

The El Bekalan



January, 2024

Illustrious Sir Merritt Read, Potentate

Issue No. 01-24

To all the Nobles and Ladies of
El Bekal Shrine



Happy New Year

El Bekal Shrine
 1320 S. Sanderson Ave.
 Anaheim, CA 92806
 Tel. (714) 563-9111
 FAX (714) 491-8574

Go to elbekal.com for all the latest information
 Published monthly for the interest of members of El Bekal Shrine

Shriners for Children Sothern California
 909 S Fair Oaks Ave.
 Pasadena, CA 91105
 Tel. 626-389-9300

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

IMPERIAL POTENTATE

Imperial Sir
James E. Stolze Jr.
 "Ed"



Michael J. Sekera P.P. Imperial Chaplin
 John Rider, P.P. Imperial Marshal's Aide member

ELECTED DIVAN

Potentate: Merritt Read P.P. 714-875-6344
anapm82@aol.com

Chief Rabban: Larry Griffin P.P. 310-614-5205
larrygriffin56@gmail.com

Assistant Rabban: James Segerstrom 714-673-1777
jamessegerstrom89@gmail.com

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keith-byron@sbcglobal.net

Oriental Guide: Ernesto Ramirez 562-458-1156
erniemanhats@yahoo.com

Treasurer: George Boyd P.P. 714-313-5907
george107b@yahoo.com

Recorder: Coy Love, P.P. 714-563-9111
recorder@elbekalshrine.com

Some helpful websites

El Bekal: elbekal.com
 Facebook: [facebook.com/elbekalshrine/](https://www.facebook.com/elbekalshrine/)
webfez.shrinenet.org/ (Need membership # to join)
<https://www.shrinerschildrens.org/en>

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HALL USAGE

For Building Reservations contact:
 Building Superintendent, 714-563-9111 Office
 Russ Allen: 714-397-0449 Cell

DEADLINE - JANUARY 14TH, 2024



Deadline for articles are DUE,
January 14th 2024
 for the FEB. 2024 issue.

Please e-mail your articles to:
 El Bekal Editor
elbekalmag@gmail.com

EL BEKALAN SUPPORTERS

“Thank you
for your continued support of
this magazine!”

-Monitored by Coy Love P.P., and Larry Griffin P. P.

Alastuey, Jack & Judy

Allen, Russ, Pat

Bates, David

Bowman, Scotty

Boyd, George & Mary

Boyd, Robert & Sandy

Butler, Sandie

Campbell Elaine

Cassiday, Allison

Cory, Reneise

Davis, Dennis A.

El Riva Court #102

Geiger, Howard & Vera

Ginter, Donald

Grigsby, Glenn

*Griffin, Larry & Cheryl

Inland Empire Honored Ladies

Joyce, Dick & Barbara

Kischkel, Klaus & Ingrid

Krawczyk, Sylvia

Kreitz, Donald B.

Lash, Donna

Lee, Vera

*Leger, Don & Gloria

Leister, Gary & Arlene

Lindquist, Priscilla

Lopata, Mary

*Love, Coy & Margaret

Ludwig, John & Elaine

Mc Carrell, Donna

Mc Namara & Jenny

Merret Temple #103

OC Nobelettes

Padilla, Micheal & Mikel

*Prentiss, Bill & Ris

RA-MA Court #95

Ramirez, Ernie & Maria

Ramona Shrine Club

Read, Merritt & Kim

Salpaka, Bill & Virginia

Schemm, Ronald & Barbara

Schmidtgal, Mary

Segerstrom, James

Segerstrom Ted & Rae

Shackelford, Allen

Shaphran, Bruce & Jennifer

Shellenbarger, Paul

Snow, Larry & Gail

Tripodo, Lucille

Tucker, Donna G.

*Wendling, Beth

Whitford, Harold & Mary Ann

Williams, Mike & Susan

Winford, Michael T.

Woolery, Barbara

Be a Elbekalan Supporter for just
\$20.00 or more and you can have
your name listed here.

We have room for more names.
Contact Coy Love for more
information.

Thank you all for your
continued support of the
El Bekalan



We would like to take this time to thank everyone that has supported the El Bekalan in 2023. All of your donations has helped to keep the cost down of your news letter.

It is that time of year to renew your support for 2024 year. Thank you for all of your support.

To support, please send checks to:

El Bekal Shrine
1320 S. Sanderson Ave.
Anaheim, CA 92806



POTENTATE'S MESSAGE



I want to start by thanking all the nobles and ladies who attended my Golden Veteran Award presentation. The large turnout was very much appreciated. The Seal Beach Night Christmas Parade was a first for El Bekal and we were impressed by the large crowd cheering on the participants. One Royal Chariot with two Divan members (down from 3 Chariots due to last minute illnesses) and 5 Tin Lizzie's traveled the route. Thanks to everyone who participated. Our Toy Drive was very successful and we delivered them to the Medical Center on December 5th. It was so much fun watching our Shriner kids picking out toys. Thanks to all that attended the toy delivery. I also want to congratulate the following nobles who will be leaders in 2024: WM Jeremy Turek at Pahume Lodge in Nevada, WM Scott Bennett at Evergreen Lodge, and WP Joe Stout at San Clemente Saddleback Chapter OES.

As this is my final article as Potentate, there is not enough room on this page to thank everyone for their support of the 2023 Shrine year. First and foremost is my thanks to First Lady Kim. From the many El Bekalan front covers and incredible picture pages, to her skills on organizing events and the many ceramic gnome figures she created as decorations, and her attendance at so many functions, I thank her from the bottom of my heart and love her so much. The Divan has worked hard to make 2023 a successful year. My thanks to all of you. Coy Love and Russ Allen have continued their outstanding contributions to keeping El Bekal running smoothly and I thank them for their dedication. El Bekalan Editor Larry Griffin continued putting out an outstanding publication and I thank him for doing this difficult job. Personal Aide Pat Allen and all the other Aides have graciously helped whenever called upon and we thank them for their support. Our Ali Baba's have worked extremely hard to keep the Oasis an integral part of the El Bekal experience and we know everyone thanks them. We want to thank the Past Potentates and Past First Ladies for their friendship and support during the year. We look forward to sliding back into your group. We also want to thank the Clubs and Units for their contributions. We need our new members to start joining the Clubs and Units to fill the vacancies from our older members. Speaking of new members, we had a decent year despite missing my goal of 50 new members. Membership Chairman Keith Jones and the Divan worked hard to get new members and accomplished getting new Lodge Ambassadors in lodges where we were deficient. If not for a number of prospects late in the year who decided to wait and a significant number of black camels in October and November, we would have achieved positive growth. But our efforts this year should reap benefits for next year. It has been an honor serving El Bekal as Potentate during the year that the late Jim Ridley should have been presiding. I pray he is looking down on us with approval. Our best wishes to the 2024 Divan for a highly successful year. Happy New Year and God Bless El Bekal Shrine.

Merritt Read
Potentate



El Bekal Annual Meeting, Election, and Installation of Officers

IN AND OUT 2024

SATURDAY, JANUARY 6,

Being held at the El Bekal Shrine
1320 S. Sanderson Avenue, Anaheim, CA 92806

Annual Meeting, Program and Dinner
Honoring

Illustrious Sir Merritt Read and Lady Kim

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the regular scheduled ANNUAL MEETING of El Bekal Shrine will be held on Saturday, January 6, 2024 at the El Bekal Shrine. Commencing at:

2:00pm. Business to be conducted will include voting on all petitions received since our last Stated Meeting and adjustments to Shrine budget. Annual Elections and such other business as shall come before the Nobility.

