

#### **The Shriners'**

"I pledge allegiance to my flag and the country for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all."

Last year, we made a lot of plans for 2020. Since then, things have changed. Before we hold any events listed below, we'll evaluate the COVID-19 situation for each date to determine if it is safe for the event to take place. Updates will be posted on Facebook and sent out by e-blast. If in doubt, please call the office 785-234-5656 before an event!

#### **FEBRUARY**

- 7-13 Burn Awareness Week
- 7 Super Bowl Party-CANCELED
- 8 Stated Meeting
- 20 Ladies Brunch
- 21 The Potentate & Divan Reception
- 24 Hors d'oeuvres-Provost Guard
- 27-28 Garage Sale Drop Off

#### MARCH

- 2-4 Garage Sale
- 6 Membership Event
- 8 Stated Meeting
- 9 Ladies Event
- 12-14 CSSA Business Session Oklahoma City, OK
- 13 Arab Patrol Pancake Feed
- 19-20 Grand Lodge-Topeka
- 21 Players Appreciation Dinner
- 24 Hors d'oeuvres Sun Devils & Claybusters
- 27 Easter Egg Hunt

#### **APRIL**

- 1 Antics Submission Deadline
- 3 Shrimp Feed
- 11 Meat Raffle
- 12 Stated Meeting-Emporia
- 12 Ladies Social-Emporia
- 17 LOH Spaghetti Feed
- 24 Arab Nobility Ball
- 28 Hors d'oeuvres

#### **Elective Divan**

Potentate Kurt Lawson
Chief Rabban Jeff Neal
Assistant Rabban Doug Hodge
High Priest & Prophet David Johnson
Oriental Guide Keith Bricker
Treasurer Kim Komarek
Recorder Ralph Wild

#### **Appointive Divan**

First Ceremonial Master Russ Hardy Second Ceremonial Master **Todd Starin** Marshal Alexander Parker Membership Director **Andrew Piper Public Relations Director** Rick Smith Captain of the Guard Ed Becker Outer Guard Dennis Phillips Chaplain Mark Stephenson

#### **Imperial Council Representatives**

Kurt Lawson, Potentate
Jeff Neal, Chief Rabban
Doug Hodge, Assistant Rabban
Brad Koehn, PP Imperial Sir
Alt: David Johnson, High Priest & Prophet
Alt: Keith Bricker, Oriental Guide

# **Central States Shrine Association Representatives**

Kurt Lawson, Potentate
Jeff Neal, Chief Rabban
Doug Hodge, Assistant Rabban
Don Horttor, PP, Past President CSSA
Alex Parker, CSSA 4th Vice-President
Alt: David Johnson, High Priest & Prophet

#### **Arab Shriner Building Trustees**

Steve Lavin (2021) Terry Harbert (2022) Steve Haslett (2021) Allan Just (2022) Howard Marlow (2021)

The Arab Antics is published quarterly by the Arab Shriners.

Publisher: Kurt Lawson, Editor: Kathy Crome, Designer: Chris Driggers

For information about advertising in the Arab Antics, call 785.234.5656 or 800.481.2722 or email secretary@arabshriners.org

### A Message From Your Potentate



Kurt Lawson
2021 Potentate

Dear Nobles and Ladies,

I humbly Thank You for electing me to step out of the ranks of the Nobility to serve as your Potentate for 2021.

Lady Bey and I have been around this temple since we were teenagers; the first time that I saw her was at a Masonic youth group dance at the temple. She was in Job's Daughters and I was in DeMolay and we used to have youth dances here at least six times per year. As young adults, she took a leadership role in Job's Daughters. The number of dances diminished and were replaced with serving and preparing holiday dinners for many units at the temple. I used to be quite familiar with how to work the dishwasher. As our children grew older and we had more time, I joined the Shrine, then the Clowns, and now here it is 20 years later.

In 2021, we will emphasize Fun,

Fellowship, and Philanthropy. We will need to get creative on how we accomplish this during the COVID-19 pandemic. Limitations on the size of gatherings, social distancing, and masks have all become our new norms. We have to invent mechanisms to be able to share fellowship and have fun while at the same time, following these new safety precautions to keep everyone safe and healthy. Meeting these challenges represent opportunities for us to grow as we find new ways of doing things. Although it is time of uncertainty and nothing like any of us have ever seen, we can't be paralyzed by fear. Past Imperial Potentate Freeland Kendrick from Lu Lu Shriners in Philadelphia was not paralyzed by fear in the middle of the Spanish Flu pandemic of 1918 that lasted from February 1918 thru April 1920 when he brought the idea of establishing hospitals for children to the membership of Shriners in 1919. The result of that idea created the Greatest Philanthropy in the world - Shriners Hospitals for Children which to date has treated more than 1.3 million children without regard to the patient's ability to pay. That is the kind of courage and creativity that we will need to employ to accomplish good things in 2021.

Membership growth is always a goal of our organization. With the restrictions imposed by the Grand Lodge of Kansas on performing degree work, we need to shift our focus from seeking new Shriners from the ranks of those who are uninitiated into Blue Lodge, to seeking new Shriners from the men who are already Master Masons. Additionally, we will need to focus on re-engaging our current Shrine membership. I would ask that the Nobility reach out to any members who you haven't seen for awhile. Ask

them what we can do to see them more often at our events. We need to cultivate an environment where everyone feels welcome, respected, safe, and included.

Fun and fellowship often go hand in hand. If you're having fun, it's often because of the people you are with. There are many events scheduled from fundraisers to parties, and the Nobility Ball to the hospital screening clinic. There are also travel opportunities that begin in the summer and extend into the fall if that peaks your interest. Check the calendar to identify the scheduled events that interest you and come on out. If there is an event that you would like to see on the calendar that isn't listed, reach out to me or any Divan member to share your ideas and suggestions.

Russell Simmons said, "Surround yourself with people who are smarter than you." And Albert Einstein said, "I don't need to know everything, I just need to know where to find it, when I need it." I am fortunate that previous Potentates have appointed Divan members who are smarter than I am, and the new guys that I've appointed to the Divan in 2021, are all smarter than I am too, so much like Einstein, "I don't need to know everything," I just need to know who to ask, and I feel grateful to have such a strong group of members (both past and present) in Arab Shrine who are willing to share their knowledge

I am very much looking forward to serving as your Potentate in 2021. I can promise that I will do my best. Let's have some fun in 2021.

