

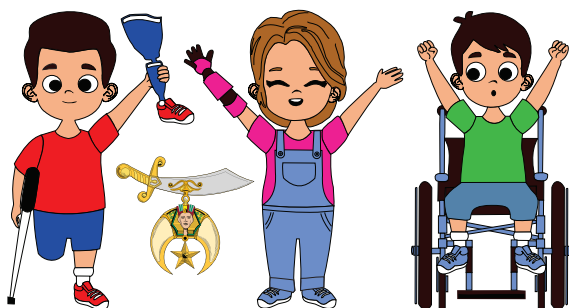
# TEHRAN SHRINERS BULLETIN



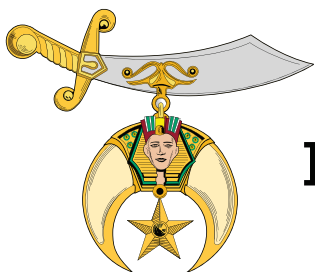
August 2025



## HELP KIDS THRIVE



## IN 2025



David Pitts  
Potentate



Tehran Shrine Center  
5407 East Olive Avenue  
Fresno, CA 93727-2500  
Phone: 559.251.1991  
Website: [TehranShriners.org](http://TehranShriners.org)

# From the Desk of: Potentate David Pitts



Greetings Tehran Family and Friends,

The fun and fellowship continue here at Tehran Shrine. Although we are halfway through the year, we still have plenty of exciting events planned for everyone.

Carol and I had a wonderful time at Imperial Session in Atlanta, Georgia. It was our first time in Atlanta. What a beautiful city. Besides being busy at the events and meetings associated with Imperial, we still had some time to explore the sites of the downtown and experience local cuisine.

Your Imperial Potentate for 2025-2026 term is Imperial Sir Brad T. Koehn. Congratulations to Imperial Sir Brad and Imperial First Lady Cheryl.

Our International Patient Ambassadors for this term are Carlota and Brandon. Carlota has been a patient since 2010 at our Shriners Children's Mexico. Treated for Cerebral Palsy, left spastic hemiparesis, she is our first Patient Ambassador from Mexico. Brandon has been a Shrine patient since 2014. He has received service at Shriners Children's Greenville and Philadelphia. He is treated for Acute Flaccid Myelitis, a Polio-like neurological condition. Both Ambassadors are super nice and well spoken. They will do an excellent job sharing the great work done by Shriners Children's Hospitals.

You won't want to miss the First Lady's Sock Hop on Saturday, August 23, 2025. Wear your poodle skirt and get ready to twist the night away, Rowland Trent and La Donna Sanchez are the Chairpersons for this event. You know it's going to be a good time.

See you at the next party.

Dave Pitts, Potentate



# From the Desk of: Chief Rabban Randy Forrester, PP



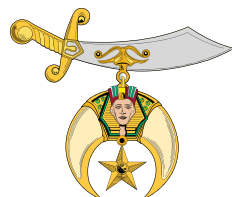
Potentate David and Lady Carol returned from the Imperial Shrine meeting in Atlanta all excited and full of enthusiasm for the Shrine. Much of the Shrine is located in the Eastern part of the country so the Imperial Session was well attended and the parade was an outstanding show of Shriner pride and fun. I have attended the Imperial Session 3 times and have always come away with renewed enthusiasm for what we do.

Our Potentate David and First Lady Carol and all the people helping continue to make this year great for Tehran, and it's not over yet. Tehran is not the Potentate or Divan but is the effort and dreams of all of its members to help the children. Regardless of how well you plan, things cannot happen without the help of many dedicated people. To make a great year it takes lots of help and Pam and I are planning for next year to keep the fun going. We are looking for ideas, suggestions and people to help with events. We are trying to decide on a trip for next year, something fun and affordable that our members would enjoy and allow our newer members to be able to attend. Through our many years in the Shrine we have been blessed to take many Shrine trips and made many memories. We have had several suggestions, but want to hear from more members. Additionally there are several Divan positions which will need to be filled, so think about coming forward to help Tehran help the kids.