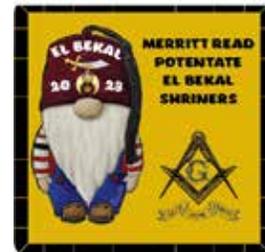
2024 Dues Cards required, wear your Fez. By-laws are available for inspection at the Shrine Center office.

Fraternally, Merritt Read P.P.
Potentate

Attest: Coy Love P.P.
Recorder

Schedule: 2:00pm Business Meeting, El Bekal Shrine Center,
2024 Dues Cards required.
4:00pm Potentates Hospitality, open to the general Nobility and their Ladies.
5:00pm Dinner for Nobles and their Ladies, Awards for 2023, Installation of 2024 Officers.

Attire: Nobles, for the evening & dinner, Tuxedo or Coat & Tie with Fez. Ladies, for the evening & dinner, Cocktail Dress or Formal. Pick up your tickets for seating reservations at El Bekal Shrine Center foyer.



Reservation Form for In & Out Dinner 2024 must be made by Monday January 1, 2024
Tickets will not be sold at the door.

Please reserve [_____] place(s) for the In & Out Dinner \$40.00 per person. \$ _____

Name: _____ Unit/Club affiliated: _____

Tel #:(_____) _____

Credit Card# _____ Exp.(_____) CVV(_____)

Send checks and this form to:
El Bekal Shrine
1320 S. Sanderson Ave.
Anaheim, CA 92806

CHIEF RABBAN MESSAGE



Greetings, Nobles, one and all,

I regret to inform you that, due to unforeseen circumstances, out of our control and not being able to get confirmation from Indio, there will not be a parade in Indio this year and we will be not attending the Indio Date Festival this year. We hope this will change for the 2025 Date Festival weekend.

The company that puts on the parades "Pageantry Parades" has gone out of business and are no longer doing the parades in the various cities that we participate in. Future parades depend on who we can contact and get confirmation on to be a part of their parades in the cities that we normally participate in.

We will keep you up-to-date on all the future parades as the information becomes available.

Thank you for your understanding.

On a lighter note, we encourage you to participate in the Super Bowl Sunday on February 11, Valentines dinner on February 13, and a movie afternoon on February 18, 2024.

I hope you all had a wonderful Holiday season and a fantastic new year. May all of you dreams come true.

I would like to congratulate Ill Sir Merritt Read and Lady Kim for having a wonderful 2023 year. The Potentate and Divan put on some great programs and events and did a fantastic job.

We welcomed 38 new members in all this year and 4 Restorations. On a sadder note we lost 23 to the Black Camel and 17 others leaving El Bekal.

Let us all get out to our Blue Lodges in 2024 and talk to what could be new members for our wonderful Shiners Family. Let us keep in touch with our current members and keep them connect, informed and involved here at El Bekal.

I would like to thank all the Nobel's, Brothers, and friends for a fantastic 2023 year, Cheryl and I are looking forward to serving you in 2024. We have a great year planed and it will be full of fun events and happenings for all to enjoy.

As you all know I have been working the Graveyard shift, this makes my hours and time line spent at El Bekal different then most are used to, but I assure you we are working very hard behind the scenes making it all happen for you all here at the center. That being said, we have a great Divan working closely together and doing a wonderful job for all the Nobles and El Bekal. We (the Divan) want to hear from you for your input as to what we can do for you and how we can make El Bekal a fun and better place to be. Remember that you joined El Bekal for a reason, we wnat to know that reason and how we can improve on you Shrine experince here at El bekal Shrine.

Thank you all Sincerely & Fraternaly

Larry Griffin P.P., Chief Rabban
Lady Cheryl

ASSISTANT RABBAN



Greetings Nobles!

Happy New Year to you all!

Hopefully everyone had a fun and relaxing holiday season.

Can you believe that it is the beginning of a new year? Your Divan has been hard at work on some upcoming events and activities for El Bekal.

Off the top of my head, there's going to be a Super Bowl Party at the Temple on the day of the big game. This is scheduled for February.

The El Bekal Family picnic will be in August.

There are more events and activities to come.

A new year also means its time for the El Bekal In and Out meeting on January 6. Please come on down for the meeting and elections on that day.

The beginning of a new year is also a good time to reflect upon the future. This is where the Nobility and Families of El Bekal come in. I ask this of you, what do you want for El Bekal going forward? Do you have any ideas or suggestions for events or activities? Is there a club or unit you wish to join....or start or restart?

Some good examples of Clubs or Units that Nobles can join:

- If you are or have served as the Worshipful Master of a Lodge, did you know that there is a Past Masters Club at El Bekal you can join?
- Have you served our Nation in Uniform? The Legion of Honor is always looking for Veterans to join its ranks.
- Do you have a good swing with golf clubs, no matter which direction the ball goes? There is a Golf Club that you can play with.
- If you enjoy shooting, the Claybusters always have a blast going shooting (yes, it was intentional how I worded that).
- Do you enjoy Hawaiian Shirts and banging on metal objects....or just enjoy playing music?

There are 2 groups you can play some music with: The Oriental Band and the Steel Drum band...the Steel Drum band has cool Hawaiian Shirts they wear.

These are just a few examples of different Clubs or Groups that you can join at El Bekal. There are also some other Clubs and Units that have been inactive for awhile. For this article, I define inactive as: "Not having heard anything from them in a few years."

That doesn't mean that these Clubs and Units don't exist, but maybe they just need some new members to assist them in growth.

If there is an interest you think other Nobles would also enjoy, get together and create a Club. Your Divan will support you however we can.

El Bekal is what the Nobility makes it. If you have an idea or something you wish to do, please approach the Divan with your suggestions. If you have an opinion on how something could be done better, please let the Divan know. You never know, the leadership might be thinking the same thing you are. You never know unless you approach the Divan and speak.

We as Divan are always available to listen, or help how and where we can. Our doors are always open to you.

With a New Year upon us, I would like to thank the Nobility of El Bekal for your continued trust and support. I look forward to serving you in the future.

Let's have a Fantastic year ahead!

Sincerely & Fraternaly,
James Segerstrom, Assistant Rabban

HIGH PRIEST AND PROPHET



Greetings Nobles,

December was a buzz with the holiday and Masonic spirit. In addition to the holidays this time the year is also full of Installations and Hiram Awards. This year we also had an opportunity to witness our Potentate Merritt Read receive the Golden Veteran Award.

For the first time ever El Bekal participated in the Seal Beach. Just pray is going is the parade for my hometown. We started our evening right next to my former office of 20 years in front of my own apartment.

The parade was a big hit, and it looks like we'll be making our return.

I know that Thanksgiving was in November, but I just wanted to thank each and every one of you for allowing me the opportunity to serve as High Priest and Prophet for the 2023 term.

As I continue my masonic journey, it never ceases to surprise me that when we were given an opportunity to serve, we end up getting so much more than we give.

With each passing office I gain more knowledge of our rich history, make more friends, and receive valuable mentorship.