#### **Official Call of the Potentate**

Notice is hereby given of a Stated meeting of Arab Shriners at 1305 South Kansas Avenue, Topeka, KS for the transaction of such business as may be regularly presented on:

February 8, 2021 March 8, 2021 April 12, 2021—Emporia

### A Message From Your First Lady



Dear Nobles and Ladies,

As I write this message I want to say what an honor it is to be First Lady of Arab Shrine. Kurt and I are truly blessed to be surrounded by such a supportive and encouraging Nobility. We are excited to serve you and will do our best to represent you well. A special thank you to our Shrine parents and friends, Brad and Cheryl Koehn, for having the confidence in our abilities to lead Arab Shrine. We have worked hard to plan a year of activities to engage and energize our Nobility. We have a dedicated Divan and many other talented members of the Nobility ready to serve you. We hope that there is something for everyone to become involved and participate in throughout the year and that our theme of Fun, Fellowship and Philanthropy in '21 will resonate with each of you.

To the ladies of Arab Shrine, throughout this journey, I have sincerely appreciated the love, support and encouragement you have given me and know that I value each of you and our friendships. I look forward to the coming year and the many memories that will be made.

THE ANCHOR - A SYMBOL OF HOPE

This year I have chosen the anchor as my symbol. With the uncertainty that has surrounded each of us during the pandemic, it's symbolism and meaning give me hope. The Anchor is symbolic of hope and when lifted up from the water of a port, it represents a new adventure, a new voyage. As we begin 2021, I have many hopes and dreams for Arab Shrine, our philanthropy, country and each of you. We are



setting sail on a new era, a new beginning. We are alive and excited, and hope for what is to come. The Anchor encourages us to follow course, carry on with our plans and to stay steadfast with our vision of the new dreams we have ahead of us. When lowered, the Anchor does not let the ship move reminding each of us that we will not sway during the confusion and uncertainty that may surround us. The Anchor encourages us to stand united. As we exhale the past, and breathe in the future, may we move forward together full of hope, enthusiasm and a renewed spirit for our fraternity, philanthropy, country and for each other.

I would be remiss in not sharing with you our greatest blessings - our family. We have four grown children Rachel (Robby), Kevin (Jaclyn), Steven (Andrea) and Cody and five amazing grandchildren who bring us joy each and every day - Delaney, Kaylee, Everett, Kinlee and our Angel Barrett. Many of you have also met my brother, Mark, who inspires me every day. Mark has Down syndrome and we often refer to Mark as a teacher for all the life lessons he has taught us. I am excited for the upcoming temple and ladies events scheduled. Some of the activities through May are listed below. Please watch your emails and check your calendar for all that is happening in 2021. We hope you will be able to join us.

February 20 - Ladies Brunch

February 21 - Potentate and Divan Reception

March 2-4 - Temple Garage Sale

March 8 - Stated Meeting, dinner w/ladies and ladies event

March 27 - Easter Egg Hunt

April 12 - Ladies Social in Emporia

April 24 - Arab Nobility Ball at the Shrine Center

May 1 - Kentucky Derby Party

May 8- Spring Ceremonial and Ladies Luncheon

Thank you again for this amazing opportunity. I look forward to serving and working alongside each of you in support of Arab Shrine and The Shriners Hospital for Children.

Bev



#### THESE WE DO NOT FORGET

Robert Winterscheid

James Bean D: 11-30-2020 D: 4-4-2020

Julius Martell D: 12-25-2020

James Hoover D: 11-22-2020 Kenneth Bauman D: 12-4-2020

**Thomas Fowler** D: 1-4-2021

Edward Bratt D: 11-24-2020

Billy Strange D: 12-24-2020

Ron Buchanan D: 1-20-2021

#### **ARAB SHRINE POTENTATES**

1931-32 Dr. Norris Townsend*		1962	Warren Paramore*	1992	Ray French*
1933	Al Williams*	1963	Delmer Daly*	1993	Paul Gibbons*
1934	Stanley Shook*	1964	Roy Jaquith*	1995	El "Andy" Anderson*
9135	Clinton Wilcox*	1965	John Koger*	1996	Jerry Teichgraeber*
1936	Charles Moore*	1966	Waldo Haflich*	1997	Frank Seufert
1937	Ralph Hinkson*	1967	Wayne Baker*	1998	Larry Pressman
1938	John Brandenburger*	1968	Rex Smith*	1999	George Kenworthy*
1939	Fernando LeDoux*	1969	Archie Swan**	2000	John Porter*
1940	Ray Ramsey*	1970	Frank Oppitz*	2001	Paul Meierhenry
1941	Sherman Bourassa*	1971	Dale Moorman*	2002	Royce Keyser
1942	Judge Paul Heinz*	1972	Ansel Searles*	2003	Larry Bryan*
1943	Dr. Juther Dodd*	1973	Martin Foltz*	2004	John James*
1944	Herbert Barrett*	1974	Jack Quinlan*	2005	Lynn Holt
1945	Charles R. Shrake*	1975	John C. Dicus	2006	Ron Scrinopskie
1946	Sidney Long*	1976	Donald Mahrle	2007	Paul Clarkson
1947	Martin Philips*	1977	E. Leslie Scrinopskie*	2008	Don McClaflin*
1948	Frederick Gades*	1978	Donald Horttor	2009	Pat Devlin
1949	John Lewis*	1979	James Parmiter*	2010	Larry Tice
1950	Paul Rogers*	1980	Ronald Mannoni*	2011	Alan Holt
1951	Jay Glen Davis*	1981	Frank Coffman, Jr*.	2012	Brian Hagmeier
1952	Ernest Thomas*	1982	Carol Lewis*	2013	Bob Whitehead
1953	Scott Kelsey*	1983	Harlan Whiteley*	2014	Rick Moody
1954	Henry Bubb*	1984	Richard Hamilton*	2015	Brad Koehn
1955	Robert Brown*	1985	William Ducksworth*	2016	Jim Whitehead
1956	Waldemar Metzenthin*	1986	Albert Jackson, Jr.	2017	Jeff Hurst
1957	Harold Jasperson*	1987	Cap Glover*	2018	Paul Honaker
1958	Carliss Swain*	1988	Bill Koehn*	2019	Steve Kramer
1959	Lloyd Raish*	1989	Richard Magathan*	2020	Larry Dain
1960	Nels Nelson*	1990	Charles Hiebsch*		
1961	Joseph Schneider*	1991	Eldo Crider*		

#### **Arab Shriners Gold Medallion Club**

**President:** Paul Clarkson, P.P. (Diana) **Vice President:** Brian Hagmeier, P.P. (Nadyne)

#### **Gold Medallion with Ruby and 4 Diamonds (50 Petitions)**

Paul Clarkson, P.P.