**Remember our motto is "fun with a purpose" and you only get out of life what you put in to it.**

Faternally,

Randy Forrester, PP  
Chief Rabban  
(559) 970-0812



# From the Desk of: Assistant Rabban Jason Weiner



The dog days of summer are here, and just like that, half of 2025 has flown by. What a fast year it's been! I encourage all Nobles to participate in at least one temple event each month. Come out, enjoy the friendships, and experience the camaraderie that makes our Shrine so special.

With everything happening in the world today, it was a welcome escape to spend a few hours enjoying the classic American melodrama *Li'l Abner*. Booing the villain, cheering the hero, and laughing at the old-fashioned humor made for a refreshing and nostalgic Sunday.

While at the performance, I asked a middle-aged woman from the production crew what time the show would end. Instead of just answering, she thanked me - on behalf of her brother. She explained that her brother had spina bifida and doctors once told the family he wouldn't live past the age of five. But then they turned to Shriners... and we did what we do best: we helped. Her brother went on to live a full and meaningful life, passing away at 52. She credited Shriners for giving him that life. We shared a long hug, and she thanked me once more before we went our separate ways.

Wow. I was just looking for the showtime—and instead I received an unforgettable story from a stranger I had never met before. Of course, I couldn't let Zuly see my eyes watering; I had to maintain my "manly" image. But it was a powerful, emotional moment.

Since joining the Divan, I've had more and more of these encounters—people who've experienced firsthand the life-changing impact of Shriners Children's. It's made me realize that the influence of Shriners extends far beyond what we often imagine. Our mission is as vital in 2025 as it was in 1984. Being a Shriner truly means being part of a noble and enduring cause.

Mark your calendars: August 23, 2025 is the First Lady's Sock Hop at the Shrine Center.

Listen up, fellas—I hear there will be plenty of lovely ladies ready to dance and have a great time...it's go time!

Fraternally,  
Jason Weiner  
Assistant Rabban



# From the Desk of: Oriental Guide Michael Graham



Greetings Nobles & Ladies,

I truly hope everyone is doing well, and enjoying some summertime fun. As Shriners, philanthropy for the greater good of humanity is always a priority. I wanted to share some exciting news that's part of a larger plan to continue helping children thrive.

Last month the Joint Boards voted to establish the Shriners Children's Research Institute — and it will be located in Atlanta, Georgia.

This freestanding facility won't be a location for providing Shriners Children's medical care. Rather, it will be dedicated exclusively to advancing scientific discovery. The Shriners Children's Research Institute will have its home in Science Square Labs in Atlanta, which is strategically located across from Georgia Tech's North Avenue Research Area.

A freestanding research institution in Atlanta delivers multiple benefits for our philanthropy. It's a powerful platform for innovation. It attracts the top physician-scientists, who are deciding where to build their careers. It draws the attention of philanthropists looking to invest in breakthroughs that change children's lives. And importantly, pediatric care elevated by a premier research institute is a key factor for families choosing where to seek treatment.

The Shriners Children's Research Institute is a key part of our Vision 2035 strategic plan. This investment in research will position Shriners Children's as a significant player on the global stage.

"The Shriners Children's Research Institute will serve as a multi disciplinary innovation hub to advance the healthcare of children," Dr. Lalande says. "The close partnership with the outstanding biomedical engineers and scientists from Georgia Tech and Emory University will accelerate discovery and spearhead new treatments and therapies."

Keep up the good times and spirit, we've got some fun things planned for everyone to enjoy soon.

Fraternally,  
Michael Graham  
Oriental Guide

# Membership Committee Report:

Webfez tells us we have 221 nobles and 1 candidate. We have initiated 4 brothers Masons this year. They are Ryan Duty, spouse Julie, they live in Lemoore. Dylan Oak, single, retired and lives in Fresno. Julian Delgado, significant other Terri Stricker, works for Fresno City College and they live in Fresno. John Wilson, spouse Danielle and they live in Selma. Be sure to welcome them to Tehran Shriners when you see them.

