - Lorain County Fire Brigade + Krazy Kops Parade at North Ridgeville Corn Festival

August 13th - Erie Gives Day (Shriners Children's Erie)

August 15th – Youngstown Shrine Club Dinner Meeting w/ Jonathon Albert

August 17th - Hillbillies Annual Pork Chop Dinner

August 26th - Hillbillies Meeting

August 26th - Krazy Kops Meeting at Teamz

	AUGUST					
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				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

#### **SEPTEMBER**

September 7th – Lee Tressel Shrine Classic for Baldwin Wallace Football

September 7th – Youngstown Shrine Club Clambake

September 16th – Awards Night

September 19th - Youngstown Shrine Club Dinner Meeting

September 23rd – Legion of Honor Meeting

September 25th - Massillon Shrine Club Clam Bake

	SEPTEMBER					
S	М	Т	w	Т	F	S
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8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
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29	30					

#### From the Recorder

Just back from Imperial Session and I must say it was one of the best run sessions in a long time. Business was taken care of in an efficient and comprehensive manner. The new patient ambassador stories will bring a tear to your eye, and withdraw money from your wallet. I am planning on providing the full promotional video's for your viewing at our October and November meetings, as we will be having our awards ceremony for our 25, 50, 60, and one 70 year award recipients in September.

As was usual, Membership was a large topic. While Shriners International is still declining in membership, we are closing the gap between losses and new members. New temples were approved for Australia and Paraguay, and the Lebanon and Bolivian Temples were presented their charters. Shriners are growing internationally at an astounding rate. With that growth, our hospitals also continue to grow. You are probably aware of our hospitals in Mexico and Canada, but we also have several clinics in Bolivia and Brazil, Panama, and Crete. Shriners Hospitals for children continues to grow and to prosper.

Last year we were able not only overcome the losses of 2022, but increase our endowment from \$8.8 Billion to \$9.7 Billion, that's right billion with a B. The budget to run all of our facilities was \$1.1 billion in 2023 and we actually realized a profit of over \$66 million. \$66 million is 6% of that \$1.1 billion. Would you be feeling comfortable if you had \$6 million, let alone \$66 million? Unfortunately, we are talking in billions these days.

Let's return to Al Koran. We also are getting some new candidates, but not enough to offset the black camel, and our suspensions for NPD. I have double to number of Noble I usually have at this time of year who have not paid their 2024 dues. Nobles we will not be carrying you into 2025 if you do not pay your dues for 2024.

As mentioned above awards night will be on Monday, September 16, 2024. I hope that's what I sent out in the letters to our awardees. It will take place at the Berea Masonic Center, 366 Eastland Road in Berea. With presentation of awards at 7 pm, with a dinner at 6 pm. Dinner is available with a reservation at a cost of \$15.

Nobles, the Shrine was founded on fun and fellowship, our philanthropy came later. Our philanthropy is doing fine; we need to increase the fun and fellowship. If you have an idea of something fun you would like to see occur, please let us know. What would be a lot of fun for you, and your family, may not be my cup of tea, but you can count on me to assist you in getting it going.

Enjoy your summer. See you in September!

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

#### JUNE 2024 MEMBERSHIP

JUNE 1st	774 Regular	5 Associates		
Creations	0	0		
Restorations	0	0		
Affiliations	0	0		
Demits	0	0		
Suspensions	0	0		
Resignations	0	0		
Deaths	0	0		
JUNE 30	774 Regular	5 Associates		
Total Membership as of JUNE 30, 2024				

779 Nobles



#### *IN MEMORY*

Nobles lost to the Black Camel

**JUNE 2024** 

No Nobles were reported to have passed in June

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

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

# Thank you for all the submissions for this month's Newsletter!

It is great to see all our members active in their communities and participating in the Clubs and Units! Your pictures are amazing!

# Want to submit pictures or articles for the Newsletter?

Submit all the materials by the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of each month and we will get you featured!

- Brady Woodworth, Editor

#### Al Koran Sportsman's Raffle

Nobles, we are entering peak selling season.

Remember that tickets are \$20.00 and 6 for \$100.

The seller of each winning ticket will also receive a \$50 gift card for Fin,
Feather. Fur.