# Gold Medallion with Ruby and 3 Diamonds (25 Petitions)

Larry Pressman, P.P. Frank Seufert, P.P, John Taylor

# Gold Medallion with Ruby and 2 Diamonds (20 Petitions)

Robert Gifford Lynn Holt, P.P.

#### **Gold Medallion with Ruby and Diamond (15 Petitions)**

Donald Horttor, P.P. Brad Koehn, P.P., Imp Treas. George Martin Paul Meierhenry, P.P. Ed Ramirez Harold Stevenson Bob Swafford Terry Wilson

#### **Gold Medallion with Ruby (10 Petitions)**

Merle Bradley
Jim Curtis
Leonard Dale
Pat Devlin, P.P.
Robert Griffin

Don Hoover
Jeff Hurst, P.P.
Albert Jackson, Jr., P.P.
Robert Jones
Larry Kampschroeder

Royce Keyser, P.P. Smokie Siecgrist Larry Tice, P.P. Bob Whitehead, P.P.

#### **Gold Medallion (5 Petitions)**

Brandon Adams
Josh Anderson
Gary Ashton
Clark Allemang
Stan Bartley
Donnie Bohannon
Floyd Bradley
Ron Buchanan
Jack Call
Robert Dark
John Duncan
Roger Elsbury
Roger Farthing
Brian Hagmeier, P.P.
Steve Haslett

Keith Heumann
Curt Hogan
Alan Holt, P.P.
Paul Honaker, P.P.
Bob Inman
Mike Jenks
Dale Jepson
Steve Kramer, P.P.
Paul McAlister
Harold McElfresh
Rick Meador
Rick Moody, P.P.
Chris Munk
Gary Pettijohn
Kyle Purcell

Don Riffey
Milo Riley
Mike Riley
Larry Rogers
Dale Rohling
George Sauer
Lee Schwartz
Ron Scrinopskie, P.P.
Rich Siecgrist
Rick Smith
Mark Stephenson
Roy Sullivan, P.G.M.
Richard Temps
Drew Torkelson
Mike Turnbull

Eddie Van Horn Jarred White Todd White Jim Whitehead, P.P. Ralph Wild Royce Wilson

# Be Burn Aware



Results from an independent survey conducted by Shriners Hospitals for Children® show many people do not practice fire and burn prevention during the holidays.

Follow these simple safety tips for a safe holiday season!

# Water live trees daily 70% Know it. 45% Do it.

#### TREE CARE AND HOLIDAY DECORATIONS

- · Water fresh-cut trees daily. Discard when dry.
- Keep trees away from heaters and flames.
- · Inspect lights for bare wires, frays or kinks.
- · Never use indoor lights outside.

#### **HOLIDAY COOKING**

- · Keep an eye on what you fry.
- Turn pot handles toward the back of the stove so children cannot reach them.
- Wear short sleeves or roll up sleeves when cooking.
- Keep something, such as a lid or cookie sheet, nearby to cover a pan if it catches on fire.





#### **CANDLE CARE**

- Consider using battery-operated, flameless candles.
- · Never leave lit candles unattended.
- Place candles in stable holders away from children, pets and flammable objects.

beburnaware.org



# 'Anything Is Possible'



First Lady Alice Smith's program, *Rising*Stars, supports this by focusing on the availability of adaptive and assistive technology.

"For many children, reaching their goals is often possible, but they may need to approach them in a different way," said

First Lady Alice. "Sometimes an assistive device can make all the difference."

ASSISTIVE DEVICES HELP PATIENTS DO THE THINGS THEY LOVE

Among the many things that make our health care system stand out is its commitment to compassionate, family-centered care.

A girl from Lincoln, Nebraska, is among those who have been able to pursue their goals and become more independent by using customized adaptive technology. Poppy, 11, was born missing the lower portion of her left arm.

She has a prosthetic arm provided by Shriners Children's Twin
Cities that she uses for a wide variety of activities. Her hobbies
range from football, softball and soccer to dance, playing the
guitar, acting and creating art. To help with her activities, Poppy
can add attachments to her prosthetic arm. For example, she
has a flat disk for push-ups or cartwheels and a small pointer for
playing the guitar. Rhonda Revelle, head coach for the University of
Nebraska Huskers softball team, saw a story about Poppy and was inspired
by the girl's positivity and "can do" attitude. So, she invited

Poppy to attend a softball practice. Coach Revelle's team was so amazed by Poppy's abilities that they invited her to serve as the batgirl for several games.

#### "It's okay to be different and do the things that you love,"

Poppy said. "If you're a girl and you want to play football, then go ahead and do it. And if you want to do other stuff that people say you can't, just go for it, because anything is possible if you just do it and you try your best."





## **GREAT OUTDOORS RAFFLE**

Tickets: \$20
Only 150 tickets available



# Benelli Shotgun

#### Benelli Super Black Eagle II Classic 12 ga. 28 in. 3+1

As the original 3½" semi-auto shotgun, the Benelli Super Black Eagle sets the standard for styling, versatility and performance by which all other auto-loaders are judged.

It offers hunters and shooters the ultimate reliability.

#### **SPECIFICATIONS**

Magazine capacity: 3+1 chokes: IC,M,F
Type of sights: red-bar front sight and metal bead mid-sight
Length of Pull: 143/8", Drop at Heel: 2", Drop at Comb: 13/8"
Minimum recommended load: 3-dram, 11/8 oz loads (12-ga.)

#### Benelli Shotgun's MSRP is \$1399

Raffle ticket: \$20; only 150 will be sold

Buy online tickets at <u>arabshriners.org</u> or by phone at 785-234-5656 or in the Arab Shrine office, 1305 S. Kansas Ave, Topeka, Ks 66612

Winners will be contacted by telephone or email within 48 hours of the drawing. Ticket holder must be 18 or older to participate. Winners are required to provide identification and be capable of passing a background check for a firearm purchase. If the winner is unable to pass the required background check, another ticket will be drawn.

All federal firearms laws will be followed.

# **Build Your Own Experience**

From racquetball to corn hole to cooking and BBQ clubs. Brew Masters and taprooms. Remote -control planes. Camping, RVs, "land yachters." Music and technology. If you can dream it, you can do it, with Shriners International.

That's the new push for this Imperial year and beyond. The idea is called "Build Your Own Experience," said Bryan Harrison, the fraternity's chief membership development officer.

While other organizations, including Freemasonry, offer a more predetermined and uniform experience for all members, Shriners International is set up to enable nobles to be creative. "We've never focused on this aspect of our fraternity before," Harrison said.