I look forward to the opportunity to continue to learn and grow and for this reason I am hoping to serve in 2024 as the El Bekal Assistant Rabban.

Thank you all again.

Keith Jones

High Priest and Prophet



1st CEREMONIAL MASTER



First Ceremonial Master



Joble Edwin Calayag

The Ambassadors of El Bekal Shrine of Anaheim California

On December 2, 2023 El Bekal Shrine First Ceremonial Master Noble Edwin Calayag and Second Ceremonial Master Noble Lito Soliven presents the USA Flag and Information Kit on how to join Shrine along with the application form to the newly raised Brother Jonathan Rubio of Solomon's Staircase Masonic Lodge 537 Buena Park California.





Steak and Prawns \$60 per person

Shriner's Valentine Dinner and Live Entertainment

At the El Bekal
Shrine
1320 S., Sanderson
Avenue, Anaheim,
CA 92806

February 13, 2024
Tuesday 5:00 pm

**Dress romantic- don't
forget to wear your heart**

**By Reservations only, no sales at the door.
Bring your Significant other or just yourself.
Let us know if you want a group or a romantic table for two.**

For further information contact Coy Love (714) 563-9111

Reservation for Valentine's Dinner is DUE by February 07, 2024 Adults @ \$60.00 ea

Name _____ phone _____

Address _____

Return this portion with your check made out to: El Bekal Shrine-- memo 2024 Valentine
El Bekal Shrine, 1320 S., Sanderson Avenue, Anaheim, CA 92806

Card # _____ exp \ \ _____ CVV _____

Not tax-deductible. Proceeds benefit El Bekal

Total amount enclosed \$ _____

MOVIE AND FUN AFTERNOON

WHEN Sunday, February 18, 2024 (No Cost to you)

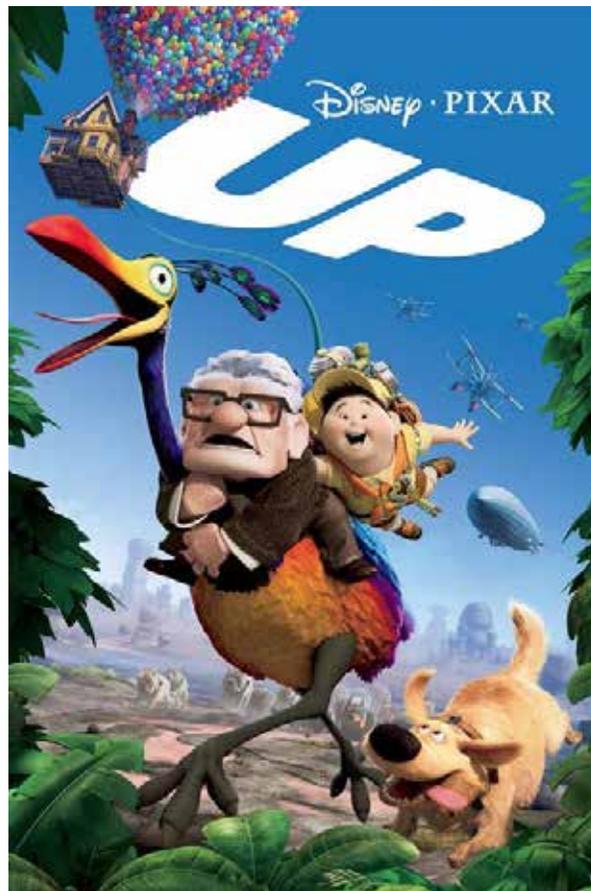
WHERE EL BEKAL SHRINE

WHAT MOVIE NIGHT AND CARDS FOR THE GUYS

TIME 3:00 PM MOVIE STARTS 3:30 PM

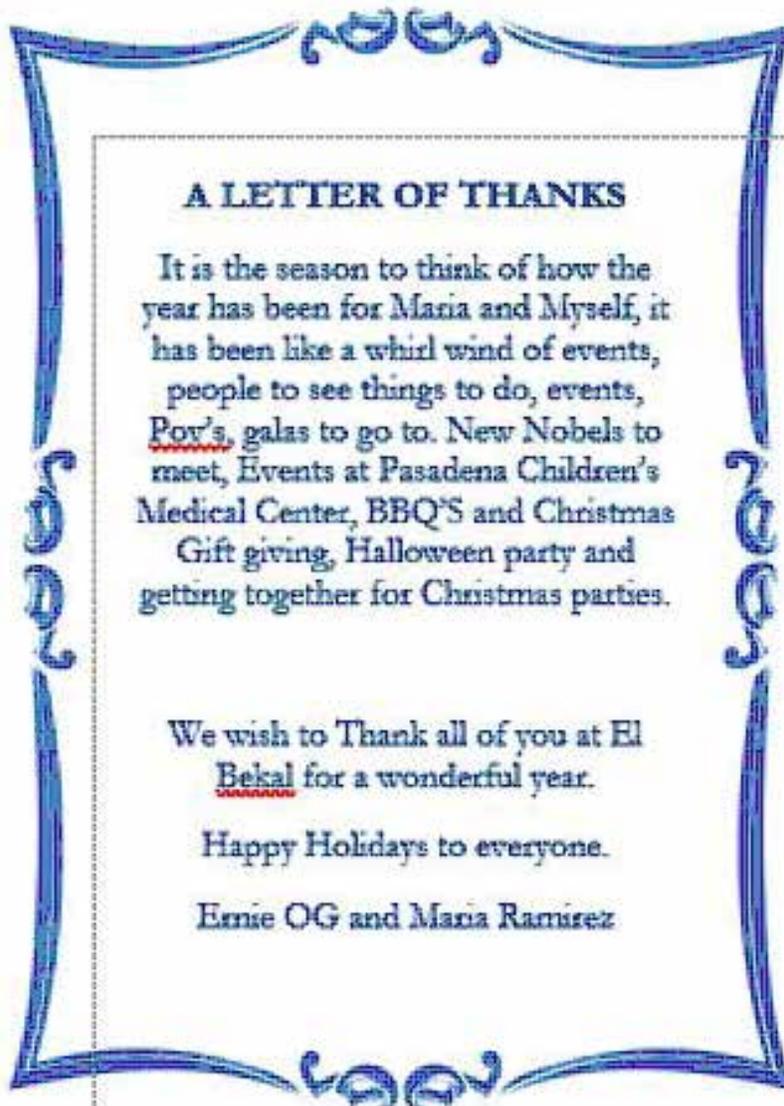
THERE WILL BE POPCORN, SNACKS, DRINKS,
SODAS, WATER, ETC.

THE MOVIE IS



LET'S HAVE A GREAT AFTERNOON TOGETHER.

If you have questions call Cheryl 714-273-0523



Retiring members of the Board of Governors for Shriners Children's Southern California Roger Ross, outgoing Chairman Sean Mantucca and John Rider receive their Emeritus plaques.

