



Volume #113 | Issue 2



**WE SHINE,
WHEN WE
SHRINE**



2026 POTENTATE
BRANDON GOULD



FIRST LADY
KAREN GOULD





FEBRUARY 2026

2nd - Mid-Ohio Shrine Club Meeting
5th - Krazy Kops Beer Brewing Event
9th - Hunters Meeting
17th - Mariners Meeting
18th - Massillon Shrine Club Meeting
22nd - BS Unit Steak Gathering
23rd - Krazy Kops Meeting at Teamz
23rd - Legion of Honor Meeting
25th - Lakewood Shrine Club - Cleveland Yacht Club



MARCH 2026

2nd - Mid-Ohio Shrine Club Meeting
5th - Mansfield Shrine Club Meeting
9th - Hunters Meeting
11th - Lakewood Shrine Club Meetings
17th - Krazy Kops St Patty's Parade in CLE
17th - Youngstown Shrine Club Parade in Canfield
18th - Massillon Shrine Club Meeting
19th - Youngstown Shrine Club Meeting
23rd - Krazy Kops Meeting at Teamz
25th - Hillbillies Meeting

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
							29	30	31				



Brandon Gould
2026 Potentate



Greetings Nobles and family.

What a great first month we've had. At our first meeting, we received five petitions and one restoration, and we initiated three new members. This year is truly getting off to a strong start.

I want to thank each of you for the support you have given me over the years, and I look forward to an outstanding year for Al Koran. I have already been busy installing three units and am excited about the travels ahead across the Realm—visiting with my fellow Nobles of Al Koran as well as my counterparts throughout Shrinedom.

Coming up this month, I'll be hanging out with the Krazy Kops at the Brew Kettle, enjoying some great fellowship while brewing a few beverages. Please note that there will be no business meeting on the 16th.

Remember: We Shine, When We Shrine.

POTENTATE CHALLENGE

LIMITED EDITION:

**2026
CHALLENGE COIN**



**THE CHALLENGE: BE THE TOP
LIGN SIGNER ON A NEW PETITION
IN 2026**

48 REMAINING

**YOU WILL RECEIVE YOUR
COIN AFTER THE CANDIDATE
RECEIVES HIS COLD SANDS**





It is nice to see that we have started the new year on such a positive note. We read 5 petitions and one request for restoration at our January business meeting. We finished positive for membership in 2025 let's keep the growth going.

At Imperial Session 2025 our request to change to our bylaws was approved and we are now only required to have quarterly business meetings. Our Potentate has indicated that we will probably have more than the required four, probably six in 2026, but don't think this frees up a third Monday of the month for you, because IS Gould has plans. He is planning on family get-togethers such as potlucks and other fun events suitable for the entire family. Stay tuned for information on these events.

The only way you are reading this is because you are using your computer or phone to get the newsletter. There is just so much more we can do with an electronic version, and it doesn't cost any more to add these things, so it keeps the costs under control. Additionally, please use the website, it should be your first stop for information on upcoming events and all other things Al Koran.

Speaking of costs, I am sure you are as aware as the rest of us regarding the increasing costs of everyday items. We appreciate your continued support of Al Koran Shriners. For those of you experiencing financial restraints, please let the Recorder know if you need help with your dues. We have programs in place to assist you in maintaining your membership.

Speaking of dues. Please check to see if you have paid your 2026 dues. I have approximately 125 Members who have not paid for 2026. As of January first, those of you who have not paid are considered to be 'NOT in good standing', and should not be attending events, or holding office in any Club or Unit.

While we as Shriners support one of the world's greatest philanthropies, Shriners Hospitals for Children, the Shrine was originally formed for Fun & Fellowship. So, get involved this year in the Fun and Fellowship, you won't be sorry you did.

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

Tom Klecan P.P.
Recorder





Great men
wear a fez.



Membership Update:

December 2025

	Members	Associates
--	---------	------------

December 1st

733

4

Creations

2

0

Restorations

1

0

Affiliations

1

0

Demits

0

0

Suspensions

0

0

Resignations

0

0

Deaths

2

0

December 31st

735

4

Total Membership:
739 Nobles

Nobles Lost to the Black Camel

December 2025

Illustrious Sir Kenneth A. Weidig
Noble William Thadeus

*Reports are posed as received
Not necessarily in chronological order.*

Donations In Memory Of:



Donation From:

Norm Melchreit
Norm Melchreit

In Memory of:

Raymond Wilson
IS Kenneth Weidig





AL KORAN CAMP SHIRTS 2026

Small.....\$51.35

Medium.....\$51.35

Large.....\$51.35

X Large.....\$51.35

2X Large.....\$53.20

3X Large.....\$56.90

4X Large.....\$58.75



Embroidered Name and Title add \$4.00 per shirt
Print as it will appear embroidered

Name _____

Name _____

Title _____

Email _____

Phone _____

All orders will be prepaid by cash, check, or credit card (a 4% processing fee will be added if paid by credit card)

Send order to: leepilous@gmail.com

Questions call Lee @ 216-406-0232

Find the Order Form for the Al Koran Camp Shirt 2026 at:

<https://alkoranshriners.com/wp-content/uploads/2025/12/2026-Shirt-order-form-1.pdf>



Hospital Transportation Drivers Needed

Yes, Al Koran is still transporting our special children to our hospitals.

We primarily transport to Shriners Children's Erie and Shriners Children's Ohio. Occasionally we will have transport to our Chicago or Philadelphia Hospitals. Shriners Childrens Erie no longer does inhouse surgeries, and if orthopedic surgery is necessary, it is usually done in one of those two locations.

We are doing **2 to 3 transports a month** out of the Cleveland area and about the same in the Mansfield area.

Please **contact Noble Michael Brookins** if you can assist.

216-978-8673 or Mbrook@me.com



Important Notice: Scammers Emails

Recently, our Illustrious Potentate Brandon Gould received notice that his name was **being used for scammers email**, saying this:

"Thank you for your response. I truly appreciate you getting back to me. Here is what I want you to do for me because my schedule is quite full. I have been working initiative and would like to surprise few of our diligent members with gift cards today. I already have the list prepared, and you are included as one of the recipients as well. To preserve the surprise, I would appreciate keeping this confidential until all the gift cards have been delivered via email. Please let me know if you are able to help by purchasing the gift cards and sending the details to me by email. I will, of course, ensure that you are reimbursed promptly. Thank you for your consideration. I look forward to hearing from you."

*Fraternally,
Illustrious Brandon M. Gould
Potentate*

Please know, no one from Al Koran Shrine will ever ask you to purchase gift cards or spend money for Al Koran, and that a message like **this is a SCAM**.