The opportunities for nobles — and prospective nobles — to enjoy fun and fellowship are numerous. "And we may not have a thing you're interested in," Harrison said, "but we could!" Imperial Sir Matt Sturlaugson, who is chairman of the Membership Committee, agrees. "We don't have to push nobles into an existing mold," Sturlaugson said. "Instead, we let them create what they want and we support them through it." In this way, buy-in comes naturally from the temples, and groups grow organically. As an example, Sturlaugson described a group at El Zagal Shriners that enjoys camping. It all started, he said, when a couple of Past Potentates were chatting about recreational vehicles. Conversations grew about where folks were planning to go and when, which then



broadened into where to stay, who would bring food, who would bring firewood, and more.

"At the last event," Sturlaugson said, "a dozen families that are formally part of the group attended, plus others. And it all started with two guys talking about something they both enjoy." In his role as Membership Chairman, Sturlaugson is keenly aware of the need to recruit and retain new nobles. As the fraternity's

numbers decrease, "There is no easy 'just fix this' type of answer," he said. "The nobility is aware of this, and it can be hard to stay positive.

"We don't have to push
nobles into an existing mold,"
Sturlaugson said.
"Instead, we let them create
what they want and we
support them through it."

# ARAB SHRINERS



# MEMBERSHIP EVENT

SATURDAY, MARCH 6, 2021





Chaplin



Mark Stephenson was born, raised, and resides in Topeka. He graduated from Topeka West High School, Washburn University, and received a master's degree from Kansas State University. He has been working for the State of Kansas for over 30 years and currently serves as the National Assessment for Educational Progress (NAEP) Coordinator with the Kansas Department of Education. He is a Past Master Councilor, Past Chapter Advisor, Past Chairman of the Advisory Council of Round Table Chapter, DeMolay and still serves as an Advisor, He is a Past Association Grand Guardian of Kansas Job's Daughters and a Past Associate Bethel Guardian of Bethel No. 1 in Topeka. He is also a Past Master of both Topeka Lodge No. 17 and Orient Lodge No. 51; currently serving both lodges as Secretary. He is a member of the Kaw Valley Scottish Rite and Topeka York Rite where he is currently Secretary-Recorder. He has been a member of Arab Shrine since 1988 and became a member of the DeMolay Knights Unit soon after becoming a member of the Shrine. He is a Past Secretary and Past President/Director of the unit. Noble Stephenson considers it a great honor to serve as Chaplain for Arab Shrine this year.

#### **Submission & Ad Information**

#### **Articles:**

All articles should be submitted in a **Microsoft Word file** 

#### **Photos:**

Photos should be submitted as a high resolution graphics file.

Screenshot submissions are not usually high enough resolution for publishing.

#### **Advertising:**

For an ad about an upcoming event, please include: the event, date, issue to be included in, and if it should be sent to the office for e-blasts.

For any information, please contact: Arab Shrine office.

#### **Deadlines:**

The deadline for the upcoming issue is **April 1, 2021** 

If you have any questions or would like to make a submission, please send all materials to: secretary@arabshriners.org

# MEAT RAFFLE

#### SUNDAY, APRIL 11 DOORS: 2PM, 1ST DRAWING: 3PM

Each spin of the "Meat Wheel" is a chance to win 1 of 45 meat packages. Bring a friend, a cooler (for of your winnings) and join the party.

#### ADMISSION: \$10

Includes entry to the party, pop, beer and one food voucher. Cash bar available.

#### RAFFLE TICKETS: \$2 EACH

At least 45 meat prizes! There will be at least 15 raffle rounds. Each will have 3 spins of wheel.





#### BRING YOUR BIG COOLER

You'll need it for all the meat you can win! Raffle rounds include steaks, roasts, chops, brats, poultry and more!

ARAB SHRINE - 1305 S. KANSAS AVE, TOPEKA, KS

#### **Arab Shrine Nomads**

I do not have to tell you; this has been a very frustrating year. For the Arab Shriners Nomads, it has been the second year lost due to circumstances beyond our control. 2019 was a literal washout and 2020 was the year of Corona Virus. I ask myself, what is in store for 2021? Locusts? But seriously, as we look forward to a new year, we are cautiously starting to plan a camping schedule for Nomad activities. I think we should plan a few events for 2021 and see what the distancing guidelines look like as the dates draw near. We will start with three (3) planned events, one (1) each in the spring, summer, and fall. We will send out an email in the next few weeks to the Nomads membership asking for recommendations and any input as to dates and locations.

If you are interested in joining in the fun with the Nomads, please drop me an email and I will get your address added to the Nomads email list.

#### **CURT HOGAN**

belair427@cox.net



#### **Boater's**

What a different year we have had in 2020. Most get togethers were cancelled.

The September meeting was held at PP Brian Hagmeier's country estate with the guys only. The meeting was held outside, and a number of Boaters attended. A very informative meeting was held with a number of items discussed.

The October meeting was held at PP Brian Hagmeier's with the ladies in attendance. The evening was spent on the lawn with a steak dinner and all the trimmings prepared by Brian with

the assistance of Nadyne as the chef in charge. The evening was thoroughly enjoyed by all present. Business conducted with the election of officers for 2021 being held. It was decided to continue with the same officers as 2020. They are: Director – Bruce Wedel, Captain – PP Brian Hagmeier, Lieutenant – Ron Shelton, Ensign – PP Brad Koehn, Antics News – Ted Ensley. Other items of interest was brought to the attention of the attendees.



The November meeting was a Zoom meeting. Oh, how technology has played a part in how business can be conducted as a lot of it has been used, both social and work.

In December we were unable to hold our usual Christmas party at the Brownstone. Instead, it was a Zoom meeting with several members and spouses attending. The Christmas committee had a Christmas party tray delivered to the members that were to attend the meeting. Words of wisdom were relayed to the membership.

Wishes for an outstanding 2021.

Ted Ensley





### Shooting with the Clay Busters

#### Things You Need to Know When Purchasing a Shotgun

I am frequently asked about shotguns. Should I buy this one? What about that one? Is this a good deal? Choosing the right shotgun is not as simple as Hollywood would have you think. The factors that go into your decision are many and it is important to be educated about what is available before you part ways with your hard-earned cash. The price can range from a few hundred to a few thousand dollars. Let us take a few minutes and look at some of the points you need to consider.

The **first** consideration is the gauge of the shotgun. The term gauge is an incredibly old school English method of determining the diameter of a barrel. "Gauge is determined from the weight of a solid sphere of lead that will fit the bore of the firearm and is expressed as the multiplicative inverse of the sphere's weight as a fraction of a pound, e.g., a onetwelfth pound lead ball fits a 12gauge bore." - Wikipedia. Yeah... makes perfect sense. Regardless, the smaller the number, the fewer lead balls it would take to equal a pound, hence, the larger the bore of the barrel.