Also, you do not need to take the prize you win, you receive a gift card which can apply to another purchase, and there are all kinds of sports equipment available at the Fin. Clothing, boating equipment, camping equipment and more is available.

Drawing will be October 31, 2024

with details as how to view the drawing coming soon.

#### Attention

Jonathon Albert, MS, Director of Shriners Childrens Erie, will be providing a presentation regarding or Erie Facility at the Youngstown Shrine Club meeting on August 15th.

The Youngstown Shrine Club is located at 1735 W South Range Road, North Lima, OH 44452.

Event begins at 6:30 pm, reservations for dinner required call Jim Hazlett for reservations 330-651-7185.

Presentation about 7 pm. Dress is casual.

Come and share in all the new and exciting changes that are occurring at your Erie Clinic.

#### **Donations in Memory of**

Thank you to these individuals who have made donations on behalf of their loved ones.

Donald & Elaine Oswald In Memory of Diane Kohler
Stu Shoaff In Memory of Joe Dickey, Jr.
Gregg Stickney & Justyn Jaymes In Memory of Diane Kohler
John & Robin Wolfenden In Memory of Diane Kohler

# Do you still want to receive a HARD COPY of this newsletter?

If you want to receive a hard copy of the newsletter please fill out this form and return it to:

Al Koran Shriner P.O. Box 81184 Cleveland, Ohio 44181

Or scan and send to <a href="mailto:clevelandshriners@gmail.com">clevelandshriners@gmail.com</a>

Name			
Address			
City	State	Zip	

Hard copies will NOT end with this edition, but we are researching alternative methods of delivery. The Divan has elected to go all electronic in 2025, with only a limited number of paper editions.

# Lorain County Fire Brigade

### Lorain County Shrine & Fire Brigade - Rides Again on July 4th

Shriners, Masons, and families, numbering 20, joined Big Red to the delight of the Wellington July 4th parade route.

With the efforts of Worshipful Master Aaron Anderson, Wellington Lodge # 127 added 7 paraders which included 3 additional lodge officers. And for their contribution, we thank them all.

If you noticed. I didn't mention Little Red. Gremlins have infected our little mascot with power train issues. Credit to Noble Randy Radcliffe for hauling Little Red to the parade and sitting on the side of the road while the rest of the unit pressed on.

Our next big parade will be the Corn Festival in North Ridgeville on August 11th. The ladies and kids, young and old, bring so much life to our presence at a parade. My hope is that you Shriners that loved to parade with other units find your way to join us. Remember, you no longer need to be a Shriner to participate. Ladies and kids are welcome. I invite Blue Lodges to make themselves known to the public by marching with us.

While your interest is peaking, give me a call for insight and details. Scott Croxford 440-822-4107 Stay Well.



# Legion of Honor

At the April meeting of the Legion of Honor, a decision was made to take a group photo of our members in full uniform at the June meeting.

Much to our surprise, all the members that showed up at the June meeting were in full uniform. This led to a problem we had no one to take the group pictures. So we improvised:

Gordon Hastler took one of the pictures and Jack Conner took another group shot. The third picture is that of the Elected Officers:

A motion was passed at the June meeting to go dark in July and August. Our next meeting will be held on September 23, 2024 at 6:00 PM at St. Matthew's Church, 9549 Highland Dr., Brecksville, OH.

Al Koran nobles, who are veterans, are welcome to join the Legion of Honor. Nobles, who are not veterans, can join as associate members. Please contact III. Jack Conner for information. Phone number: 440.590.5260.

