

TEHRAN SHRINERS BULLETIN

April, 2024



Tehran Shrine Center
5407 East Olive Avenue
Fresno, CA 93727-2500
Phone: 559.251.1991
Website: TehranShriners.org



APRIL MESSAGE FROM THE POTENTATE



Greetings Nobles & Ladies!

Lady Amy and I are excited for All the events planned for April 2024! April 1st is our Stated Meeting Night! Come find out what we have done so far this quarter and what is up and coming next! We will also be having dinner, and I will open up the Oasis so we can break bread and enjoy a few libations!

April 6th the RED NOSES are on the march and getting Parade ready for the Laton Parade on the 6th of April! I will be there and participating with all the Clubs & Units! April 26th will be the Clovis Parade and would ask for MAX PARTICIPATION so we can get back to letting the community know that Tehran Shrine and Our SHRINERS HOSPITAL FOR CHILDREN is STILL ALIVE AND KICKIN!

I'd like to shine a light on one of our new nobles, Michael Graham. He had his crew at the Shrine in March and fixed our lights and ballasts, moved our mailbox, patched our leaking roof, installed a camera and identified other things that our Beloved Shrine Center needs to attend to. Noble Graham did not want any recognition, but I would like to Thank Him publicly for doing all this free of charge because he feels part of our Shrine Family. He also has donated part of our fences and continues to offer his services to us. When you see our fellow Nobel, thank him and let him know that he is absolutely APPRECIATED!

Illustrious Sir,
Christopher J. Gullen



SHRINE CALENDAR

April/May

April 4th- Stated Meeting
Shrine Center,



April 6th- Laton Parade

April 26th- Clovis Rodeo Parade (Temple Event)

May 4th Shriners Day at our Sacramento Hospital
(call office 251-1991 for reservations)



FROM THE DESK OF CHIEF RABBAN



Greeting Nobles, Ladies and Friends,

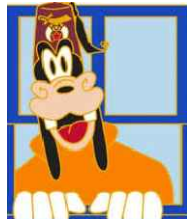
I want to use this article to ask a few very important questions of our members. And, please, give your answers some serious thought. Why did you join Tehran Shrine? Was it because of the Shrine Hospitals for Children? Was it because you have brother Masons, friends, who are Shriners. Or maybe you saw the guys in the funny looking hats riding the mini vehicles in the parades and they looked like they were having a lot of fun. Whatever the reason, we are happy that you joined.

Question number two. What can we, the Divan, the members, do to make your membership in Tehran Shrine more enjoyable? For you, your spouse or partner, and your children. We need your ideas. We need your attendance. I personally can't wait to see the new Motorized Unit participate in their first parade. When we get the date of their first outing, we will post it in constant contact. Please bring the family out to support all participants in the parade so your family can see the smiles on everyone's face. And please, wear your fez. Let the world know that you are proud to be a Shriner. Get excited to tell what great work our hospitals do to help children. Both in the United States and now in many other countries around the world.

The bottom line is Tehran Shrine is yours. The Nobility. You make the decisions. The Divan, we work for you. Come to the stated meeting. Voice your opinions, vote on matters that concern us all. Wayne Schwartz, Gary Campbell, and many others have done a fabulous job in recruiting new members in the last few years. You and our new Nobles are the future of Tehran Shrine. And we all are excited to see you take Tehran Shrine to the next level of greatness.

Fraternally,

Dave Pitts, Chief Rabban



FROM THE ASSISTANT RABBAN

Another great month! We just returned from WSA in Las Vegas, which was inspiring, with lots of ideas for growth from the members of other Shrine Centers. Dave and Carol Pitts and Pam and I had a great time at Zelah's Potentates Ball. Our Chief Rabban David Pitts presented a gift from Tehran to Zelah's Potentate Michael Clark and his lady Priscilla. Ron Obernolte, Jim Stahl and David Coleman were the other voting members from Tehran, and it was good to see Travis Cantrel down from Washington.