If you receive a message like this:

- Block the Contact that sent you the message
- Report the Spam Message in your email
- Contact the Divan to inform them of the email.





AL KORAN
Shriners

ANNOUNCEMENTS

AL KORAN SHRINERS

Sweet Vidalia Onion Fundraiser

\$15 / 10 LB BAG

Order through your Local Club or Unit by:

April 15th, 2026





Greetings fellow Nobles.

Having just finished my term as Potentate, and having accepted the position of Assistant Recorder, I have been asked by our Potentate to wear another “hat,” if you will. After serving Al Koran Shrine worthily for several years as our Temple Attorney, Noble Ben Farah is stepping down from that position. I have been tapped as his successor.

Noble Farah worked closely with his predecessor, Noble John Kohler who, along with John’s law partner, Norm Paynter, had represented Al Koran Shrine as our Temple Attorneys for at least the last 50+ years. I was fortunate to have joined Al Koran Shrine in December 1991 during the class that was named for John Kohler. The two of us became very good friends, and John offered me my first job out of law school. I am proud to be a part of this legacy.

I envision this monthly column in our newsletter as a place to disseminate relevant changes in Shrine law, edicts from our Imperial Potentate, and “things to watch out for” so that we can make sure we are following the Imperial Code. I will also be adding humorous tidbits about the law that might be interesting or funny, but not particularly relevant to anything. So here goes...

The Serious Part:

Effective January 1, 2026 Imperial Sir Brad Koehn has made changes to General Order No. 1 regarding Shrine gaming activities, including raffles. Any and all fundraising activities by the Temple or its clubs and units must be submitted to the Temple Attorney via the attached “Temple Fundraising Activity Approval Form” for my review and approval prior to beginning the gaming or raffle activity. (A fillable version is available online). Also attached are the memo from John Piland, Executive Vice President, as well as a brief history of General Order No. 1. If anyone has questions about how to complete the form please contact me.

The Not-So-Serious Part:

Did you know that it is illegal to walk your cow down Lake Road in Bay Village, Ohio or that it is illegal to catch mice in Cleveland, Ohio without a hunting license? Stay tuned for more useless knowledge...

The Fez and the Fine Print

*Practical Law, Shrine Governance,
and the Occasional Legal Curiosity.*

Michael Spisak P.P.

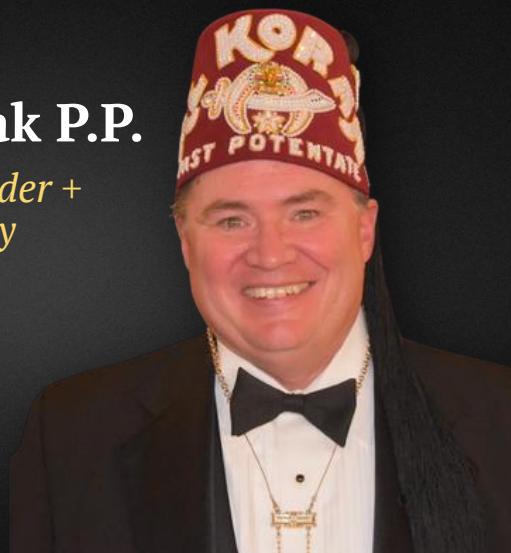
Temple Attorney

(216) 225-0703

mjspisak@gmail.com

Mike Spisak P.P.

*Assistant Recorder +
Temple Attorney*



<https://alkoranshriners.com/>



Al Koran Shriners



SHRINERS

INTERNATIONAL

OFFICE OF
JOHN C. PILAND
EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT/COO
813-281-0300

MEMBER
ANSAR SHRINERS
SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS

MEMORANDUM

TO: Temple Potentates, Chief Rabbans, Recorders, and Attorneys

FROM: John C. Piland, Executive Vice President

DATE: December 29, 2025

SUBJECT: Changes to General Order No. 1 Regarding Gaming and Raffles

Imperial Sir Brad Koehn made changes to General Order No. 1, Series 2025-2026, and provided a short video describing the need for these changes to make sure that Shrine gaming activities comply with applicable laws.

In order to accomplish that goal, gaming activities and events require the temple attorney to review the activity to be sure that it is planned to be operated lawfully. This change became effective upon the issuance of General Order No. 1, Series 2025-2026. Because some gaming activities were already in process or planned to start immediately, we still accept the current form used for fraternal fundraising.

However, effective January 1, 2026, we will require a new fraternal fundraising form be completed to fully implement this change. A copy of this new form is attached for your use. You are strongly encouraged to have your temple attorney, or an attorney you hire for this purpose, review the required written description of the proposed gaming activities or raffles so that he can render his written opinion and advice thereon.

An information form entitled "Raffles, Bingo, or Gaming as Fraternal Fundraising" is attached which should help you understand the new requirements.

You are well advised to immediately begin working with your temple attorney so that you can timely submit gaming/raffle applications or registration forms to units of government. Should you have any questions, please direct them to Matt Noell, Director, Temple Accounting/CFO via email to mnoell@shrinernet.org.

Thank you for your efforts to be sure that Shrine gaming and raffles fully comply with all applicable laws.

JCP
Attachments

cc: Brad T. Koehn, Imperial Potentate (via email to bkoehn@shrinernet.org)
Jim Cain, Imperial Recorder (via email to jcain@shrinernet.org)
Scott A. Schuster, Imperial Treasurer (via email to sschuster@shrinernet.org)
Robert O. Kuehn, General Counsel (via email to bkuehn@shrinernet.org)
Laurie Spieler, Vice President Legal (via email to lspieler@shrinernet.org)
Tony R. Krall, Chairman, Jurisprudence and Laws Committee (via email to Tony.Krall@shrinernet.org and tkrall@meagher.com)
Matt Noell, Chief Financial Officer (via email to mnoell@shrinernet.org)

RAFFLES, BINGO, OR GAMINGAS FRATERNAL FUNDRAISERS

If your temple is considering gaming as a potential source of fraternal revenue for your temple there are several concerns the Divan needs to understand as well as a few to-do's beforehand, **in addition to, reviewing IRS Publication 3079, attached.**

1. Gaming is highly regulated at the state and local level and requires full compliance with very specific laws and regulations. If the temple is unable to understand or to fully comply with applicable gaming laws, the temple should not engage in the activity.
2. Effective October 1, 2025 General Order No. 1 now requires that a written description of the proposed gaming activities or raffle should be provided to the temple attorney to accompany his review of any application or registration as required by the General Orders, specifically to include the method and location of activity, a detailed description of the operations of the activity, and proposed advertising, which should include a statement of purpose and, if applicable, disclosure. Even if the activity occurs within the period of an existing license, and a new application is not required, the above-described information shall still be provided to the temple attorney for his review. The temple attorney must render his written opinion and advice thereon.
3. In conjunction with the temple attorney review, SI highly recommends the temple request its external CPA that completes the annual reviewed financial statements, review the proposed gaming for any additional bank accounts that may be required, accounting requirements to ensure the proper accounting and reporting of gaming receipts and expenses, the specifics of the reporting, and the remission of any monies that may be owed to federal, state and local agencies in conjunction with the gaming activity.
4. The temple Potentate must approve any application or registration to conduct any gaming activity or raffle, after receiving the advice of the temple attorney, and, additionally, as may be required by the temple bylaws.
5. A copy of the temple Potentate's written consent shall be sent to Executive Vice President, Shriners International. Further, such written material pertaining to the fundraising activity, as requested by the Executive Vice President, Shriners International, shall be promptly sent to him.