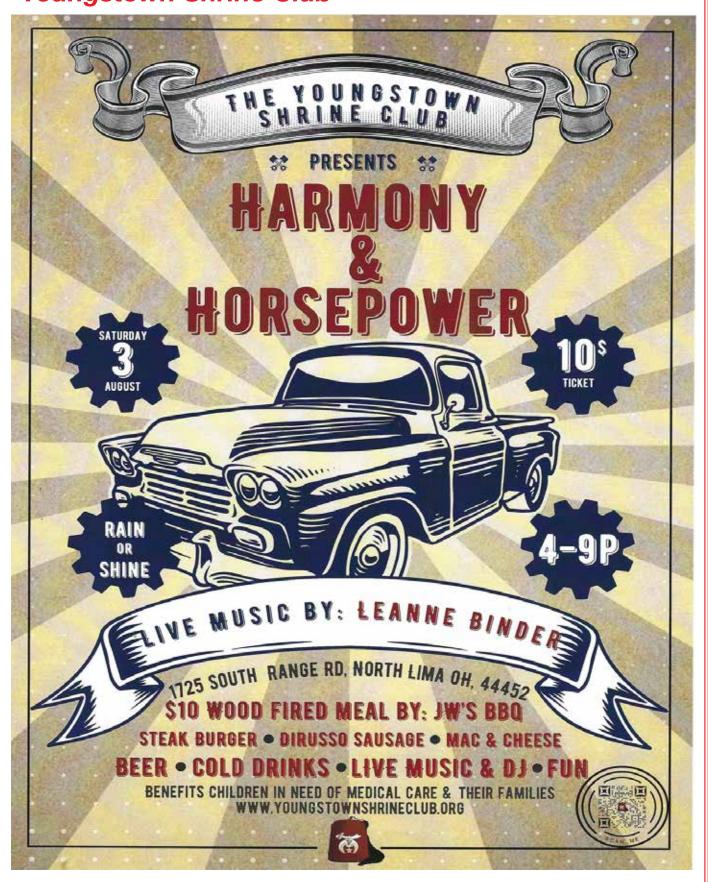






From left to right. Al Paynter second Lieutenant Commander, Gordon Hastler commander, Jack Connor Adjutant, Jack Watson first lieutenant commander.

Youngstown Shrine Club



# Hillbilly Crooked River Clan =

#### ANNUAL PORK CHOP DINNER

AUGUST 17 \$15.00

# MAKE YOUR RESERVATIONS BY TEXT OR CALL 216-905 5629. TICKETS ARE AVAILABLE

Yes. we are again this year, holding our pork chop dinner at the Berea Masonic Center on August 17. Complete dinner with dessert. We will start serving at 6PM with an open bar. This is open to the public so, bring the family, neighbors, your wife, or girlfriend or both.

We are still meeting thru the summer and our next meeting is August 26th and meeting place is St. Mathews Episcopal Church, at 9547 Highland Dr. Brecksville Ohio.

Plans are still in the works for a Frankenmuth weekend with a stop at Tony's I 75 Restaurant in Birch Run, Michigan. So let Russ Arndt know at **216-905-5629** if you would like to go.

#### **WORDS TO REMEMBER**

If your wedding cake was made by Sara Lee—You might just be a Hillbilly

If you've been married three times and you still have the same in-laws—You might just be a Hillbilly

### = AK Radio Unit :

Once upon a time, as resent as 1995, The Al Koran Shrine had a "Radio Unit". This is (was) a group of amateur radio operators that were Shriners. The Director of the unit serves "at the pleasure" of the Potentate ..

When I got into the shrine, the Radio unit director was Nobile Gene Simms, and when Gene passed,

Cliff Bade became the Director, and when Cliff moved to Florida. guess what, I became Director.. The Radio unit has a Club call, the call of one of our deceased members, My friend, Tom Chany (N8DBL).



# Mariners Log :

By Bob Stanley M.S.A.

Once again this August, the Mariners will dock their boats on Saturday, August 17. We will be heading to the Berea Masonic Center for the Hillbillys Annual Grilled Pork Cut Dinner. So if you like pork chops and sweet summer Ohio corn, you do not want to miss this.

The Mariners August meeting will be held on Tuesday, August 27 at the Chagrin Lagoon Yacht Club. Chow and grog will commence at 1800 hours and the meeting will be rapped to order at 1900 hours.

Sunshine Chairman P/C John Baker has informed me at this writing (July 8) that sick bay is empty and all is well.

Football season is right around the corner and that means Al Koran Shrine will be heading to Berea, Ohio. On Saturday, September 7, we will participate in the 46th Annual Lee Tressel Shrine Classic. This will be at Tressel Field, George Finnie Stadium located on the campus of Baldwin-Wallace University. That afternoon Baldwin-Wallace will be hosting Wittenberg University. Come out and cheer the Yellowjackets on to victory.