While there are several options, there are three that are most common. The exception to the leadball measurement is the 410 which is measured in diameter – like a pistol diameter. The 410 is a small shotgun shell and is used for small game primarily, e.g. squirrels. Second up is

one I see quite a bit and that is the 28-gauge shotgun. This is a capable and effective shotgun that can be used for target shooting as well as hunting quail. It is generally lighter and produces less recoil. The next one up is the 20-gauge and is similar to the 28 but with slightly more oomph. The 16-gauge was at one



time popular for game and birds including pheasants. The 16-guage has fallen from popularity and finding shotgun shells for a 16 is getting increasingly difficult. The most popular of shotguns is the 12gauge. The 12-gauge shotgun is the primary gun in the self-defense, law enforcement, skeet, trap, sporting clays, and hunting. It enjoys a wide variety of ammunition options and can be fun to shoot. The granddaddy of them all is the 10-guage. This is primarily used for waterfowl and if you can handle the recoil, it can be used for other game as well.

The **second** decision you need to make is the type of action you want in a shotgun. There are basically three options for shotgun actions with variances of each: pump, semiautomatic, and the double barrel. The classic pump action shotgun is the most common style and has a reputation of being exceptionally reliable. These guns tend to be very affordable and are easy to cycle. It is exceedingly rare to get a jam with a pump and with practice the gun can perform almost as fast as a semiauto. The second type is the semiauto. Like semi-auto rifles and handguns, these guns use gas blowback to cycle the action. That action reduces felt recoil and the tasks a shooter must execute just pressing the trigger. These guns can be fired very quickly and are popular in competition and in the field. The fact that they are not as reliable as pump guns however makes them a more challenging choice for home defense. The third type is the classic double barrel shotgun. These can be a side by side or an over and under. Regardless their application is limited due to the fact you only have two shots. They are exceedingly popular for shooting skeet and sporting clays. They don't however fit many applications beyond that very well.

The **third** consideration is your shooting needs. What you want the shotgun for? Are you hunting, looking for personal protection or both? As a rule of thumb hunting

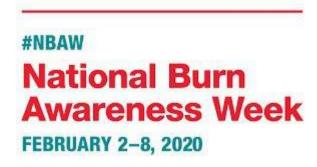
# Clay Busters cont....

guns tend to have longer barrels, e.g. 30 inches, as this aids with hitting a moving target. Self-defense shotguns tend to have short barrels, e.g. 18 inches, and can be set up to accept lights and special optics. If you are going to be hunting in extreme weather conditions, then a synthetic stock is the way to go. If you are going to be shooting targets or hunting during good weather days, wood stocks are worth consideration. Wood stocks can be beautiful and a work of art. You can get a gun that may serve both personal protection and hunting, but I would suggest one for each.

The **fourth decision** is fit. Yes, I said fit! Based on body size, type, and right or left-handed the different manufactures will fit better than others. The fit of the gun is the biggest determining factor in having fun in the field or a dud. The correct fit will allow you to pull up square to the target as opposed to be bladded out or searching for the target. The one that fits you best will allow you to correctly seat the shotgun in the pocket of your shoulder. Without this fit your arm or collarbone will pay the price. A good fit will allow you to effortlessly look down the barrel without moving your head. This allows you to focus on the target and not look at the bead on the end of the barrel.

If you noticed, I did not mention price as a consideration for purchasing a shotgun. This is the least of all considerations. If the shotgun is purchased at a competitive price, it can be sold later for pretty well the same money. Many enthusiasts say when purchasing a firearm, they are "taking money out of the bank and putting it in the safe." The lifetime cost of shotgun ownership is negligible.

While you may have thought you would just go to the local gun dealer and get a shotgun, you now see there are things to weigh before you make the purchase. Shotguns are like books; you can't have too many. You have a fantastic variety of options and if you choose wisely you can get a gun that you will enjoy shooting for years!

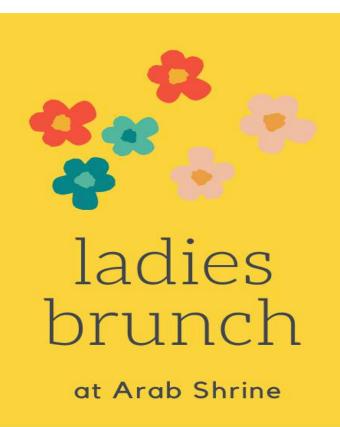






# Arab Shrine Antics 2021

If you would like to have a printed Antics mailed to you, each quarter, please contact the Arab Shrine office at 785-234-5656. Cost is \$8.00 for the year (\$2.00 per issue).



Saturday, February 20

### **Hospital Dads in NEED of Drivers**

I hope this moment fines everyone in good health, because of this corona virus our travels to St Louis Children's Hospital have been suspended until a safer time, we will get through this trying time together.

I want to remind everyone we still need volunteers to drive our patients to the Shriners Hospital; it only cost you a one time fee of one hundred dollars, this is what being a Shiner means, helping Children to a better way of Life.

Brian Hagmeier, P.P. *President* 

Bob Weibel Vice President

Harlan McNinch *Treasurer* 



#### Captain of the Guard

Ed Becker was born and raised in Wichita, KS. He attended Bishop Carrol High School, Pratt Junior College and Emporia State University graduating in 1978 with a degree in Secondary Education. After teaching two years, Ed went into restaurant management. That is where

he met Lisa Wixson and they married in 1982 and moved to Topeka in 1985. In 1986 Ed went to work as an agent for New York Life Insurance Company, where he is still employed. Ed has held several leadership positions in NAIFA (National Assn of Insurance and Financial Advisors) of Kansas.

Ed and Lisa have two children, Kathryn and her husband, Ezra of Omaha, NE and Matt Becker who is married to Ruth. They have two children, Finnick and Aurora Rose, and they all live in Shawnee, KS.

Ed has always been involved with his children at Holy Name Church and Hayden High School and in their sports activities. He served on the Holy Name PTO for several years where he organized the fund raiser of selling concessions at the ExpoCenter and Heartland Park for 5 years. Ed and Lisa hosted a Children's Puppet

Ministry for 12 years at the church and oversaw the Holy Name Bazaar dinner for seven years.

Ed coached Matt in soccer and started refereeing with Katie in 1997. He continues to referee high school soccer as well as training and mentoring referees.

Ed is an avid Homebrewer and is a founding member of the Topeka Greater Topeka Hall of Foamers and has served as President for several years.