The importance of all gaming activities being carefully planned and conducted cannot be overstated. It is critical that all gaming activities are properly accounted for, and that all state and local filings, including bingo and raffle applications and required reporting, are completed accurately and timely. It is also critical for temples to know the winnings threshold of when they are required to issue a 1099-MISC or a W-2G to a winner. Equally important along with the aforementioned is the accurate and timely remission of any monies owed to state governments such as activity taxes regarding the temple's gaming activities. Most gaming rules are state specific, so it can't be overstated that you must know the rules of your state. It is simply not acceptable to comply with "most" of the applicable gaming laws and regulations. Absolutely full compliance with those laws / rules are required. The fact that some other group or organization conducts gaming in a certain way is not evidence that those operations meet legal requirements or that those operations somehow excuse a temple's failure to fully comply with gaming laws.

The reputation and good name of the Shrine is irreparably harmed when Shriners fail to comply with the law. The public trusts Shriners, as men of character and compassion, to be outstanding stewards of the funds entrusted to our care and to meet all legal requirements.

TEMPLE FUNDRAISING ACTIVITY APPROVAL FORM

TO: Potentate, _____ Shriners, located _____, _____
TEMPLE NAME CITY STATE/PROV

RE: Temple Approval to Conduct a Shrine Fraternal Fundraiser

We respectively request permission to hold the following Fraternal fundraising activity for the benefit of _____.

FUNDRAISER TYPE AND NAME

We understand that the statement of purpose and the disclosure published on any solicitation materials, tickets, programs, and documents, including all electronically transmitted material, regarding the use of proceeds shall read:

Proceeds are for the benefit of (_____ Shriners)
(_____ TEMPLE NAME Unit/Club) activities. Payments are not
UNIT OR CLUB NAME
deductible as charitable contributions.

CHECK ONE

This fundraiser is not a gaming or raffle related activity.

This fundraiser is a gaming or raffle related activity. If this fundraiser is related to gaming or raffles **see pages 26 and 27 of the General Order No. 1, Series 2025-2026**. The section below; "Notice to Temple Attorney", will need to be completed.

Sponsor of the activity: _____

TEMPLE, UNIT OR CLUB NAME

Type of activity: _____

Date(s) of activity: _____

To be held: _____

Requested by: _____ **Title:** _____

PRESIDENT OR CHAIRMAN ONLY

Mailing Address: _____

Phone: Cell _____ **Home** _____ **Email** _____

TEMPLE OR REVIEWING ATTORNEY:

I, _____, attorney for _____ Shriners having received and reviewed the written description, contracts, applications or registrations, along with the applicable sections of the General Orders as noted above, am of the opinion that the laws _____, where the activity is to be held, support the Potentate's approval of the requested fundraising activity and have provided the temple Potentate a written opinion to that effect.

Signed: _____, Temple/Reviewing Attorney

Potentate's Approval: _____, Date: _____

The completion of the above follows the Temple Governance section, along with the Shrine Fundraising policy and procedures of the current General Order No. 1, under the Fundraising Activities section.

Do not use this form for fundraising events benefitting Shriners Hospitals for Children.

Received by Shriners International Headquarters: _____ Date: _____



AL KORAN
Shriners

2026 INSTALLATION PHOTOS



<https://alkoranshriners.com/>



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JANUARY MEETING PHOTOS



<https://alkoranshriners.com/>



Al Koran Shriners



Massillon Shrine Club

Greetings from the Massillon Shrine Club. Hope this finds everyone well and are staying warm.

For your information the Massillon Shrine Club meets the third Wednesday of the month at the Massillon Masonic Center (Clinton #47). We have a nice dinner then a short meeting. All Shriners and their Ladies are welcome to attend. For more information contact Secretary Bill Kemp at secretary@massillonshriners.com.

At the recent 2026 Installation of Al Koran's Officers our Secretary Bill Kemp had the honor of making a presentation to Illustrious Sir Brandon Gould with two checks. The first one to Shriners Children's Ohio for \$1,250.00 and the second to Shriners Children's Erie also for \$1,250.00.

Let's all support the 2026 Potentate Illustrious Brandon Gould and the Officers of Al Koran. Together we can make 2026 an especially great year for our children.





Legion of Honor

New Officers elected for 2026:

Commander: Al Paynter PP

Att.: Frank McEvoy

Treasurer: Louis Fow

Officers will be installed at our February Meeting.

January Meeting canceled due to weather.

Robert Burns Night

Our Potentate Illustrious Sir Brandon Gould at Robert Burns Night, hosted by West Shore Lodge #804, with Noble Earl Webster!



Krazy Kops

Top Shelf Basket of Cheer Fundraiser

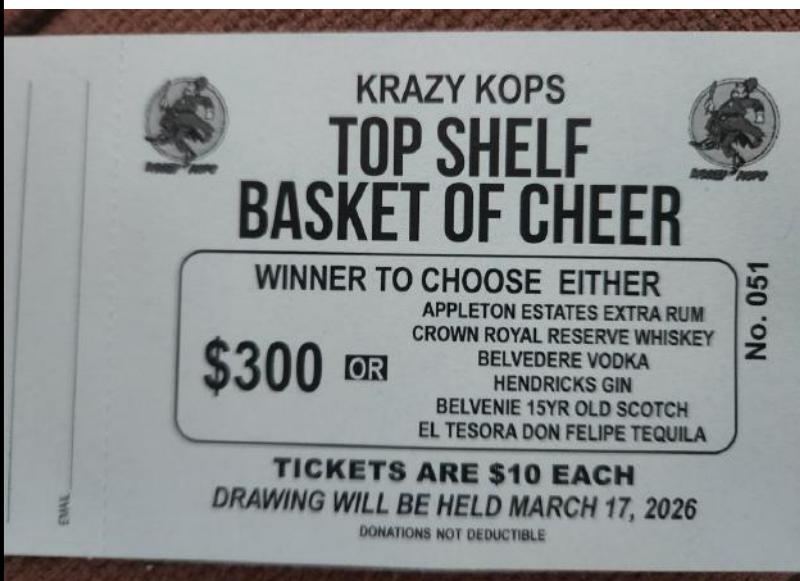
Purchase Raffle Tickets for the Chance to win:

\$300

-or-

**The 6 Bottles
of Liquor
below!**

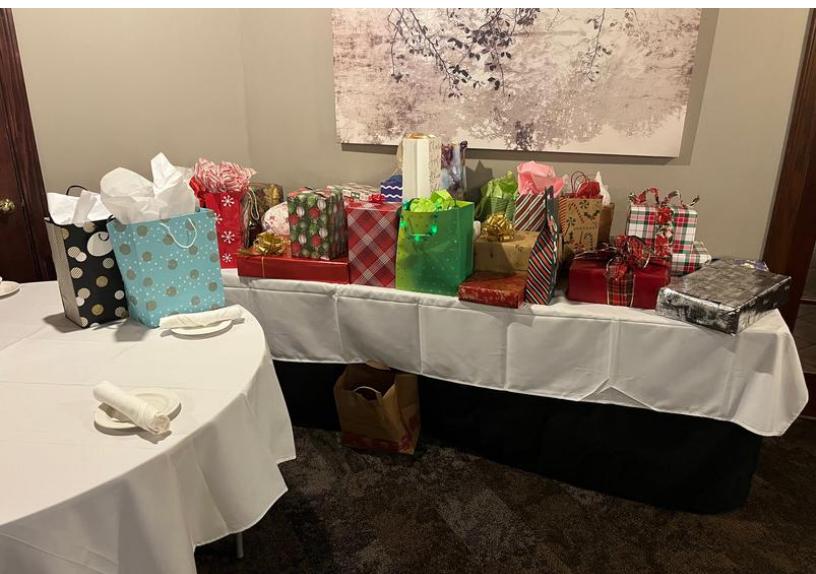
Contact Any Kops Member to Purchase tickets!





Krazy Kops

Pictures from the Krazy Kops Holiday Party @ J Bella's in Strongsville!





Krazy Kops

KRAZY KOPS

Beer Brewing Event

JOIN US FOR AN EVENING OF BEER BREWING,
GREAT FOOD, & BETTER BROTHERHOOD!

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 5TH @ 5:30 PM

STRONGSVILLE BREW KETTLE
8377 PEARL RD, STRONGSVILLE, OH



SIGN UP WITH:

MIKE FEKETE - FEKETE8@ICLOUD.COM

BRANDON GOULD - BMGOULD216@GMAIL.COM





Ohio Shrine Association

Join us in 2026 for the next
Ohio Shrine Association Meeting!

April 17th & 18th, 2026

Antioch Shrine Temple in Dayton, OH

There will be a full Ceremonial with
“Hot Sands” performed!

All members in good standing are
invited along with Candidates!

***If elected, Illustrious Sir Ronn
Murphy, PP will be installed as
President of the OSA!***



<https://alkoranshriners.com/>

LADIES ORIENTAL SHRINE OF NORTH AMERICA



Kheedawee Court #6

We are passionate about helping Al Koran Shriners help kids.

The Ladies' Oriental Shrine of North America (LOSNA) founded in 1903 promotes fun, fraternal fellowship, and philanthropic endeavors supporting Shriners Hospitals for Children by proudly donating over \$500,000 yearly.

Check out their website:
www.ladiesshrine.org for more info.

Kheedawee Court invites all ladies over 18 years old to join us in our mission to support Shriners Children's hospitals and clinics. If you would like more information please contact:

Susan Shultz, High Priestess

216.548.8625

Carol Schulz, Associate Princess

216.389.3759



Al Koran Shriners



Shriners Hospitals
for Children

ROSE BOWL PARADE

Check out the Video of the 2026 Shriner's Hospitals for Children Rose Bowl Parade Float!

<https://shriners.vids.io/videos/8c9bdcb51e1be3c906/2026-rose-parade-day>



<https://www.shrinerschildrens.org/en>



Shriners Children's



The Elves Visit Shriners Children's Erie

In December, Daughters of the Nile Athor Temple No. 19 from Buffalo, NY helped kick off the holiday season at Shriners Children's Erie. Their members brought smiles, cheer and thoughtful gifts to patients and families in the waiting room, continuing a cherished tradition that has brightened the holidays at the Erie medical center for more than a decade. Their generosity is a heartwarming reminder that patients and families are supported by a caring community throughout the holiday season.



Mark your calendars for the annual Shriners Children's Erie Telethon!

Get ready to celebrate and support Shriners Children's Erie at the annual Telethon! Join us on Tuesday, February 17, 2026, from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. at Millcreek Mall. Tune in to the JET24/FOX66 Telethon and join us in supporting life-changing care for our patients. Your participation helps make a difference and we look forward to sharing more details as the event approaches.





Shriners Children's Erie Patient Ambassador, Winter, Featured In Leaders In Care.

Leaders in Care is Shriners Children's official magazine, sharing inspiring stories, updates and achievements from across the organization's network. The publication highlights the extraordinary care provided, advancements in pediatric medicine and the incredible patients, families and staff who make the mission possible. In the Winter 2025 issue, one of Shriners Children's patient ambassadors is featured for her inspiring journey.



Leaders in Care is Shriners Children's official magazine, sharing inspiring stories, updates and achievements from across the organization's network. The publication highlights the extraordinary care provided, advancements in pediatric medicine and the incredible patients, families and staff who make the mission possible. In the Winter 2025 issue, one of Shriners Children's patient ambassadors is featured for her inspiring journey.

Cooking Up Confidence

For Shriners Children's Erie patient Winter, age 9, Christmas has always been about more than the meal itself. It is a cherished time spent in the kitchen with her mom, helping prepare a feast for the entire family. Winter has proudly served as her mother's helper since she was about 5 years old. These moments took on even greater significance after Winter faced a serious health challenge. A blood infection progressed into a complex condition that significantly weakened her muscles and nerves and ultimately required skin grafts. Following her initial hospital stay, Winter's care team recommended occupational and physical therapy to support her recovery and help her regain independence.