"I've started telling everyone about the benefits of eating dried grapes. It's all about raisin awareness."

We have had 1 demit and 2 members were taken by the Black Camel.

**"Do the difficult things while they are easy and do the great things while they are small. A journey of a thousand miles must begin with a single step."**

Webfez also shows that we have 22 members delinquent in some fashion. Of this number 5 may be dropped at the end of the year. As I stated earlier, 2 members have asked for a demit and 3 have stated they are not going to submit this year's dues, so will also be dropped. This boys and girls is a big WOW. That is 10 members we are possibly going to lose. Read that last sentence again and you will understand why it is so important to bring in new members or bring back in those brothers who have left the Shrine. Let's not have another minus year.

**"If you're bad at haggling, you'll end up paying the price."**

OK, no more doom and gloom. Boy, the Shrine Center has been busy. Seems like we have a magnificent event every week. Last Saturday the Membership committee hosted a banana split and movie day. We watched Frozen (a Disney Flick) which I had never seen before, and it was a great musical. Sunday a large group went to the Golden Chain Melodrama and saw Lil Abner. It was really cute. I think half of Oakhurst was in the play. Young kids and elderly folk and everything in between. Pigs, chickens and dogs in many of the scenes. It was the last showing of the year, so I won't suggest you go see it. Our Pote has lots of good things coming up, so check the rest of this bulletin and watch for the emails of these events.

**"Once you replace negative thoughts with positive ones, you'll start having positive results."**

Wayne Schwartz  
Membership Chairman



# From the First Lady



What a wonderful afternoon.

Ladies, thank you for joining me for the Afternoon Tea Luncheon.

What energy and enthusiasm all around the room, smiles, laughter, and catching up with one another. I enjoyed seeing all the ladies with their bright and glamorous hats, colorful table settings, the unique tea sets and delicious finger foods.

I am grateful for your time and support and hope you had a wonderful afternoon. Your presence made it a truly memorable event for me.

I would like to especially thank Terre Stricker for her incredible contribution as the Committee Chair for this event, donating her collection of tea sets and all the accessories. PP Mark Dawson and Lady Sandra for creating the presentation "Mexico City Shriners Hospital for Children" and personalized tea name badges. Coleen Schwartz for those delicious cucumber dill sandwiches.

Also, a BIG thank you to all the Ladies and Nobles that helped with set-up, clean-up and served the food and drinks to the Ladies.

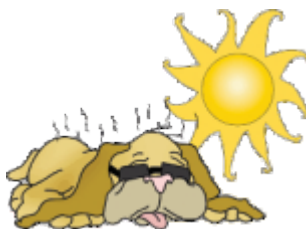
Again, thank you.

First Lady Carol "2025"



AUGUST 2025						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4 Pageantry Practice (DARK)	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12 Temple Guard/ Patrol (DARK)	13 Fresno Shrine Club (DARK) Daughters of the Nile (DARK)	14	15 Novkeps (DARK) Bulletin Deadline	16
17 Nile Luau	18 Scottish Rite	19 Clowns <u>FMAB Mtg</u>	20 Nile Sewing (DARK)	21 Roustabouts (DARK)	22	23 1 <sup>st</sup> Lady's Sock Hop 
24	25 Merced Mariposa Shrine Club	26 <u>BOD Mtg "Board of Directors"</u>	27	28	29	30
31		Notes: BOD - Board of Directors; open to all Nobles * Denotes Temple/Shrine Event				

AUG 15     Bulletin Submission Deadline  
 AUG 17     Nile Luau  
 AUG 18     Scottish Rite  
 AUG 19     Clowns  
**AUG 19     FMAB Meeting**  
 AUG 23     1st Lady's Sock Hop 6:00 to 9:00 p.m.  
 AUG 25     Merced-Mariposa Shrine Club  
**AUG 26     BOD Mtg "Board of Directors" 6:30 p.m.**



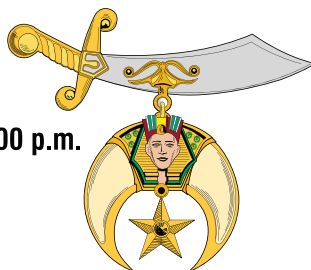
Note: Many clubs and units go dark for the summer.  
 Check with your group to confirm.