Upon joining the Arab Shriners in 2014, Ed has been involved with Director's Staff and started the Brews Brothers Homebrew Club, sharing homebrewing and beer appreciation with other Shriners to provide fine quality beers for Temple functions.

"I am honored that Kurt asked me to a part of the 2021 Divan."



# Shriners Hospitals wants children and families to "Be Burn Aware"

#### Burn Awareness Week kicks off annual campaign

February 7-13, 2020 is Burn Awareness Week. During this time, Shriners Hospitals for Children will promote its annual burn awareness and prevention campaign. Since the 1960s, Shriners Hospitals for Children has been a leader in burn care, research, and education, and burn injury prevention is a key component in these efforts.

This year's effort will complement the theme Contact Burns - Hot Surfaces Damage Skin from the American Burn Association, which focuses on preventing children from receiving hot surface burn injuries. According to data from the Massachusetts Burn Injury Reporting System (M-BIRS), children under 5 account for one-quarter of all reported burn injuries in the state. In the past ten years, 45% of all contact burns were to children under 5. Touching heating and cooking equipment, other hot household items (like clothes irons), and walking barefoot on hot pavement are the leading causes of contact burns to young children.

"Many of the burn injuries we see each year occur as a result of accidents in and around the home," said Robert L. Sheridan, M.D., interim chief of staff and chief of burn surgery at Shriners Hospitals for Children — Boston. "Recognizing Burn Awareness Week each February is an important part of our mission to educate the public about burn injuries and reinforce the initiatives Shriners Hospitals for Children promotes throughout the year in hopes of preventing burn injuries before they happen."

Keep your children injury-free by remembering these important prevention tips, recently published by the <u>Massachusetts Department of Fire Services</u>:

#### **Prevent contact burns:**

Indoors, supervise children around space heaters, woodstoves, fireplaces, radiators, and stoves and ovens in use. Keep them three feet away from things that can get hot by using baby gates, highchairs, and playpens.

- Outdoors, keep children three feet away from barbecue grills and campfires. Keep area clear of trip hazards so no one falls into the fire.
- Turn heating pads, electric blankets, and space heaters off before sleeping.
- Have hot pads available whenever cooking. Long oven mitts are best when needing to reach in or over hot surfaces, such as inside an oven or over a grill. Assume all pots and pans are hot before touching.
- Remember to treat items coming from the microwave as you would items from the oven. Make sure children are taller than the microwave and supervise them using it

Protect your feet by wearing shoes when walking on hot pavement or sand and keep pets off hot pavement too.

#### Hot drink safety:

- Never hold or carry a child while you have a hot drink in your hand. A wiggling baby can cause a spill on herself or on you.
- Consider using a "travel mug" with a tight-fitting lid to prevent or minimize spills.
- Keep hot drinks and soups away from the edge of tables and counters. Putting them in the center of the table keeps them away from curious fingers.

Use placemats instead of tablecloths and turn pot handles inward to prevent children from pulling hot liquids onto themselves.

#### Tap water safety:

- Set your hot water heater to 125°F or less. Massachusetts law requires a temperature between 110°F and 130°F.
- Supervise young children in the bath and face them away from faucets. Babies and toddlers can turn on hot water when you turn your back
- Never leave a child in the tub alone for even an instant.
- Use a thermometer to test the water coming out of your bath water tap.

Run your hand through bath water to test for hot spots.

Burn Awareness Week is Shriners Hospitals for Children's kickoff of a year-long educational campaign aimed at burn awareness and prevention that includes offering free educational materials via the Be Burn Aware website. The items are designed to be a resource for firefighters, teachers, parents, and others concerned with the safety and well-being of children. Shriners Hospitals have also created an animated video. Boots and Brewster: The Burn Awareness Pair, which kids are sure to enjoy. In the video, also available on the website. Boots and Brewster take viewers on a fun and educational adventure to help them become more burn aware.







# Legion of Honor

By: David Smith





Our October meeting was held at the Air Combat Museum, 40 members were in attendance. During the meeting we inducted four new members, Roger Brooks, Scott Rakestraw, Steve Skrzypek and Carlin Honaker. The next time you see them give them a warm welcome to the LOH. After the meeting members were able to tour the museum. The museum is a great place to visit.

Members from the Arab LOH took their annual trip to Arlington, VA in November for the wreath laying ceremony at the "Tomb of the Unknown" Soldier." This year we were there during Halloween and the attendees put on a Halloween costume party. The costumes were great; even our members got involved. Upon completion of the Tomb wreath laying, members laid poppies at the Canadian Monument paying tribute to the Americans that served in the Canadian armed forces during WW I, WW II, and the Korean War. After the wreath laying, members

returned to the hotel for the "Remembrance Luncheon," a traditional Thanksgiving meal. If you ever get a chance to attend one of the ceremonies and see the changing of the guards and the laying of the wreath, it is a moving experience. The International LOH performs the ceremony each year in November, so please try and attend one of the ceremonies.

Our November meeting was our lady's appreciation dinner. We had over fifty members and guests present. The delicious meal was catered by Grandma Wocks. The meal was served by the Rainbow Girls and we want to thank them for doing an outstanding job. The "Salute to Veterans" video was shown at the November meeting to honor our veterans that have served and the ones currently serving in the military. It is important we honor our veterans especially after some of the events that have occurred this year. Our veterans and military are the ones that keep our country safe. Let us remember "All Gave Some; Some Gave All" to give us the freedoms we enjoy today. I am always in the process of making the new video for next year, so if you are a LOH member or an Arab Shriner that has served in the military and have not submitted a picture for the video, please do. You can give the picture to a LOH officer, turn it into the temple office or e-mail it to me at kansasgator@att.net.

Our Christmas party at the Capital Plaza hotel was outstanding. The party was attended by 36 members,



friends, and relatives. The entertainment was provided by Gloria Deo Singers, a wonderful group of young people, that performed both patriotic and Christmas songs. Everyone had a wonderful time.

At our January meeting we elected the new officers for Year 2020. The new Officers are Ron Buchanan, Commander, Shannon Davis, 1st Lt. Commander, Alex Parker, 2<sup>nd</sup> Lt. Commander, Steve Suchsland, Adjutant, Gale Vernon, Treasurer, and Dean Owen, Captain of the Guard.

In February, the circus came to town and the LOH toy booth help make the circus a big success.

At our March meeting we celebrated St. Patrick's Day with a traditional menu provided by Aboud's. Everyone enjoyed the food and had a great time.

The LOH was honored to present the Colors during this year's Shrine Bowl. The flagbearers are Left to Right: Steve Suchsland, Richard Watson, Todd Starin, Larry Polter, David Tillotson, Steve Skrzypek, and Shannon Davis.