There are lots of fun things coming up in the next several months. On Saturday, May 4th, the Sacramento Hospital is having a special day for the Shrine Centers which support it. They have allotted 40 spaces for each of the Shrine Centers in this area. It will be a special day to see what our hospital does and to hear what our hospital and fraternity

means to the families and children we help. Pam and I will be on the Imperial Potentate's cruise and will not be able to attend but I hope many of you from Tehran will.

Next, the Imperial Session will be in Reno from Friday, June 28 to July 4th (imperialsession.com). This a great time to see what your fraternity is about with a legislative session, shopping, entertainment and a big Shrine parade down Virginia Street. Ed Stoltz, the Imperial Potentate has worked hard for the fraternity and the Hospitals for many years, and this is the end of his term and the beginning of his successors. Imperial Sir Stoltz would love to have our Calliope in the parade and I hope we can get a large group to go and have FUN. We may never get a chance to see and Imperial Session this close again.

In closing I want again to thank the Nobles for giving me the opportunity to help grow Tehran. Tehran belongs to all of its members, and I encourage every member to attend our monthly BOD meetings and our Stated meetings to make your ideas heard and help grow our fraternity. Talk to your friends and good men you know about Masonry and talk to the Masons you know about the Shrine and what we do. "FUN WITH A PURPOSE".

Fraternally,
Randy Forrester, PP
Assistant Rabban



HIGH PRIEST & PROPHET:

Good things happening at the Shrine Center. Our stated meeting is coming up this month. Come on down and enjoy the company of your brother Shriners.

Are you interested in joining one of our clubs or units? This is where the fun is, dining out and enjoying the camaraderie with the group. Our wives are included in many of these functions. The Clowns meet on the 3rd Tuesday of the month, usually at the shrine center, Contact Wayne Schwartz (559-229-2458) for more info. Novkeys meet on the 3rd Friday of the month. Contact John Denton (246-6653) or Dan Richardson (903-0196). These guys look after the novices at our initiation ceremony. Temple Guard (yup, they guard the Shrine center at our stated meetings) meet on the 2nd Tuesday, contact Gary Campbell (227-9926). Interested in parading in our local communities?

We have a new club (motorized unit-if it has wheels, it's welcome-even if it's powered by your legs) that will be showing off their parade skills and letting the public know we still exist. Contact Nate Williams (908-7247) for more information. The Roustabouts-they take care of Calliope. We have not seen the Calliope in the parades lately, we have the same problem as the other units. We need a bunch of younger Shriners. The Calliope requires lots of cleaning (it has to look good in the parades), takes several persons to get it off the trailer and put the cherubs, etc. in their proper place which requires crawling on the top. As I said, we need some younger folks to help us get this beautiful work of art back in our local parades. Interested? Give me a call.



The Hillbilly's was a fun group. There is a hillbilly degree that everybody enjoys, and our ladies are always included. NOTICE I SAID WAS A FUN GROUP? They had to pause their meetings as they ran out of officers. So, we need members and a few folks to volunteer to run the club. Give me a call if you are interested in having fun with the Hillbilly's. (Wayne-559-229-2458). There are several units and clubs that we would like to activate. Legion of honor (must be veteran-ex-military), Patrol, Merced shrine club, Kings County shrine club and several others. As is the case with the hillbilly's, lack of membership and leadership. We need a bunch of our members to help get these units and clubs activated. Give me a call if you would like to help. There is also a great need for Shrine officers. Again, interested? Give us a call.

Marketing and Membership: Petitions are still slow coming in. We have one new member, a transfer in and at least one reinstatement. On the sad side, the black camel visited us, and we lost one member. We are now on the negative side for the year (because of the way Imperial keeps records). We must visit our lodges and tell the brothers what we do.. **And we should talk to the members who dropped out and find out if we can get them back into the fold.**

APRIL HAPPENINGS AT THE SHRINE

Shrine center happenings in April: Board of Directors meeting on April 4th at the Shrine center. The calendar sez there is a stated meeting on the 4th also, so check all flyers for important dates! You will need a dues card to get into the stated meeting, check yours to see if you have a 2022 sticker attached. Lots of parades this month, get out and be on the Tehran PR committee as a parade participant or a spectator. Wear something that lets the world know you are a Shriner or a family member of a Shriner.