## Saturday, August 23rd, 2025 First Lady's Sock Hop 6:00-9:00 p.m.



SEPTEMBER 2025						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 Labor Day 	2	3	4	5	6
7 Hillbillys	8 <u>Tehran Shrine Stated Meeting*</u> Pageantry Practice	9 Temple Guard/Patrol	10 Fresno Shrine Club Daughters of the Nile	11	12	13 <u>Ceremonial &amp; All Masonic Picnic *</u>
14	15 Scottish Rite Bulletin Deadline	16 Clowns <u>FMAB Mtg</u>	17 Nile Sewing	18 Roustabouts	19 Novkeys	20
21	22 Merced Mariposa Shrine Club	23 <u>*BOD Mtg "Board of Directors"</u>	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				
		Notes: BOD - Board of Directors; open to all Nobles * Denotes Temple/Shrine Event				

SEP 7 Hillbillys  
 SEP 8 Tehran Shrine Stated Meeting 7:00 p.m.  
 SEP 8 Pageantry Practice  
 SEP 9 Temple Guard/Patrol  
 SEP 10 Fresno Shrine Club  
 SEP 10 Daughters of the Nile  
 SEP 13 Ceremonial 11:00 a.m.  
 SEP 13 All Masonic Picnic 12:00 to 4:00 p.m.  
 SEP 15 Scottish Rite  
 SEP 15 Bulletin Submission Deadline  
 SEP 16 FMAB Meeting  
 SEP 16 Clowns  
 SEP 17 Nile Sewing  
 SEP 18 Roustabouts  
 SEP 19 Novkeys  
 SEP 22 Merced-Mariposa Shrine Club  
 SEP 23 BOD Mtg "Board of Directors" 6:30 p.m.



Note: Many clubs and units go dark for the summer.  
 Check with your group to confirm.



LET THE GOOD TIMES ROLL AT

*First Lady Carol's*  
**Rock & Roll 50's Sock Hop**

SATURDAY, AUGUST 23RD, 2025

6:00 PM - 9:00 PM

TEHRAN SHRINE CENTER

5407 E OLIVE AVE, FRESNO, CA

DINNER AT 6:30 PM

CHEESEBURGERS, HOT DOGS,  
FRENCH FRIES, ICE CREAM SUNDAES,  
ROOT BEER FLOATS

MUSIC BY DJ WOODY PENA

COST: \$25.00 PER PERSON

RSVP TO TEHRAN SHRINE  
(559) 251-1991

\*\* FUN GAMES, PRIZES  
FOR BEST DRESSED





# SHRINERS

## INTERNATIONAL

**Merced-Mariposa Counties Shrine Club**

Will Be Meeting on the **4th Monday of Each Month.**

August 25th 2025 at 6:00 p.m.

Yosemite Station

125 E. Yosemite Ave

Merced, CA

All Tehran Noble Shriners, Masons,

Spouses & Friends are Invited

Fez's are Optional

RSVP to Noble Bob Monroe

(209-628-4413)

Noble Bob Murdoch

(559-223-4676)



# Grand and Glorious Order of The Hillbillys



Fresno - Sierra Clan #60

## Membership Initiations

We will be initiating new Hillbillys at this meeting. If interested in joining, let us know prior to September 4th so that we can either send you the application form or have it available at the meeting' on September 7th..