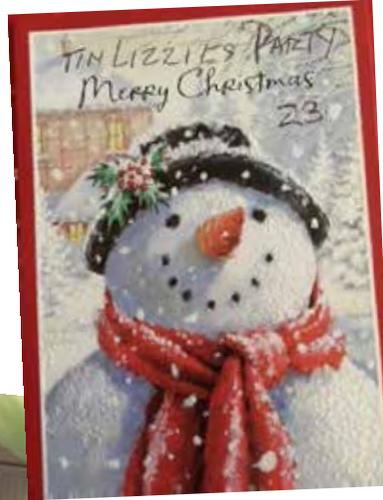
Tin Lizzies

December 1, 2023

In December, the Tin Lizzies tried out their first nighttime Christmas Parade. The location was in Seal Beach, and while it was a relatively short parade, being only about three blocks long, we were well received by the on-lookers. It was a very popular parade it seems, and one of our newest members, Freddie Bon, lives there. He was able to get us signed up with the proper parade officials in time for us to attend. The Lizzies all met at the local Hoff's Hut for an early afternoon snack before the parade. The Tin lizzies had 6 members who could attend, those being Capt. Rick Schade, John Hilario, Gene DeRaad, Ron Michal, Doug Highlen, and Freddie Bon. The Christmas Grinch struck Capt. Rick & John Hilario's car again. Rick's ignition went out for good, needing a replacement which won't be in stock until March next year. We weren't able to get many photos of the event, but these pictures show our members and the crowded street for the parade. We will definitely sign up again next year and try and get more members to attend. Our favorite Christmas Parade in Laguna Nigel wasn't going to happen for us this year so this parade definitely will be one for next year.



Tin Lizzie Christmas Party
&
Gift Exchange
December 9, 2023





El Bekal Claybusters Turkey Shoot

The Claybusters fielded 25 shooters for it's annual Turkey Shoot Nov. 19th. Attending with them was ILL. Merritt Reed & Lady Kim. A great day full of fun & good eats. Several first time shooters attending the festivities that day. Congratulations to the first place turkey winner Ladies division 8th grader Mia Van Diest with a perfect score of 50/50! First place Men's Division was her father, Scott Van Diest with a 46/50. Second place Ladies was Serena Rona with a 39/50. Second place Men was Orange Gove Lodge #293 Worshipful Master Barry McKinely with a 41/50.





And the winners are Mia & Scott Van Diest bringing home the 1st. place turkeys.



Worshipful Barry McKinley with his Second place gift of vintage Winchester Salt & Pepper shakers.



DECEMBER 5TH TOY
DELIVERY
TO THE SHRINERS
MEDICAL CENTER







SEAL BEACH NIGHT CHRISTMAS PARADE



The Divan, Chariots and Tin Lizzie's all gathered together for a pre-parade meal at Hof's Hut.
(See the Tin Lizzie's article for their pictures.)



🥖 Let's break 🥖 bread

An Exciting New Shrine Club for Foodies

Are you passionate about trying out new culinary experiences? We have just the club for you! We're currently in the process of forming a brand new Shrine club that caters to foodies like you.



We need a minimum crew of ten Nobles who would like to embark on this thrilling new adventure.

for more information contact

Michael Goren
(949) 228-0811

**GOLDEN VETERAN
AWARD CEREMONY FOR
OUR POTENTATE**



Inspector Carlos Diez Jr.



*Worshipful Master and El Bekal
Noble Luciano Leon*



*Grand Guardian of CA Job's Daughters Beki
Lane and DeMolay Advisor Jamie Barr*



*Most Worshipful PGM Melvyn Stein,
PP of Al Bahr and Lady Betty*



El Bekal nobles and ladies



Inland Empire Honored Ladies



Thanks to Anaheim Lodge for a wonderful evening.



El Bekal - Past Masters Shrine Club

Are you a new noble looking for a club to join? Maybe you have been a member for a while and looking to keep in touch with what's happening in the blue lodge? We are looking for Current and Past Masters of Southern California Masonic lodges to join our club. We have nearly 30 members on our roster and looking to grow and develop new ideas for membership and event planning. We would love for you to drop by and talk or share your ideas.

If you are interested contact Merritt Read at anapm82@aol.com, Steve Steel atkjs1969@gmail.com, or Kevin Stibich at kevin.stibich@yahoo.com.





El Member # _____ Date: _____

**PETITION FOR MEMBERSHIP AND INITIATION INTO EL BEKAL SHRINE
1320 So. Sanderson Ave. Anaheim, CA 92806 (714) 563-9111**

To the Illustrious Potentate, Officers and Nobles of El Bekal Shriners International, situated in the Oasis of Anaheim, Desert of California. I the undersigned hereby declare that I am a Master Mason in good standing in

_____ Lodge No. _____ located
at _____

Furthermore, I do not now and never will hold membership in or allegiance to anybody claiming to be a Master Mason that has been declared clandestine; that I have resided within the jurisdiction of your Shrine, or unoccupied territory, not less than 6 months, as required by the bylaws of The Imperial Council and that I am not under suspension or expulsion in the prerequisite body to this Order, and respectfully pray that I may be made a member of your Shrine. If I be found worthy, and my request granted, I promise to conform to the articles of Incorporation and the bylaws of the Imperial Council and the bylaws and Ceremonies of your Shrine.

Birthplace _____ Date of Birth _____ Res
Phone _____

Occupation _____ Bus
Phone _____
If retired, list former occupation _____

E-mail: _____ Wife's name _____

Have you previously applied for admission to this or any other Shrine Temple? _____ If so which
Shrine _____

When _____

Residence _____
Number & Street, City, State, Zip

Business _____
Number & Street, City, State, Zip

Mail
Address _____

Hat Size _____

Print name in full : _____

Signature _____

If elected the signing of this petition constitutes the signing of the bylaws of El Bekal Shrine and Shriners International Recommended and vouched for on the Honor of (both must sign and must be members of El Bekal Shrine).

Noble _____
Print name Address Zip Phone Blue Lodge Card #

Noble _____
Print name Address Zip Phone Blue Lodge Card #

Credit, Unit Club: _____

THIS PETITION CANNOT BE ACTED UPON UNLESS ACCOMPANIED BY THE FULL FEE OF \$325.00

Recorders Use
Date received _____ Type of payment Personal Check _____
Cash _____

MC [] Visa [] Card # _____ Ex Date _____

Three number (card verification code) on back of card _____



Merret Temple No. 103
Daughters of the Nile

Cordially invites you to attend the
Official Visit of

Patricia “Patty” Larimore, Supreme Queen

Friday, January 5, 2024

Lunch 1:00 PM

Ceremonial 4:00 PM

Cost \$35.00

Past Supreme Queens & Supreme Officers are guests.

To be held at

DeMolay Center

303 W. Lincoln Avenue

Anaheim, California

Reservations to be made with

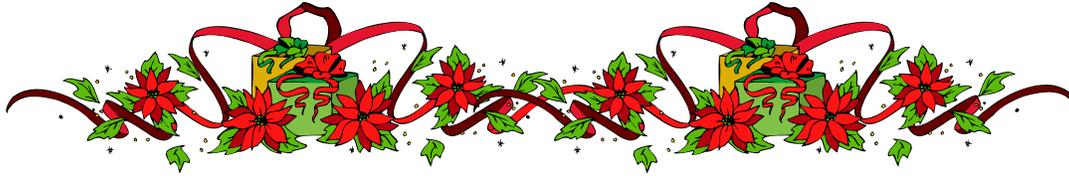
Rhea Turek

11247 Gonsalves St.

Cerritos, CA, 90703

562-201-9084

Checks payable to Merret Temple No. 103
Must accompany reservations by January 1, 2024



Please join OC Noblettes for our annual

Christmas Lunch

December 8, 2023

At

El Bekal Shrine Center

Social - 11:00 am / Lunch - 11:30 am

Entertainment by the Lovely Hula Hands Ohana

\$30 each

Reservations are a must and a guarantee. Please call Dianne at 562-556-4907 or email at edgar.dianne@yahoo.com by December 3.