At Shriners Children's Erie, occupational therapist Kristen Ciacchini, OTR/L, and physical therapist Rachel Mauro, DPT, partnered with Winter to rebuild her strength, coordination and confidence. While therapy was challenging at first, Winter made steady progress in self-care skills such as dressing and grooming. Her sessions focused on improving range of motion, arm and hand strength and the fine motor skills needed for everyday tasks, including managing buttons, zippers and shoelaces.

Therapy goals were addressed through engaging games, crafts and functional activities, including cooking in the therapy kitchen, which helped make challenging work enjoyable. One area Winter initially found difficult was the sawing motion required to use a knife. Through therapy, she learned that using a larger knife with added downward pressure, as well as an adaptive rocker knife, made food preparation easier and safer. These adaptations helped Winter build confidence in a hobby she loves, allowing her to participate more fully in the kitchen and experience greater independence.

Cooking has continued to play an important role in Winter's therapy journey. This year, she is especially excited to use her skills while helping prepare Christmas dinner. From chopping vegetables to stirring stuffing, Winter will be side by side with her mom, continuing a tradition she has cherished for years.





SHRINERS
INTERNATIONAL
EDUCATION FOUNDATION | PRESENTS



6th Annual
MEMBERSHIP & MARKETING
Virtual Event Series



SHRINERS
INTERNATIONAL
EDUCATION FOUNDATION | PRESENTS

2026 **MEMBERSHIP CONFERENCE**

Building the Future Together – One Stone at a Time

November 6-8
Washington, D.C. • Capital Hilton

Registration is now open!

The Noble Academy Membership and Marketing Virtual Event Series presented by Shriners International Education Foundation is back for its 6th year, bringing fresh content, new speakers and practical insights to support Shriners and the greater Masonic community. Designed to strengthen membership growth and marketing efforts, this year's sessions offer real-world ideas you can put into action right away.

Join us across four dates and attend live for an interactive experience that allows you to connect with fellow learners and submit questions for our speakers. You can also watch on demand at your convenience. Don't miss this opportunity to learn, share and grow together.

Attendees will be sent a link to view each event in advance of the event.

Thursday, February 19, 2026

1 - 3 p.m.

Thursday, May 21, 2026

1 - 3 p.m.

Thursday, August 20, 2026

1 - 3 p.m.

Thursday, January 21, 2027

1 - 3 p.m.

Save the Date! New Location!

Mark your calendars for the 2026 Noble Academy Membership Conference, presented by Shriners International Education Foundation, taking place in historic Washington, D.C., November 6-8. Look forward to new speakers, engaging topics and an exciting new location.

The conference will offer practical learning opportunities, fresh ideas and meaningful connections to support membership growth and engagement across our fraternity. All members are welcome to attend, especially those serving in leadership roles such as membership and marketing chairmen, club and unit leaders, Divan members and other members of the nobility growing and strengthening our fraternity. Spouses are welcome and encouraged to attend.

Conference Venue: Capital Hilton

Our venue is a historic hotel in the heart of the nation's capital, less than two miles from the National Mall, Georgetown and the Smithsonian National Air and Space Museum. The hotel features onsite dining and a fitness center. A discounted rate will be available for conference attendees.

Visit the Conference Website

<https://nobleacademyeducation.org>



<https://www.shrinersinternational.org>



Shriners International



Aleppo Shriners Medical Corps Saves Bystander During Holiday Parade

January 26th, 2026

Patrick Ventola (left)
and Jeff Myung (right)



The Labor Day parade in downtown Marlborough, Massachusetts, had all the usual sights and sounds. Adults and children cheering merrily. Decorated vehicles honking and driving down the parade route. Phones snapping pictures. Participants tossing beads.

However, as the parade progressed, Patrick Ventola, head of the Aleppo Shriners Medical Corps, heard something else: a call on his radio. He had been driving forward along the parade in a golf cart while the Aleppo Shriners marched, per their tradition. As trained first responders, his corps was there to provide medical support to their fellow nobles if and when needed. "Our goal is just to keep everybody moving forward," he said. "We support the guys bringing in the money to help the kids."

But the radio call alerted him to another person in need of help: a bystander who had collapsed back down the parade route. Ventola, who comes from an EMS and construction background, immediately turned his golf cart around, drove against the flow of traffic and soon found the collapsed man on the lawn in front of a house on the parade route. Fellow corps members Jeff Myung and Ken Murnane Jr. joined him in attending to the patient. The trio found the man unconscious in a lawn chair and moved him to the ground to assess his condition. "We took vital signs, checked the guy's pupils for responsiveness, and, in an overdose, people usually have very pinpoint pupils about the size of a pen tip. It's a very good indication," Ventola said. The team determined that the man had overdosed and administered Narcan (naloxone), a medication that rapidly reverses the effects of opioids. "Narcan actually worked. It brought him back to, basically, a semi-conscious state," Ventola said. They felt the man's pulse return and then provided oxygen to stabilize his breathing. At that point, paramedics from the Marlborough Fire Department arrived on the scene. "The fire department was a little delayed getting to us because of the parade," he said. "If we hadn't been there, I highly doubt that person would be alive. It was good timing. He was still breathing but unresponsive. If we hadn't recognized the overdose, we'd have been doing CPR instead." The corps remained by the patient's side to assist and monitor until an ambulance arrived and took him to the hospital. The entire incident lasted about 10 to 15 minutes, according to Ventola.

Speaking on behalf of the trio, he was quick to credit his team. "It was a team effort. There were three of us," he said. "Jeff and Ken worked just as hard as I did. It's not about me." While Ventola loves what he does as a member of the corps, he notes that slow days are usually the best for everyone involved. "Our unit's very tight knit. There aren't many people who do what we do," he said. "On a good day, everybody else goes to work. On our good day, we show up and do absolutely nothing, and that's a good day for us. Because, if we're doing something, that means someone else is having a bad day." He added that the Aleppo Shriners Medical Corps just did what they believe in at the parade: "We see what we can do for others. It's all about helping people. A person's a person, in my opinion."



ROSS & JOYCE BLACK MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

The Ross and Joyce Black Scholarship was established to provide college or trade school scholarships to graduating High School Seniors.