If you have served in the military and would like more information about the LOH we would like to have you as a guest at one of our meetings. Contact any of the officers in the 2020 calendar book for details.

Until next time, have fun, be safe and remember – "Shiners Help Kids - That's what we do."

### Ritualistic Cast

Hello, again everybody! I want to wish everyone a very Happy New Year.

In October we did the Fez Lecture on six (6) new people. We hope they can come back later to complete the rest of their work whether it be a short form at a Stated Meeting or a full form at our next Ceremonial.

Our Grand Master has given all the lodges the go ahead to do First Degrees only so we can bring any new Nobles until we can do Second and Third Degrees when restrictions are lifted.

The Cast meeting in December at The Blind Tiger was canceled for safety reasons.

As of this writing we hope we can have our scheduled meeting in February as this is when our new Illustrious Sir Kurt Lawson would install our officers for 2021.

We did re-elect our officers from last year except for the secretary-treasurer, Bob Amyx, as he stepped down. Gilbert Weidman has taken this position.

We sincerely hope everyone stays safe and healthy and we can soon put this terrible virus behind us.



save the date

# APRIL 3, 2021 Shrimp feed







hosted by the Arab Shriners Executive Chefs



#### Marshal

Hello Arab Shrine, I am Alexander Parker, and I am your 2024 Central States Shrine Association (CSSA) President for Arab Shrine.

If you do not already know about CSSA I would like to take a few minutes to introduce you to this extension of our local Shrine

#### What is CSSA?

organization, which we all love.

CSSA is comprised of 22 Shrines from five States (Kansas, Missouri, Oklahoma, Nebraska, and Iowa). The 22 Shrines take turns in hosting the annual CSSA event which is generally held the last weekend in August. It is a great time of fellowship and competition between the 22 Shrines.

Events include: Arab Patrol, Band Association, Clowns, Directors Staff, Greeters, Horse Patrol, Keystone Kops, Legion of Honor, Motor Corp, Oriental Band, Provost, Pipe and Drums. If you are involved in a club there is a competition for you!! Our Ladies are encouraged to attend the competitions and there are events for the Ladies. To contact your units counter parts for August 2021

please contact myself at alexander.parker1sg@gmail.com. The upcoming CSSA scheduled events are in Oklahoma City August 19-21, 2021, Wichita, Kansas 2022, Omaha, Nebraska 2023, and Arab Shrine 2024. Event locations will be revealed soon.

I encourage you to become involved in CSSA and make plans to attend in August to have fun with current friends and make new Shrine friends. I would love to see all our units sign up and compete at CSSA this year and for many years to come. The event draws over 2,000 Shriners from the 22 shrines. It is a great time to meet and get to know fellow Shriners from our area.

Alexander Parker was born in Laramie, Wyoming on April 19, 1972 then moved to California where he grew up and joined the army right out of high school. He is retired from the United States Army after serving 22 years in the Infantry where he held many positions. Alex was deployed to Panama in 1989 and served 5 tours to Iraq from 1991 though 2010. He is Currently Employed with Goodyear Tire and Rubber Company in Topeka, Kansas.

Alex has been married to his lady, Daisy, for 23 years and has 2 children. Page is a third-grade teacher and Abigail is a junior at KSU studying pre-medical. Alex was raised to a master mason April 11, 2007, joined Scottish Rite in March of 2010 and became a member of Arab Shriners in August 2015 where he served as Commander of Legion of Honor in 2017.



#### June 5 - 12, 2021







# Join Chief Rabban Kurt & Lady Bev Lawson at the RIU Palace Aruba

Located on Palm Beach, Free Wi-Fi throughout the resort, All Inclusive 24 hours, Buffet main restaurant & theme restaurants, 2 swimming pools, 1 with adjoining whirlpool, swim-up pool bar, Renova Spa, free entry to the Casino (drinks not included), Gym and Daily entertainment.

The Junior Suite Sea View is a 420 sq ft room. Two double beds or one king-size bed, (bed size can be requested, but not guaranteed), a sofa in the lounge area, Wi-Fi, satellite TV, air conditioning, a minibar and beverage dispenser, a balcony or terrace with views of the sea.

Junior Suite Sea View – with round trip transfers \$1,793.50 per person

American Airlines - Purchase by December 31, 2020 \$627.15 per person

Purchase after January 1, 2021 \$711.73 per person

Additional information to be announced at later date: Kansas City Park-N-Fly hotel – Excursions

#### Cancellation Policy: (per guest)

96 + days prior to departure, no penalty
95 - 66 days prior to departure, initial deposit will not be refundable
65 - 51 days prior to departure, 1-night penalty
50 - 36 days prior to departure, 2-night penalty
35 - 0 days prior to departure, 100% penalty

Travel Protection highly recommended!

Deposit \$300 per couple due now by check only Final payment due by March 19, 2021

For more information, Contact Karen Marlow Fun in the Sun Travel 785-266-5701

karen@funinsuntravel.com www.funinsuntravel.com



# Be Burn Aware

Shriners Hospitals for Children has been a global leader in burn care, research and education since the 1960s.

Visit beburnaware.org for additional tips, activity books and more.



#### **BE PREPARED**

- Make sure your home is equipped with working smoke alarms and fire extinguishers.
- Have a fire escape plan for your home and practice it regularly.

#### NATURAL GAS

- Teach every member of the household how to recognize the smell of natural gas. Some compare it to the smell of rotting eggs or food.
- Leave the house immediately if you think you smell natural gas and call your gas company or 911 for assistance once you are safely away.

#### Know the Smell of Gas. Do You?

**85%** know to leave their home immediately if they smell gas.



Shriners Hospitals for Children is changing lives every day through innovative pediatric specialty care, world-class research and outstanding medical education. Our 22 locations in the United States, Canada and Mexico provide advanced care for children with orthopaedic conditions, burns, spinal cord injuries, and cleft lip and palate.

Learn more at shrinershospitalsforchildren.org





**Outer Guard** 

Dennis was born in Topeka and graduated from Highland Park High School and took Fire science classes from Kansas City Community College.

He worked for the Topeka Fire Department for 32 years beginning in 1972 and retiring as Fire Chief in 2004. Dennis still lobbies for the Kansas State Council of Fire Fighters at the Capitol. He served in the Marine Corp Reserves from 1969 until 1975.

Dennis and his lady, Ruth, have been married for fifty (50) years and have three (3) children along with four (4) grandchildren.

He is a member of Masonic Lodge #393 in Mayetta and the Arab Shrine since 2018.

"I look forward to serving on the 2021 Divan."