El Bekal Shriners (164)

Temple: El Bekal Shriners 164 Region: 2 RMD: Steven Gough Email: RMD2@shrinenet.org

Year	StartReg	Created	Create %	Affiliated	Restored	Restore %	Demitted	Demitted %	Suspended	Suspend %	Expelled	Expired	Expire %	Resigned	EndReg	GainLoss	GainLoss %
2017	737	17	2.31 %	3	3	0.41 %	10	1.36 %	3	0.41 %	0	35	4.75 %	3	709	-28	-3.80 %
2018	709	23	3.24 %	3	6	0.85 %	5	0.71 %	3	0.42 %	0	27	3.81 %	1	705	-4	-0.56 %
2019	705	43	6.10 %	2	4	0.57 %	6	0.85 %	8	1.13 %	0	27	3.83 %	0	713	8	1.13 %
2020	713	5	0.70 %	3	3	0.42 %	3	0.42 %	5	0.70 %	0	36	5.05 %	2	678	-35	-4.91 %
2021	678	10	1.47 %	0	1	0.15 %	2	0.29 %	54	7.96 %	0	31	4.57 %	0	602	-76	-11.21 %
Average	708	19	2.77 %	2	3	0.48 %	5	0.73 %	14	2.13 %	0	31	4.40 %	1	681	-27	-3.87 %
2022	602	15	2.49 %	1	2	0.33 %	7	1.16 %	3	0.50 %	0	22	3.65 %	0	588	-14	-2.33 %

Highest in 5 years compared to current status

Previous High:	709
Currently At:	588

Last year with gain: (data since 2004)	2019
---	------

NPD's	Nobles	Percentage	\$AMT	Projected Suspensions: 78
Have a Balance (1 yr)	125	21.26 %	\$32,590.00	Suspends after: 2 year(s)
Arrears Balance (2 yrs)	78	13.27 %	\$17,270.00	

GRAND LODGE/SHRINE MEMBERSHIP STATISTICS BY STATE/PROVINCE							
State	Master Masons			Shriners			% of MasterMasons to Shriners
	2017	Gain/Loss	% Gain/Loss	2017	Gain/Loss	% Gain/Loss	
California	48196	-2498	-5.18 %	8676	-442	-5.09 %	18.00 %

Projected Membership for your temple:

AR 2024	OG 2026	Ten Years
533	492	385

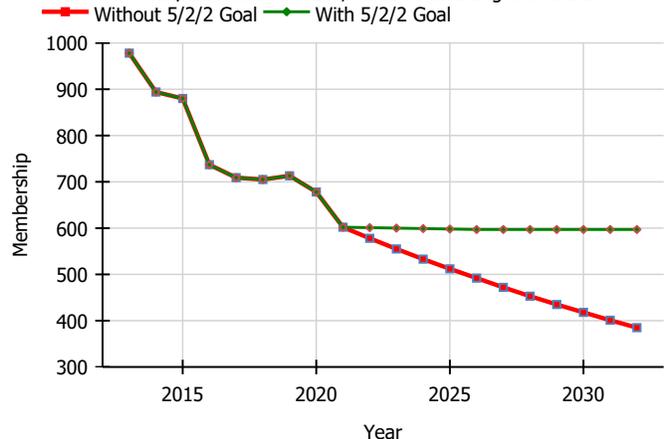
Attendance at Membership Seminar for the last 5 yrs

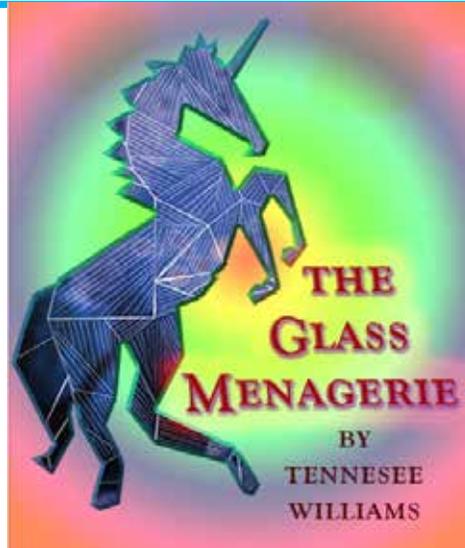
2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
No	No	No	No	No

How does your temple rank?

	Creations	Restorations	Demits	Suspensions	Expirations	Overall
Shriners	53	151	116	30	143	108
WESTERN (13 temples)	5	10	5	2	7	6
5 YR Avg based on % of Total Membership from 2017-2021						
On a scale with 1 being the best ranking.						

5/2/2 Membership Goals - Creations 5% increase, Restorations 2% increase, Suspensions under 2%, all else remaining the same.





EL RIVA COURT #102 THEATRE NIGHT

\$20.00--RSVP: PRISCILLA LINDQUIST 951-551-8808
Opportunity Baskets At Display Table: Six Tickets For \$5.00

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 15TH

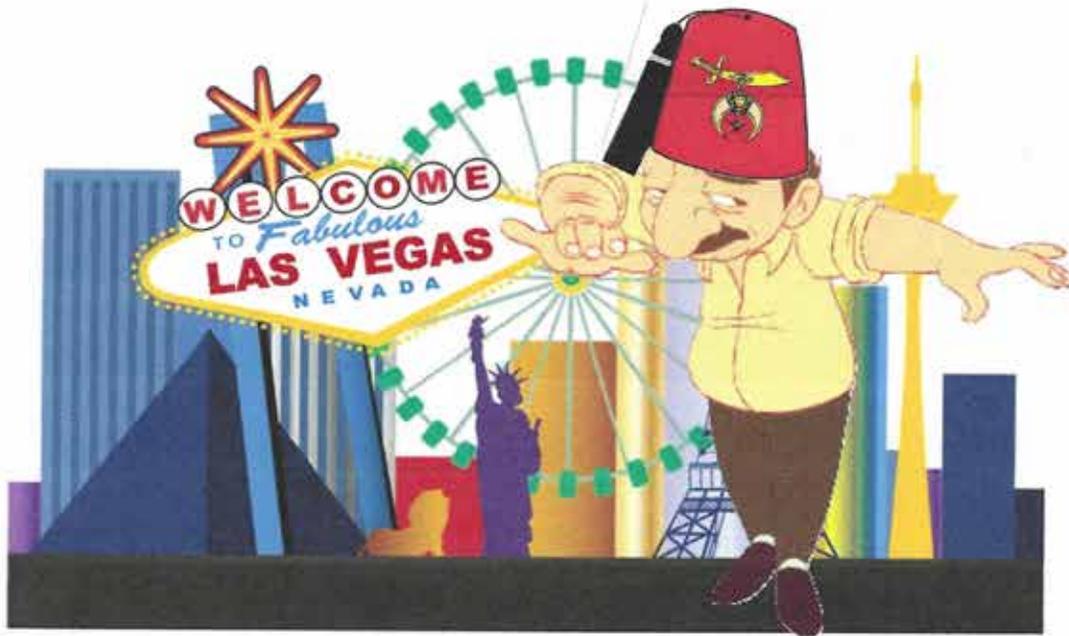
6:30pm SOCIAL HOUR with wine, hors devours, coffee & soft drinks

7:30pm HOUSE OPENS for an 8:00pm SHOW

Riverside Community Players 

Riverside Playhouse, 4026 14th St, Riverside, CA 92501

Drama: The Glass Menagerie follows the lives of a family in St. Louis in the 1930's and is recalled as a memory from the narrator, Tom. Amanda, the mother, lives with her two children, Tom and Laura. They are without her alcoholic husband who had abandoned the family years before.