Masonic Requirements:

- Students must have a father, stepfather, grandfather or step-grandfather are members of the Valley of Cleveland
- **or** a member of a Masonic Youth Group

Application Requirements:

- Complete the Black Scholarship Form
- Submit a current high school transcript + SAT/ACT Scores
- One letter of recommendation from a teacher or counselor
- **All Materials must be received by March 31st, 2026**



<https://aasrcleveland.org/the-ross-joyce-black-scholarship/>

ABBOTT SCHOLARSHIP

The Abbott Scholarship is available for all current college students, undergraduate or graduate students, who meet the following criteria:

Masonic Requirements:

- Current member of the Valley of Cleveland
- **or** a child/grandchild of a Member of the Valley of Cleveland
- **or** a member of a Masonic Youth Group

Application Requirements:

- Complete the Abbott Scholarship Form
- Submit a current college transcript
- Minimum GPA of 2.75 on a 4.0 scale
- **All Materials must be received by March 31st, 2026**



https://aasrcleveland.org/abbot_scholarship/

DONALD R. JAMES MEDICAL SCHOLARSHIP

Brother Donald R. James established an endowment fund to provide scholarships to qualified applicants who are pursuing a career in medicine, dentistry, or sports medicine. The following criteria must be met in order to qualify for consideration.

Masonic Requirements:

- A Mason in good standing in the Grand Lodge of Ohio
- **or** a Member of the Order of Eastern Star in Ohio
- **or** a child, stepchild, grandchild, step-grandchild of an Ohio Mason or Eastern Star Member
- **or** a Member of the Masonic Youth Group (DeMolay, Rainbow, Jobs, Pythagoreans, Grand Girls Assembly)

Program Requirements:

- Be enrolled in a program leading to an MD Degree, DDS, or Vets
- **or** be enrolled in a program leading to a bachelor's, master's, or doctoral degree in Sports Medicine.
- **or** be enrolled in an undergraduate program with a declared major of chemistry, biology, other life sciences, or if recognized by the educational institution, pre-med

Application Requirements:

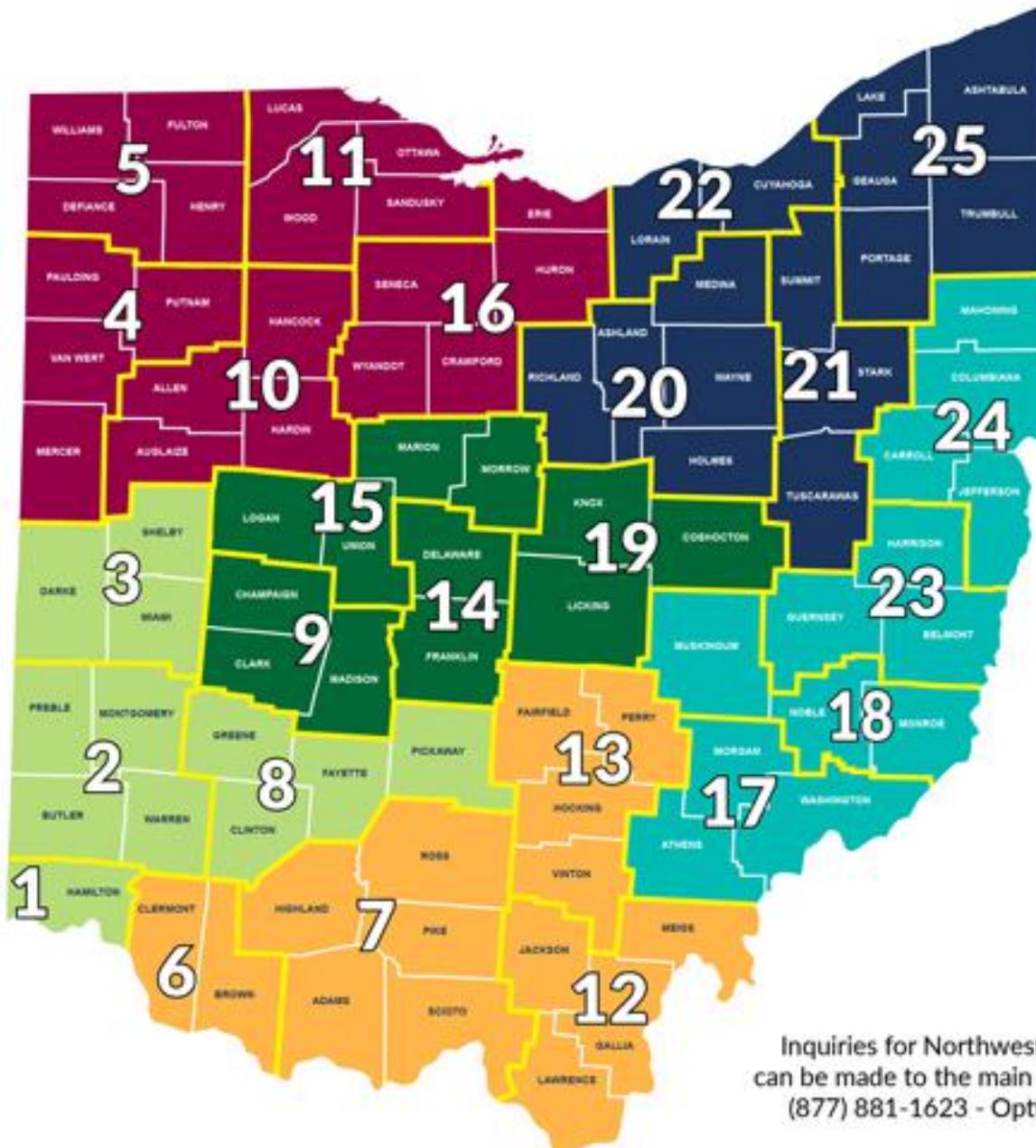
- Complete the James Scholarship Form
- Submit a current high school/college transcript
- Minimum GPA of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale **or** passing grade in doctoral program
- **All Materials must be received by March 31st, 2026**
- **in 2025, we gave \$618,000 for this scholarship!!!**

Email all Scholarship Materials to:

Brady Woodworth, Executive Secretary
 aasrcleveland@gmail.com

<https://aasrcleveland.org/the-donald-r-james-scholarship/>





Inquiries for Northwest Ohio
can be made to the main number:
(877) 881-1623 - Option 4.