As in past years, the Mariners will join Districts 7 and 9 of the International Order of Blue Gavel (I.O.B.G.) for an afternoon of visiting four wineries in the Madison-Geneva, Ohio area. On Saturday, September 14, we will board the wine bus at 1100 hours at the Holiday Inn in Madison, Ohio. From there we will visit four wineries, enjoying the afternoon of food, friendship, and of course award-winning wines. We will return to the Holiday Inn around 1800 hours. If you never have been on a day wine tour, this is the year to do it, and enjoy the aroma of the ripening grapes.

There is still time to purchase your Sportsman's Raffle Ticket. The big drawing will be on October 31. Tickets can be obtained from the Divan or the Recorder's office. Remember this is Al Koran's major fund raiser.

August has arrived in the Oasis of Al Koran and its time to enjoy a day of boating. So, look for us on Lake Erie. For information pertaining to membership or activities of the Mariners, contact Commodore Ronn Murphy P.P. at 216-702-6785.

Enjoy the rest of the summer while being safe and healthy!

God's Speed



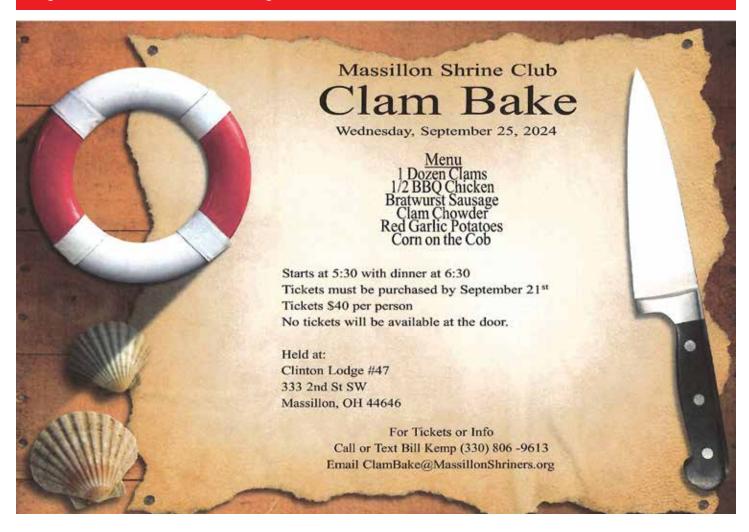
Steak Baked Potato Salad

Bring an appetizer or dessert to share.

Dress code is summertime casual August 7, 2024 Cocktails @ 5:00 pm Dinner @ 6:00 pm \$32 per person

The Home of Tom Chalfant (address provided upon reservation)

RSVP by August 4<sup>th</sup> to Kay Stelmach Email: kstelmach55@gmail.com Call/Text: 440.655.0525

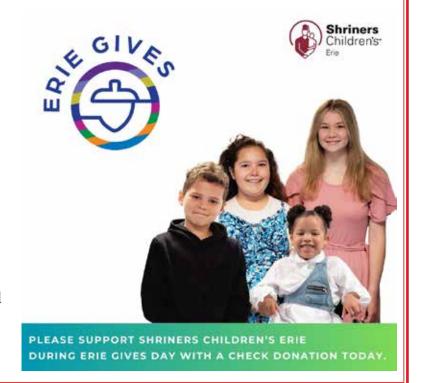


# Erie Gives Day

Erie Gives Day is coming up on Tuesday, August 13, but you don't have to wait to make your donation. You can make your donation of \$25 or more by check now. (If you give by check, there are no fees and Shriners Children's Erie still receives the pro-rated matching funds!)

Find the Check Donation Form Here: https://www.shrinerschildrens.org/en/ news-and-media/events?affiliation=Erie &listPage=1

You can mail your check and the completed Check Donation Form to The Erie Community Foundation at 459 West 6th Street by Monday, August 12, 2024



# Krazy Kops

The Krazy Kops have been busy parading this Summer. On July 4th we marched in the Medina parade for the first time. Thanks go to Dan Andrews for organizing this. On July 20th, we marched in the Highland Heights parade. This parade seems to get bigger and better each year and this was no exception. Fun was had by all.

Coming up will be Independence on Saturday Aug. 3 and possibly North Ridgeville on Sun Aug. 11. Kops members watch your email for details.