APRIL

The Romans gave this month the Latin name Aprilis but the derivation of this name is uncertain. The traditional etymology is from the verb aperire, "to open", in allusion to its being the season when trees and flowers begin to "open", which is supported by comparison with the modern Greek use of άνοιξη (ánixi) (opening) for spring. Since some of the Roman months were named in honor of divinities, and as April was sacred to the goddess Venus, her Veneralia being held on the first day, it has been suggested that Aprilis was originally her month Aphrilis, from her equivalent Greek goddess name Aphrodite (Aphros), or from the Etruscan name Apru. Jacob Grimm suggests the name of a hypothetical god or hero, Aper or Aprus. The Anglo-Saxons called April ēastre-monap. The Venerable Bede says in The Reckoning of Time that this month ēastre is the root of the word Easter. He further states that the month was named after a goddess Eostre whose feast was in that month.

Holidays, etc. (lots of them, but using my space for easter) 7th is National beer day

A couple of pranksters broke into the local police station and stole all the lavatory equipment. A spokesperson was quoted as saying, "We have absolutely nothing to go on."

HAPPY EASTER



Easter is a Christian festival and cultural holiday commemorating the resurrection of Jesus from the dead, described in the New Testament as having occurred on the third day of his burial following his crucifixion by the Romans at Calvary c. 30 AD. It is the culmination of the Passion of Jesus, preceded by Lent, a 40-day period of fasting, prayer, and penance.

Easter and its related holidays are moveable feasts, not falling on a fixed date; its date is computed based on a lunisolar calendar (solar year plus Moon phase) similar to the Hebrew calendar. The First Council of Nicaea (325) established only two rules, namely independence from the Hebrew calendar and worldwide uniformity. No details for the computation were specified; these were worked out in practice, a process that took centuries and generated a number of controversies. It has come to be the first Sunday after the ecclesiastical full moon that occurs on or soonest after 21 March

Easter is linked to the Jewish Passover by its name, by its origin (according to the synoptic Gospels, both the crucifixion and the resurrection took place during the Passover), and by much of its symbolism, as well as by its position in the calendar. In most European languages the feast is called by the words for Passover in those languages; and in the older English versions of the Bible the term Easter was the term used to translate Passover.

Easter customs vary across the Christian world, and include sunrise services, midnight vigils, exclamations and exchanges of Paschal greetings, clipping the church (England), decoration and the communal breaking of Easter eggs (a symbol of the empty tomb). The Easter lily, a symbol of the resurrection in Western Christianity, traditionally decorates the chancel area of churches on this day and for the rest of Eastertide. Additional customs that have become associated with Easter and are observed by both Christians and some non-Christians include Easter parades, communal dancing (Eastern Europe), the Easter Bunny and egg hunting. There are also traditional Easter foods that vary by region and culture.

How do you make Easter easier? Replace the t with an i.

The egg is an ancient symbol of new life and rebirth. In Christianity it became associated with Jesus's crucifixion and resurrection. The custom of the Easter egg originated in the early Christian community of Mesopotamia, who stained eggs red in memory of the blood of Christ, shed at his crucifixion. As such, for Christians, the Easter egg is a symbol of the empty tomb. The oldest tradition is to use dyed chicken eggs.

Manufacturing their first Easter egg in 1875, British chocolate company Cadbury sponsors the annual Easter egg hunt which takes place in over 250 National Trust locations in the United Kingdom. On Easter Monday, the President of the United States holds an annual Easter egg roll on the White House lawn. In some traditions the children put out their empty baskets for the Easter bunny to fill while they sleep. They wake to find their baskets filled with candy eggs and other treats.