**Samantha
Loy**
Director, OMC Resource
Center & NE Ohio
Community
Outreach Coordinator
(937) 504-4407



**Rachel
Lancaster**
Intake Coordinator
(877) 881-1623
Press 4 for the
resource center
M-F 8 am - 4:30 pm



**Bobbi
Schickler, CSA**
Certified Senior Advisor*
SW Ohio Community
Outreach Coordinator
& Masonic Bereavement
Program Coordinator
(513) 567-1100



**DeAnna
Kinney, LSW**
SE Ohio Community
Outreach Coordinator
& MVP Program
Coordinator
(740) 262-1974



**Trinity
Davidson, BSW**
Southern Ohio
Community
Outreach Coordinator
(740) 970-7903



**Brooke
Simonson,
MSW, LISW-S**
Central Ohio
Community
Outreach Coordinator
(330) 410-7983





AL KORAN
Shriners

TEMPLE DIRECTORY



2026 DIVAN

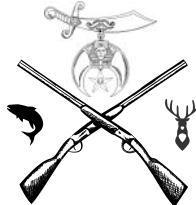
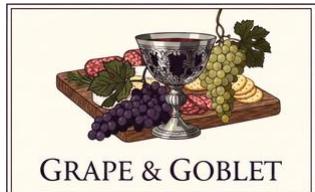
AL KORAN SHRINERS

Divan + Appointed Officers



Clubs

Temple Information



Units



Brandon Gould

2026 Illustrious Potentate

(440) 225-8205

bmgoould216@gmail.com



James Barone

Chief Rabban

(216) 276-0086

jbar27@gmail.com

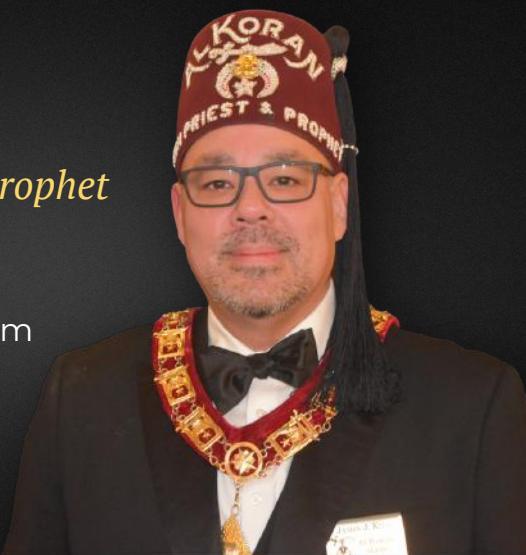


Jason Kita

High Priest & Prophet

(330) 275-9460

jjkhbk@gmail.com



Michael Krake Jr.

Assistant Rabban

(330) 503-1164

mkrakejr@hotmail.com



Frank McEvoy

Oriental Guide

(614) 377-1192

frankmcevoyshriner@gmail.com



<https://alkoranshriners.com/>



Al Koran Shriners



AL KORAN
Shriners

2026 DIVAN

Tom Klecan P.P.

Recorder

440-546-9866

clevelandshriners@gmail.com



Victor Allen

Treasurer

(216) 533-0373

alkorantreasurer@gmail.com



Michael Spisak P.P.

Assistant Recorder, Temple Attorney

(216) 225-0703

mjspisak@gmail.com



<https://alkoranshriners.com/>



Al Koran Shriners



Dominic Lucarelli

Captain of the Guard



Dave Stelmach

Marshal



Shannon Konold

1st Ceremonial Master



Chris Modica

Outer Guard



Dave Jones

Chaplain

Tyler Tevis

*2nd Ceremonial Master
+ Potentate Aide*





AL KORAN

Shriners

TEMPLE DETAILS



Al Koran Office

6801 Engle Road Suite 2
Middleburg Heights, OH 44130

Phone Number: 440-546-9866 **For Recorder:** Press 1
For Treasurer: Press 2



AL KORAN SHRINE NEWSLETTER

Submissions due on the 20th of the month

Submit Articles, Photos, & Videos to:

Noble Brady Woodworth - Newsletter Editor

alkorannewsletter@gmail.com

Read Past Newsletters at:

<https://alkoranshriners.com/member-center/al-koran-shrine-newsletters/>



<https://alkoranshriners.com/>



Al Koran Shriners



AL KORAN

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Hillbilly Crooked River Clan #16

Officers:

Raban of the Clan & Keeper of the Stil: Ronn Murphy PP
murphym2361@gmail.com

Keeper of the Cob: Al Paynter PP

Keeper of the Quill: Frank McEvoy

Meetings & Events:

Various Dinners during the year, with Meetings on the Fourth Wednesdays at St Matthews Church at 6:00 pm for a Potluck Dinner

St. Matthews Church:

9549 Highland Dr,
Brecksville, OH 44141

Dues:

\$30 for Life Membership

Dark in: Nov. & Dec.

Dress: Casual
+ Ladies Welcome

Website:

<https://internationalshrinehillbillies.com/>



Mariners

Officers:

Commodore: Frank McEvoy
frankmcevoyshriner@gmail.com

Vice Commodore: P/C Bob Kolar

Rear Commodore: Robert Frankel

Treasurer: James Dettmer

Secretary: P/C Ronn Murphy P.P.

Directors:

Ronn Murphy PP, PC, PIC

Bob Stanley PC, PIC

Mark Cain PC

Website:

<https://www.iasyc.club/>

Meetings & Events:

Various events during the year, with Meetings on the Third Tuesdays at various Cleveland Yacht Clubs at 6:00 pm.

Dues: \$35 / year

Dress: Casual
+ Ladies welcome

AL KORAN CLUBS



Youngstown Shrine Club

Officers:

President: Ryan Cresanto
r.cresanto@gmail.com

1st VP: Barry Weigle

2nd VP: Andrew Hussey

Secretary: Jim Hazlett

Treasurer: Al York PP

Meetings & Events:

Various events during the year, with Meetings on the Third Thursdays at the Youngstown Shrine Club

Dress: Coat & Tie (winter)
Casual (Summer)

Address:

1735 W South Range Rd
North Lima, OH 44452

Dues:
\$35 / year

Website:

<https://youngstownshrineclubhallandpavilion.org/>

Dark in: Jan. & Feb.

Stag for Meetings



Mid-Ohio Shrine Club

President: Mike Miranda

Vice President: Brandon Minor

2nd VP: Jason Rupp

3rd VP: Bru Lewis PP

Secretary: Jerry Snay

Treasurer: Bill Bragg

Chaplain: Scott Zartman

Shrine Ambassador: Terry Hamilton PP

Trustee: Brandon Minor

Trustee: Richard Snay

Trustee: Jeff Brown

Masonic Ambassador: Jason Brake

Event Marshall: Mike Seveigny

Dues:

\$25 / year

Dress: Casual

Stag for Meetings

Old Bag of Nails Restaurant:

625 Lexington Avenue,
Mansfield, Ohio 44907

Meetings & Events:

Various events during the year, with Meetings on the First Mondays at Old Bag of Nails Restaurant at 6:00 pm.



<https://alkoranshriners.com/>



Al Koran Shriners



AL KORAN

Shriners



Mansfield Shrine Club

Officers:

President: Bruce Joseph
jofotohio@aol.com
Vice President: Phil Devoe
Treasurer: Randy Waddles
Chaplain: Harold Klopp

Meetings & Events:

Various events during the year, with Meetings on the First Thursdays at the Baku Grotto.