Our next business meeting will be Monday Aug. 26 at Teamz at 6:00 PM. If the weather is nice, we may sit outside and enjoy a cigar or two. Hope to see you there!

Mike Spisak - Sect/Treasurer









Krazy Kops having a good time at the Highland Heights Parade

# Youngstown Shrine Club



00000000000 The 61st Annual Lee Hively Sr. & Jr. Memorial

Clambake





(This is a Stag Event) September 7th, 2024

> 1:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m., at Club Pavillion will get first chance for tickets · Only 500 tickets to be sold

> > **Per Person**

Ryan & Rob Hively, Chairmen • Jerry Lyda, Assistant Chairman Lunch 1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. Dinner - 6:30 p.m. Beverage Beverage







# **Bourbon and Stogies Unit**



Greetings BSrs!

On Sunday July 21st we had a fantastic gathering at Scott Hayden's house. The pool was open, the food was outstanding, our fellow nobles from El Hasa joined us and - yes - we solved the world's problems again over some great bourbon, great cigars, and great fellowship.

Watch your email and future newsletters for information on our next BS gathering!

Mike Spisak —"The Humidor"





### Hunter's Unit

Well, Summer is winding. Labor Day is here and meeting are being scheduled. The Hunters are no different. They will be meeting this month, starting off with their usual September Mooseburger night. The meeting will be held at the Brook Park Pavilion on Sylvia Rd and this year we will be having a speaker. Stu Shoff will be talking on the FBI organization from which he retired from. This meeting and meal is open to anyone that would like to attend. Bring your family and you neighbors. We will start serving about 6:30 untill?

This year, we only had a couple of parades that we participated in, plus taking it to the Kids Fishing in Medina. There was a lack of communication with no Parade Marshal to retrieve information from. Next

year we need to start early and maybe start our own contact list. We have a Trolly Trailer that we put time and money into, just to let it set in storage.



2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of Each Month Cocktails 5:30 pm Dinner 6:00 pm Entertainment 7:00 pm \$32 per person The Cleveland Yachting Club

Prize Raffle: Tickets \$1 ea., or 6 tickets for \$5

**100** 200 Yacht Club Drive Rocky River, Ohio 44116

RSVP to Dave/Kay Stelmach Call/Text: (440)-655-0525

# Email: kstelmach55@gmail.com

### 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
Ford & Nadya Cole	Virginia Briggs 4/1/25	Norm Melchreit
John E. Haught	Rosemary Hixenbaugh4/1/25	Fredrick & Mary Freer1/1/26
Ken & Beth Weidig11/1/24	James & Lois Parkinson	Joe Wuitowicz
Jack & Marge Conner11/1/24	Barb Fyfe	Paula Bodenstein11/1/26
Joe & Becky Kevern11/1/24	Evie Probert	Gary Brookins11/1/26
Lee & Betty Pilous	James & Naomi Rice7/1/25	Scott & Jana Grim
Al Budney	John D. Baker7/1/25	Roger A. Van Norstan7/1/27
Art Moore	Barb Kuchta	Joanne Larson
Creighton & Winnie Bradler 1/1/25	Stan & Betty Updike 8/1/25	Sandy Angstrom
Chuck & Barbara Bradler 1/1/25	William & Mary Miller 8/1/25	Ralph & Eda Thadeus7/1/28
Mike Brookins	Ray & Kay Wilson11/1/25	Gordon Hastler PP
Brunell "Bru" Lewis	Tom Scharf11/1/25	Joe and Joann Dugan 1/1/29
Steve & Kim Behm	Russ Arndt11/1/25	Donald & Debbie Meuser10/1/30
Jie & Danelle, Zemek	Mark & Debbie Bollinger 4/1/25	Norita M Hinerman 4/1/32
Debbie Saiter & Fudge3/1/25	James & Julie Pace10/1/25	
Jay & Sheila Flack	Richard & Linda Saxby11/1/25	





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> Contact Noble Eric Butler for information 216-215-4911

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# P I C T U R E S





Images from Imperial Session 2024 and Michael Spisak giving reports for voting



Younger members of the Kops teaching the old guys how to take a selfie



Lorain County Fire Brigade participated in the Sheffield Lake Community Days parade