WESTERN SHRINE ASSOCIATION

All for One, All for Fun!

2024 Business Meeting
February 29 to March 3, 2024

Masonic Memorial Temple
2200 W. Mesquite Ave.
Las Vegas, NV 89106

Registration \$200 per Noble*
Guest Prices shown on Registration Form



Headquarter Hotel: The Orleans Hotel and Casino, Las Vegas, 4500 West Tropicana Ave, NV 89103. Make your Hotel Reservation now. WSA Room Rates use hotel link for reservations.

Hotel link: <https://book.passkey.com/e/50660375>

* Registration Fee includes, registration for Noble, Hospitality Room Access for Noble (guests extra), Friday and Saturday continental Breakfast plus lunch at MMT, Armenia Festival, Opening Night BBQ, Noble T-Shirt, and Fun is Free.

Make your Hotel Reservations now and fill out and submit your registration form.

WHO ARE WE?

150 Years of Fun and Fellowship

The history of Shriners International is the story of individuals who came together in the spirit of fun and fellowship, who would lay the foundation for a worldwide fraternity and establish a globally recognized pediatric specialty health care system.

In 1870, a group of 13 Masons would regularly meet at the Knickerbocker Cottage in New York City. Often, discussion turned to forming a new fraternity for Masons, based on the tenets of Freemasonry but with the added elements of fun and fellowship.

Walter Fleming, M.D., and Billy Florence, an actor, were among the members of the group. Florence had been on tour in Europe and attended a party given by an Arabian diplomat. The exotic style, flavors and music of the Arabian-themed party led Florence to suggest this as the theme of the new fraternity, while Dr. Fleming and other members of the group then drafted the ritual, designed the emblem and costumes, formulated a salutation and declared that members would wear the red fez. The name of this new fraternity was the Ancient Arabic Order of the Nobles of the Mystic Shrine.

While the fraternity's first official meeting was in 1871 at the Knickerbocker Cottage, a meeting in 1872 established the first chapter, Mecca Shriners, on September 26. Today, there are more than 195 chapters in countries around the world.

Founded as the Ancient Arabic Order of the Nobles of the Mystic Shrine, the organization has grown and evolved over the decades. In the late 1900s to early 2000s, the fraternity was referred to as Shriners of North America, given that chapters were in the U.S. and Canada. In 2010, a resolution was passed to replace the name with Shriners International, reflecting the fraternity's worldwide presence.

The red fez with the black tassel is one of the fraternity's most distinctive symbols. Derived from the city of Fez, Morocco, the fez was chosen as the official headgear of the fraternity to complement the organization's pomp and pageantry, theme, ceremonies and events. Each fez is personalized for the wearer. Information on the fez includes the chapter he belongs to and any positions he holds, and memberships of clubs or units. It is worn at all official Shriners events.



Official Philanthropy of Shriners International

From its earliest days the Shriners were known for their philanthropic efforts across the country.

During a yellow fever epidemic in Jacksonville, Florida, local Shriners and Masonic Knights Templar worked long hours to help the sick. In 1889 fraternity members came to the aid of the Johnstown, Pennsylvania, flood victims. In fact, many of the chapters were involved in some sort of charitable efforts.

In 1919, the Imperial Potentate Freeland Kendrick proposed establishing a hospital to provide medical care at no cost for children with orthopedic conditions.

A committee explored the idea and concluded there should not be just one hospital, but instead, an entire healthcare system throughout North America that provides pediatric orthopedic medical care regardless of the families' ability to pay. The first hospital opened in Shreveport, Louisiana, in 1922.

Today, the healthcare system consists of hospitals, clinics, outpatient centers and telehealth sites. Shriners Children's specialties have expanded to burn care, spinal cord injury rehabilitation, cleft lip and palate, sports injury care and rehabilitation services.



Sports Keep Nobles, Patients in the Game

SIGNATURE EVENTS THRILL SPECTATORS WHILE SUPPORTING THE PHILANTHROPY



The **East-West Shrine Bowl**, a 98-year-old annual college football all-star tradition, took place in February in Las Vegas, Nevada, as part of the NFL's Pro Bowl Week. The game, which was broadcast live on NFL Network, has produced more than 500 NFL Pro Bowl appearances over the years. This year, a record number of 72 players were invited to this year's NFL Combine. With its tagline "More than just a game," the East-West Shrine Bowl is also about recognizing Shriners Children's patients and telling the story of the amazing care available at our healthcare system.



Patients had a dedicated VIP area near the end zone, where they were able to meet NFL Commissioner Roger Goodell. Kechi, a past Shriners Children's patient and *America's Got Talent* finalist, sang the national anthem, and patients were featured in the pregame run-out video. For the first time ever, two NFL coaching staffs, the New England Patriots and the Atlanta Falcons, coached the players during the East-West Shrine Bowl as part of the Pro Bowl Games week. The coaches and players, who were impressed with the opportunity to learn about and support Shriners Children's, participated in a "Watch Me Challenge" media event, in which they underwent physical challenges similar to what Shriners Children's patients face daily.



Attention all nobles! Get ready for great golf for a great cause at the **Shriners Children's Open**. This high-stakes tournament brings together top PGA TOUR golfers from around the world to compete for over \$7 million in prizes, all in support of Shriners Children's. Patient ambassadors from around the healthcare system will be there to act as standard-bearers, and our National Patient Ambassadors will represent the many children who have received Shriners Children's life-changing care. But the Shriners Children's Open isn't just for golf enthusiasts – it's an opportunity for all of us to get involved and show our support for this incredible organization. Shriners across the country are encouraged to volunteer, attend the tournament, or organize watch parties to cheer on the golfers and help raise funds for our philanthropy.



The 23rd annual **Shriners Children's College Classic** not only showcased top college baseball teams, but also provided a special experience for patients. Held in March at Minute Maid Park in Houston, Texas, the tournament drew a crowd of 34,243. All six schools hosted patients



on campus and had them serve as honorary team captains. Patients were recognized on the field during games, had pre-game interactions with the teams, and even threw the first pitch out at each game.

Special moments included National Patient Ambassadors Parker and Katherine joining the Astros fan and experience team and announcing each batter, and sports-journalist-in-training Alec interviewing coaches. Kaden, the Texas Tech captain, and Adison, the Texas A&M captain, were invited to hang out with

the teams in the dugout on Sunday, a game that ended up running for 16 innings. The event raised funds for the philanthropy, including a donation of \$130,000 from Karem Shriners, and Shriners volunteers were on hand to help out. Louisville was named the Tournament Champion, going 3-0 with wins over ranked opponents Texas A&M and TCU.