I'm combining Easter and April Fool's Day this year...I'm sending the kids out to look for eggs I haven't hidden.

A custom originating in Germany, the Easter Bunny is a popular legendary anthropomorphic Easter gift-giving character analogous to Santa Claus in American culture. Many children around the world follow the tradition of coloring hard-boiled eggs and giving baskets of candy. Historically, foxes, cranes and storks were also sometimes named as the mystical creatures. Since the rabbit is a pest in Australia, the Easter Bilby is available as an alternative.



What do you call a group of Easter Bunnies walking backwards? A receding hareline.

WORDS OF WISDOM

It is the mark of an educated mind to be able to entertain a thought without accepting it." Aristotle - Philosopher (384 - 322 BC)

"People who say it cannot be done should not interrupt those who are doing it." George Bernard Shaw - Writer (1856 – 1950)

AND FOR YOU WITH BIRTHDAYS THIS MONTH

*As I handed my Dad his 50th birthday card, he looked at me with tears in his eyes and said...
"You know, one would have been enough."*

CLOWNING AROUND



A great big Thank You to all who came to our St. Paddies corned beef dinner. You made it a success. Kudos to Chef Jeremy "Bear" Kern and his kitchen crew (Matt "Petals", Skyler "Odd Ball", Chris "Chris Chris", and anyone I missed). Everything was great. There were lots of neat raffle prizes (Thanks to the clowns for the donations) all of which made the event profitable. On April 23rd we will be assisting Judy Hershey with Hersh's memorial at the Shrine center. We have several parades this month. Come on out and join us, either as a participant or spectator. Speaking of joining us, we still have vacancies for more Shriners who would like to clown around with us. We'll show you how to put on a face and assist with your costume. We meet on the 3rd Tuesday of the month (usually at the Shrine center).

FRESNO SHRINE CLUB



Come have lunch with your friends!

Sometimes you wanna go
Where everybody knows your name
And they're always glad you came
You wanna be where you can see
Our troubles are all the same
You wanna be where everybody knows your name.



**Our 10th meeting is at
Tehran Shrine Center**



5407 E Olive Ave, Fresno
Lunch will be by  **Hewitt's Catering** - Menu still to be determined
12 Noon Social - Lunch at 12:30
\$20.00 per person



Reservations needed by Monday April 8th

Please call or text Judy Hershey at 916-717-0458 or respond to this email to make your reservations (jhershey01@comcast.net)

**Saturday, May 4th
The Sacramento Hospital**

is having a special day for the Shrine Centers which support it. They have allotted 40 spaces for each of the Shrine Centers in this area. It will be a special day to see what our hospital does and to hear what our hospital and fraternity means to the families and children we help.

Call the office (251-1991) for reservations. If you haven't been to our hospital, you really need to go. It will amaze you!!!!

TEHRAN TEMPLE GUARD 2024 AND BEYOND

Show up at 6:00PM unless otherwise notified.

- Tuesday, April 9** Haven and Cathy will bring us to Outback for steak or ribs.
- Tuesday, May 14** Wayne and Coleen will bring us back to George's.
- Tuesday, June 11** Milt liked Ovidio's. We all did. We'll go there in June.
- Tuesday, July 9** Pad Thai calls to me. Corner of Shaw & Minnewawa.



More suggestions are requested. As always, call Gary at 355-9571 so we can get a count.

Gary Campbell

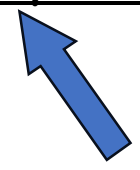
Tehran Stated Meeting Dinner and Refreshments

Monday, April 4th Meeting 6:30 PM



Dress: Business Casual and Fez. Current Dues Card Required

**Meeting and Dinner,
Nobles only (Sorry Ladies)**



Dinner and refreshments

\$20.00 per noble

DiCicco's Scarface pasta with Salad and refreshments from the Pote's Bar in the Oasis.

Reservation call 251-1991

Meeting only, no charge

Come out and be part of the solution. Help make the decisions of your temple and enjoy some great fellowship with your Shrine friends.