Baku Grotto Building:

747 S Main Street
Mansfield, OH 44907

Dues:

\$10 / year

Dark in:

February

Dress:

Casual
+ Ladies Welcome



Lakewood Shrine Club

Officers:

President: Jim Cain
JCain8564@gmail.com
1st VP: Eric Butler
2nd VP: Dave Stelmach
Secretary: Mark Bollinger PP
Treasurer: William Schulz

Dues:

\$50 / year

Dress:

Coat & Tie
+ Ladies Welcome

Meetings & Events:

Monthly Dinner Meetings 2nd Wednesdays at various restaurants



Massillon Shrine Club

Officers:

President: Paul Samsa
prez@massillonshriners.org
1st VP: Joe Weisgarber
2nd VP: Mike Bonk
Treasurer: Jim Henderson
Secretary: Bill Kemp

Dues:

FREE

Dark in:

July & August.

Dress:

Casual
+ Ladies Welcome

Meetings & Events:

Various events during the year, with Meetings on the Third Wednesdays at the Massillon Masonic Center at 6:00 pm.

Massillon Masonic Center:

333 2nd Street SW
Massillon, OH 44646

Want to sign up for a Club?

Contact their Head Guy to learn more about their events!

Want to start a new Club?

Contact the Al Koran Office with your ideas!



<https://alkoranshriners.com/>



Al Koran Shriners



AL KORAN

Shriners



Krazy Kops

Officers:

Director: Mike Fekete

mwfekete@gmail.com

Secretary: Mike Spisak

Treasurer: Dan Andrews

Meetings & Events:

Parade Unit with 10 parades a year, monthly meetings the Fourth Mondays at Teamz at 6:00 pm

Teamz Restaurant:

6611 Eastland Road

Middleburg Heights, OH 44130

Dues:

\$50 / year

Associate Dues:

\$25

(Masons that aren't Shriners, relatives)

Dress:

Casual

Stag for Meetings



Bourbon & Stogies

Officers:

El Presidente: Brandon Gould

bmgoould@live.com

Humidor: Mike Spisak

Dues:

\$25 / year

Dress:

Casual

Stag for Events

Facebook:

Al Koran BS
(BourbonStogies)

Meetings & Events:

Meet Sunday Afternoons at 1:00 pm at Havana's Choice or homes of various members for Spirits & Cigars

Havana's Choice:

170 Pearl Road

Brunswick, OH 44212



Hunters

Officers:

Chief: Dan Andrews

dandrews216@gmail.com

Dues:

\$15 / year

Dress:

Casual

Stag for Meetings



Legion of Honor

Officers:

Commander: Al Paynter

Adjutant: Frank McEvoy

Treasurer: Louis Frow

Dues:

\$10 / year (Veterans)

Associate Dues:

\$10 / year
(Non-Veterans)

Dark in:

Sept. & Dec.

Dress:

Casual

Stag for Meetings

Website:

<http://www.ialoh.org/home.html>

Al Koran Office:

6801 Engle Road Suite 2

Middleburg Heights, OH 44130



<https://alkoranshriners.com/>



Al Koran Shriners



Arthur Moore	2/1/2026	Barb Kuchta	2/1/2028
William Reed	2/1/2026	Frank Berchek	2/1/2028
Bill & Mary Hubbard	3/1/2026	Evie Probert	3/1/2028
Parker & Bonnie Reynolds	4/1/2026	Ralph & Eda Thadeus	7/1/2028
Hugh Hively	8/1/2026	Gordon Hastler PP	3/1/2029
Al & Michelle Budney	10/1/2026	Joe and Joann Dugan	1/1/2029
Paula Bodenstein	11/1/2026	Ronald H. Mills	1/1/2029
Gary Brookins	11/1/2026	Joseph Wuitowicz	4/1/2029
Scott & Jana Grim	3/1/2027	Jack & Marge Conner	5/1/2029
Rosemary Hixenbaugh	4/1/2027	Evie Probert	6/1/2030
Richard & Linda Saxby	5/1/2027	Donald & Debbie Meuser	10/1/2030
Barb Fyfe	5/1/2027	Norita M Hinerman	4/1/2032
Roger A. Van Norstan	7/1/2027	George Anders	10/1/2034
Lee & Betty Pilous	12/1/2027		
Joanne Larson	1/1/2028		
Norm Melchreit	1/1/2028		
Sandy Angstrom	2/1/2028		
Bradler, Charles & Barbara	2/1/2028		
Bradler, Creighton & Winifred	2/1/2028		

**Want to become
a Booster?**

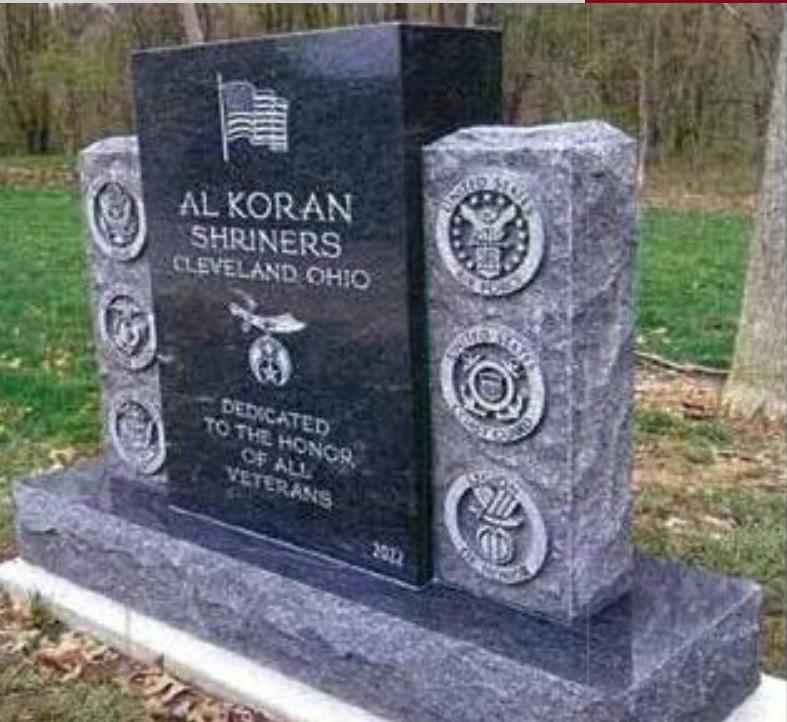
To be a "Booster" please send a check, payable to Al Koran, for \$10 per person listed to Al Koran Headquarters. Names are listed for one year, after which it is time to renew. Renewal dates are shown after your name. **We thank you for your support!**





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clevelandshriners@gmail.com

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