PEDIATRIC SPECIALTY CARE



Orthopedics

- Clubfoot
- Cerebral palsy
- Prosthetics/orthotics
- Scoliosis/spine conditions
- Upper and lower extremity conditions
- Sports medicine/fractures

Burn Care

- Scar revisions
- Skin conditions
- Plastic surgery

Spinal Cord Injury and spine disorders

Craniofacial Conditions

Physical/Occupational/ Speech Therapies

Learn more about all of our care specialties and request an appointment at shrinerschildrens.org.



Directors Staff is looking for Drivers

Happy New Year to the Nobels of El Bekal Shrine.

The Directors Staff is looking for assistant drivers for the Calliope. I am the Director of Units, and we need assistance drivers to learn how to drive the Calliope in the Parades. You will be trained on how to operate the Calliope and how handle the parade unit. You will need a clean driving record and need to be agile to get up to the driver's position. If you are interested, please contact Russ Allen, Director of Units and President of Directors Staff. We currently participate in 6 parades each year. We also need back up drivers for the fire truck. Same rules apply. If you have any questions, please give me a call.

Thank you

Russ Allen,
Director of Units 714-397-0449



WELCOME



NEW NOBLES



**INVITE THEM TO
JOIN YOUR
UNIT OR CLUB**





Hi Nobles,

South Coast Shrine Club is a group of friendly Shrine Masons, Ladies, Honored Ladies and friends from a number of jurisdictions who enjoy each other's company, good food, fellowship and our dedication to Shriners International and Shriners Hospitals for Children. The Club has been in operation since 1954. We presently meet on the 3rd Wednesday of each month at Coco's, at Lake Forest Drive & Via Carlotta in Laguna Hills, just off I-5 at 1:00 pm for our "chat & chew" luncheons. The location is convenient, the food and service good and the fellowship warm and friendly.

We extend an open invitation to visit our Club. We welcome the opportunity to extend to you the hand of Shrine Fellowship and show you why South Coast Shrine Club is indeed, "The Host of the Coast".

If you have any questions, or need further information or directions, please feel free to contact us at 949/584-9716, or Scshrine455@charter.net, via e-mail. We'd be glad to see you. Please know that you're always welcome at South Coast Shrine Club.

Fraternally,
Chuck Wilson, Bulletin Editor



Hi Noble, looking for a place for lunch? May we suggest Valencia Shrine Club?

If you're looking for a place to connect with fellow Nobles of El Bekal and Shriners International, look no further than Valencia Shrine Club. We meet every Thursday for lunch and social communication, otherwise referred to in some places as 'Lies, exaggerations & old war stories'.

We gather at the Garden Grove Elks Club on Trask & Newhope in Garden Grove every Thursday for an 11:30 Social time followed by lunch, ordered from the menu, and fellowship with Brother Nobles and guests. Many of our Ladies enjoy lunching together as well, so they're also invited.

So, stop by for a visit. No reservation required, we just love company, especially Nobles.

Fraternally,
The Nobles of Valencia Shrine Club

Orange County Nobelettes

Ladies,

Would you like to meet with other Ladies in a social group for Ladies only?

If so, please consider joining the Orange County Nobelettes. The Nobelettes are a social group that raises money for the Shrine Medical Center in Pasadena.

They meet on the second Friday of the month, except for July and August, at 11:30 am.

Where you ask? At the Coco's Restaurant, 1250 E Imperial Hwy Brea, CA 92821.

JAN 2024



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	01	02	03	04	05	06
	Happy New Years				Supreme Queens OV to Merret Temple	Stated Meeting Elections of Officers Installation of Officers
07	08	09	10	11	12	13
		Board / Divan Meeting 5:00 pm				
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
Orange County Scottish Rite Installation						
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

Stay on top of what is happening at El Bekal

Go to Elbekal.com for the most current updates and any changes on the calendar

FEB 2024



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				01	02	03
					Groundhog Day	
04	05	06	07	08	09	10
						Al Bahr Pote's Ball San Diego
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
Super Bowl at El Bekal	Divan Board Meeting	Valentines Dinner at El Bekal	Valentine's Day			
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
Movie Afternoon at El Bekal						
25	26	27	28	29	01	02
		Start setup for Tin Lizzie's Steak Fry		Valencia SC Ladies Day WSA Starts, till March 3 rd LV,NV	Tin Lizzie's Steak Fry	El Zelzah Pote's Ball LV,NV

Stay on top of what is happening at El Bekal
Go to Elbekal.com for the most current updates and any changes on the calendar

Freemason LODGES

Anaheim #207
303 W. Lincoln Ave.
Anaheim, CA 92805
Stated Mtg. 1st Wed.
(714) 875-6344

Alhambra #322
9 W. Woodward Ave.
Alhambra, CA 91801
Stated Mtg. 1st. Monday
(626) 281-7950

Artesia Sunrise #377
11531 187th St.
Artesia, CA 90701
Stated Mtg. 2nd Thurs

Bellflower #320
9813 Beach St.
Bellflower, CA 90706
Stated Mtg. 1st. Tues
(562) 866-4953

Blyth-Needles #473
100 Murphy St.
Blyth, CA 92225
Stated Mtg. 1st Wed
(760) 922-9253

Coachella #476
51100 Jackson St.
Coachella, CA 92236
Stated Mtg. 1st Thur.
(760) 398-5157

Cornerstone #659
1701 W. La Habra Blvd.
La Habra, CA 90631
Stated Mtg. 1st. Wed.
(562) 691-1476

Brea #339
500 E. Imperial Hwy.
Brea, CA 92821
Stated Mtg. 2nd Tues
(714) 256-1452

Downey United #220
8244 Third St.
Downey, CA 90241
Stated Mtg. 1st. Thurs.
(562) 862-4176

Evergreen #259
5801 Chicago Ave.
Riverside, CA 92821
Stated Mtg. 1st. Wed
PO Box 56564
(909) 261-9134

Fontana #653
16650 Arrow Blvd.
Fontana, CA 92335
Stated Mtg 1st Mon.
(909) 730-3571

Garden Grove #351
11270 Acacia Pky.
Garden Grove, CA 92840
Stated Mtg. 1st Tues.
(714) 636-3112

Golden Trowel Norwalk
273
12345 Rosecrans Ave.
Norwalk, CA 90650
Stated Mtg. 2nd Thur
(562) 863-9101

Granada Hills #378
16535 Rinald St.
Granada Hills, CA 91340
Stated Mtg. 1st Wed.
(818) 233-0378

Hemet San Jacinto
#338
150 Laursen St.
Hemet, CA 92543
Stated Mtg. 1st. Tues.
(951) 925-1417

Huntington Beach #380
601 Palm Ave.
Huntington Beach, CA
92648
Stated Mtg. 1st. Wed.
(714) 536-3119

Int. City Lodge #389
5155 E. PCH
Long Beach, 90804
Stated Mtg. 1st Thrs.
(714)322-8003

Irvine Valley #671
23685 Birtcher Dr.
Lake Forest, CA 92630
Stated Mtg. 1st. Tues.
(949) 357-0671

Pacific Rim #567
3610 Locust Ave
Long Beach, CA 90807
Stated Mtg. 1st Tue
(714)600-0613

Lakewood #728
5918 E. Parkcrest St.
Long Beach, CA 90808
Stated Mtg. 1st Thurs.
(562) 354-0728

Long Beach #327
3610 Locust Ave.
Long Beach, CA 90807
Stated Mtg. 1st. Thurs.
(562) 427-0821