# **Membership Minute**



Everything that you do as a Noble has an impact on the membership team. From wearing an Arab shirt around town to talking about the temple with your non-Shriner buddies, anything will help the cause. The reverse is also true... Inaction will hurt us even more. Two big things that I am asking for now:

1. Please go out and like the Arab Shrine Membership Facebook page. Share the

information that comes out and point potential members to our page.

2. Please be visible out in the community. Seeing a Shriner around town may be just what it takes for someone to become interested.

Contact information for Membership: Andrew Piper (785) 220-7404 or membership@arabshriners.org



#### Feeling Sick?

Stay home when you are sick!

If you feel unwell or have the following symptoms

please leave the building and contact your health care provider.

Then follow-up with your supervisor.

#### DO NOT ENTER if you have:



FEVER



COUGH



SHORTNESS OF BREATH



cdc.gov/CORONAVIRUS

# 2021 East-West Shrine Bowl canceled due to coronavirus concerns



Organizers of the East-West Shrine Bowl™ college football all-star game, benefiting Shriners Hospitals for Children®, announced today that the upcoming game has been cancelled due to challenges presented by COVID-19. The game had been scheduled for January 23, 2021, at Tropicana Field in St. Petersburg, Florida.

"It's terribly disappointing to have to cancel this year's game, but there are so many issues

involved with bringing in approximately 130 players and 25 NFL coaches from every corner of the United States and Canada," said Bob Roller, executive director of the East-West Shrine Bowl. "It's difficult enough currently for these college teams to provide some sort of a bubble during the regular season, but our game occurs after all players have gone home for the holidays. It presented too many potential issues for this one year."

The nation's oldest college football all-star game, the East-West Shrine Bowl dates back to its original contest in 1925. It benefits Shriners Hospitals for Children and its mission to provide advanced specialty care for children. The Shriners Hospitals for Children health care system provides excellent care for children with orthopedic conditions, burns, spinal cord injuries, and cleft lip and palate, regardless of the families' ability to pay for services.

Thousands of East-West Shrine Bowl players have gone to the National Football League in nearly a century, including 78 who went on to be enshrined in the Pro Football Hall of Fame. As of today, 98 athletes who played in the most recent East-West Shrine Bowl, in January 2020, are currently on NFL rosters.

Some of the many all-star names to play in past games include Tom Brady, Gale Sayers, John Elway, Lawrence Taylor, Pat Tillman, Frank Gifford, Brett Favre, Dick Butkus, Mike Ditka and Roger Staubach.

Players eligible for the 2021 game will still receive formal invitations and become a part of the historical 96-year tradition, Roller said. The entire organization looks forward to the successful return of the game in 2022.



# FACE MASKS REQUIRED

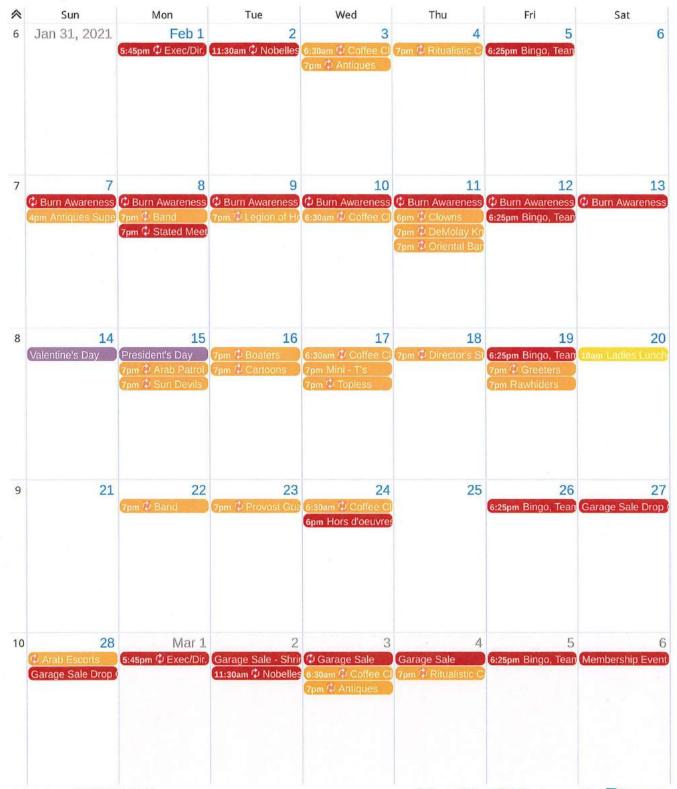


# THANKS FOR KEEPING EVERYONE SAFE

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Arab Shriners & Chris D.

#### February 2021

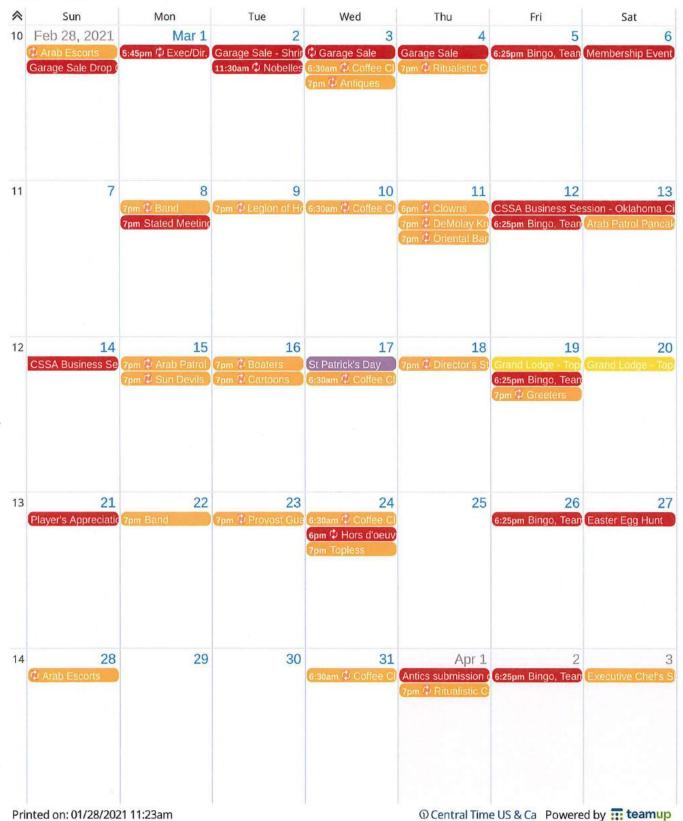


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**Arab Shriners** @ Chris D.

#### March 2021



Arab Shriners

April 2021



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