**Sunday, September 7th, 2025**  
**3:30 p.m. - Social 4:00 p.m. - Meeting**  
**5:00 p.m. - Dinner**

**Tehran Shrine Center**  
**5407 East Olive Avenue, Fresno, CA**

Dinner: Lasagna (Meat & Vegetable),  
Green Salad, Garlic Bread,  
Dessert, Beverage

**Cost: \$15.00 per person**

Hillbillys: Please bring an appetizer to share. We have divided the alphabet by the three remaining meetings. If you have already provided an appetizer in February or May you may skip this request. Thank you for your support.

Appetizers Requested: **Please RSVP by Thursday, Sept 4th**  
Last Name Beginning with **to: Mark Dawson**  
(A-H July) **559-643-1956**  
(I-P September) **dmdawson@webdawsons.com**  
(Q-Z November)





# All Masonic Picnic & Ceremonial

Saturday, September 13, 2025  
Tehran Shrine Center  
5407 E. Olive Avenue  
Fresno, CA 93727  
(559) 251-1991

**Ceremonial: 11:00 am, public is invited.  
Please bring family and friends.**

**Picnic: 12:00 PM to 4:00 pm**

**Lunch: Immediately following ceremony.  
Hamburgers, Hotdogs with chips. Sodas  
& beer.**

**Cost: Free**

**Activities: Bounce houses for both small  
and older kids. More games for kids this  
year. Corn Hole Tournament, Chili cook-  
off contest. Fun for all ages.**

**Chili cook-off:** Limited to first six entries. Please bring your chili in a crock pot. No restrictions, all recipes are welcomed. With beans, without beans, white chili, red chili, with meat, without meat, you choose. Enter to win a great prize. The deadline for entry is Tuesday, September 2, 2025. For additional information please contact Michael Graham, event chairman, at (559) 577-7597.



*Coming Soon ~  
Volunteers and  
Donations needed.*

## **SERVUS - Hello in German**

Get ready to raise a stein and celebrate our annual Oktoberfest and First Lady's Fundraiser, Saturday, October 25, 2025, at the Tehran Shrine Center, 5407 E. Olive Ave., Fresno, CA.

I am reaching out for any new donations big or small in preparation for this event.

The donations being requested are for the live auction, silent auction and dessert auction.

Theme Baskets: Halloween, Thanksgiving, Christmas and any other theme basket ideas will greatly be appreciated. Also, we would gladly put together your basket.

Volunteers are needed and welcomed.

Please make a difference in the lives of our Shrine Children.

Donations can be dropped off at the temple, Monday through Thursday, 9 am to 2:00 pm.

All donations benefit Camp Winning Hands. A camp designed for children with congenital hand and upper limb differences.

Please contact Lisa Jelinek at (559) 281-1460 for any questions.

Thank you.



## *Attention Ladies Upcoming Craft Night*

*Please come join us for a fun-filled craft night creating your special card with Lady Pat Dougherty.*

Monday, September 8th, 2025  
At Tehran Shrine Stated Meeting

Social: 5:30 pm

Dinner: 6:00 pm

Stated Meeting 7:00 pm  
Nobles in good standing only

Ladies will be excused to the Oasis room for the craft.

Looking forward to seeing you.

**RSVP is a must.** (Materials will be provided.)

**Contact: Pat Dougherty (559) 779-4571**



# TEHRAN SHRINE SEPTEMBER STATED MEETING



**Monday, September 8, 2025**  
**5:30 p.m. - Social 6:00 p.m. - Dinner**  
**7:00 - Stated Meeting**

**Tehran Shrine Center**  
**5407 East Olive Avenue, Fresno, CA 93727**

*Attire: Casual, Nobles with Fez*  
*Must Be a Noble in "Good Standing"*  
*Dues card required.*

Dinner Menu: Beef Tips with noodles, vegetables,  
salad, dinner roll, and dessert

**Cost: \$15.00 per person**

**RSVP Required: Call Tehran recorder at**  
**(559) 251-1991 before Friday, September 5th.**

Ladies and guests are invited to the social and dinner.  
After dinner, Ladies and guests will be excused to the  
Oasis Room for a craft event.

To participate in the craft, an **RSVP is required.**  
Contact: Pat Dougherty at (559) 779-4571