Menifee Valley #289
27221 McCall Blvd.
Menifee, CA 92586
Stated Mtg. 1st. Thurs.
(951) 679-9493

Newport Mesa #604
1401 E. 15th. St.
Newport Beach, CA
92663
Stated Mtg. 1st. Wed.
(949) 294-4309

Orange Grove #293
71 Plaza Sq.
Orange, CA 92866
Stated Mtg. 1st. Tues.
(714) 538-1443

Tustin #241
397 El Camino Real
Tustin, CA 92780
Stated Mtg. 1st Thurs.
(714) 832-0691

Saddleback Laguna #672
23685 Birtcher Dr.
Lake Forest, CA 92630
Stated Mtg. 1st. Thurs.
(949) 458-5750

Solomon's Staircase #357
6841 Western Ave.
Buena Park, CA 90621
Stated Mtg. 1st. Thurs.
(714) 994-1822

Temescal Palms #314
2313 Main St.
Corona, CA 92882
Stated Mtg. 1st Tues.
(951) 737-2013

Temecula -
Catalina lodge #524
27895 Diaz Rd.
Temecula, CA 92590
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Veritas Lodge #855
24642 San Juan Ave.
Dana Point, CA 92629
Stated Mtg. 2nd Thurs.
(949) 441-0357

Yorba Linda #469
4847 Main St.
Yorba Linda, CA 92886
Stated Mtg. 1st. Thurs.
(714) 758-5954

If you would like to be added or need any information to be corrected,
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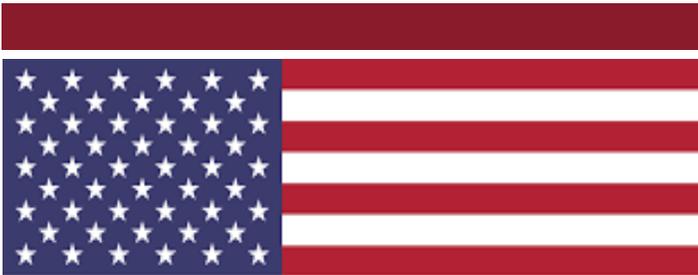
IN MEMORIAM



Noble Ralph E Smith Jr

Please remember our
Lost Nobles as you go
through your Journeys
today.

“Soft and Safe to Thee My Brother,
Be Thy Resting Place”



GOD BLESS AMERICA

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To refer a patient to Shriners for Children—Pasadena, call the patient referral line at:

(800) 237-5055

You may also e-mail:
patientreferrals@shrinernet.net
to get a referral started.

Flags Presented by El Bekal Shrine

To: Christian Rubio

At: Solomon's Staircase #257

By: Ed Calayag & Lito Suliven

To:

At:

By:

To:

At:

By:

To:

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By:

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At: Your Lodge

By: You

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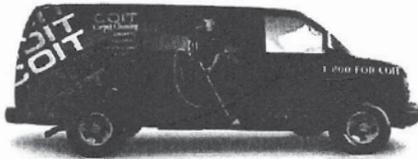
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A BLESSING
—Numbers 6:24-26—

“May THE LORD BLESS you and PROTECT you.
May THE LORD smile on you and BE GRACIOUS to you.
May THE LORD show you HIS FAVOR and give you HIS PEACE.”

Gus Salloun
Broker



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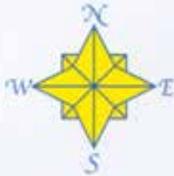
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 JohnB@bye2bugs.com



VALENCIA SHRINE CLUB

When: Every Thursday
Where: Garden Grove Elks Lodge
 11551 Trask Ave, Garden Grove

Social: (in the bar): 11:15 AM
Buffet Lunch: 12:00 PM

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Contact El Bekal Editor for more details
elbekalmag@gmail.com

“For time and the world do not stand still.

Change is the law of life.

And those who look only to the past of the present are certain to miss the future.”

John F. Kennedy (1917 – 1963)
35th President of the United States

“People take different roads seeking fulfillment and happiness. Just because they’re not on your road doesn’t mean they’ve gotten lost.”

H. Jackson Brown, Jr. (1940 - 2021)
American Author

LIVING PAST POTENTATES

* Roy T. Reynolds (Lucille)	1964
* Robert R. Ruchti II (Diana)	1974
* Max G. Miller (Jean)	1975
* Ralph C. Bryson (Edie)	1977
* Ray G. Thagard, Sr. (Gayle)	1982
* T.D. "Ted" Grinager (Erna)	1984
* Fred Sorsabal (Marlene)	1986
* Fred Gutierrez (Marie)	1990
* Robert Lash (Donna)	1991
* Donald A. Nielsen (Sally)	1994
* Don Eyer (Joan)	1998
* Joe Pendergast	1999
* Ken Jahr (Nancy)	2000
David P. Suehs (Jo Anne)	2004
Donald K. Sorsabal	2005
Ron Schemm, MD (Barbara)	2006
William Salpaka (Virginia)	2007
* William "Bill" Roland (Kay)	2008
Coy Love (Margaret)	2009
* Gary Hooper (Sharon)	2010
John Rider (Barbara)	2011
* Bill Sizemore (Lynda)	2012
George R. Boyd (Mary)	2013
Roger Ross (Lynn)	2014
John Kahvedjian (Rosie)	2015
* Donald A. Leger (Gloria)	2016
* Carl G. Spalin (Fran)	2017
Larry Griffin (Cheryl)	2018
Mike Selix (Michelle)	2019
Merritt Read (Kimberly)	2020
Michael J Sekera (Abeer)	2021
Albert Turek (Rhea)	2022
Associate Past Potentate	
*Hans Lindquist, Nile (Priscilla)	1998

EL BEKAL SHRINE CENTER
Shrine International
1320 S. Sanderson Ave.
Anaheim, CA 92806

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January 2024

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

We would appreciate your cooperation when writing checks.

Donations to the Shriners Medical Center & \$100 MILLION CLUB should be made out to: Shriners for Children Medical Center

Donations to the: TRANSPORTATION FUND should be made to:
El Bekal Patient Transportation Fund

Donations to the BUILDING or the I REMEMBER FUND should be made to:
El Bekal Shrine Building Fund

Donations for EL BEKALAN SUPPORTERS should be made out to:
El Bekal Shrine c/o El Bekalan Supporters

Donations to the EL BEKAL PARKING LOT should be made out to:
El Bekal Parking Lot Maintenance Fund

Payment for Dues, Reservations, Fund Raisers, Etc. should be made to:
El Bekal Shrine

EL BEKAL STATED MEETING

Saturday, January 6, 2024
Meeting & Election of Officers: 2:00 pm
Hospitality: 4:00 pm
Dinner: 5:30 pm

Installation following Dinner

Reservations by Monday January 1, 2024
RESERVATIONS ARE REQUIRED

No Dinners will be sold at the door

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN: That the Quarterly Meeting and Elections of Officers of El Bekal Shrine Temple will be held on Saturday, January 6, 2024, 2:00 pm at El Bekal Shrine Center. Business to be conducted will include voting on petitions received since our last stated meeting Elections of Officers and such other business as shall come before the Nobility.

YOUR FEZ & 2024 DUES CARD REQUIRED FOR MEETING

Fraternally,
Ill. Sir Merritt Read, Potentate

Attest,
Coy Love, P.P., Recorder