

Kora Sands

Volume 40, No. 3

Fall 2025





Kora Shrine Ladies Appreciation Night

Roaring 20s

Deadline
for tickets
September 5

Murder Mystery Dinner

Saturday, September 13, 2025

5:00 pm until 9:00 pm



Nobles \$40.00 and Ladies are Free

For Tickets call Kate at 207-782-6831

or Korashriners.org

5 pm Social Hour

6 pm Family Style Dinner

1st Course Appetizer of Shrimp Cocktail
and Assorted Cheeses and Crackers

2nd Course Caesar Salad

3rd Course Lemon Chicken, Vegetables,
and Red Potatoes

4th Course Cheesecake with Strawberries

6:30 pm Act One by

The Munder Mystery Company of Boston

This is a Roaring 20s theme so get out your
Flapper Dresses and those Dapper Men.



FROM THE DESK OF THE POTENTATE

by Illustrious Potentate Mike Zubiate

Greetings Kora Nobles and Ladies

Six months into 2025 I am confident each of you now have at least one new memory that will last a lifetime. The kind of memory that brings a smile and laughter to those that hear your story. Lady Sue and I thank you all for your support looking forward for the next 6 months. The Androscoggin Shrine Club Basket Bingo was a record-breaking event kudos to everyone involved. The Grand Assembly of rainbow girls recently held at Kora was also a huge event. Thank you, ladies, for all you do.

Together We Can Make a Difference

Summer Ceremonial at the Farmington Fairgrounds was the best of the best. Everything was beyond our expectations, from having 60-plus campers to the huge crowd at the ladies' luncheon, the Kora Kitchen Club's performance, First and Second Section, the Kora Craftsman, and our very own Noble Clyde Ross as our Parade Marshal. A huge thank you to the Summer Ceremonial Committee led by Frank & Pam.

Then we were off to Atlanta, Georgia, for the 151st Imperial Session. Our very own Chief Rabban was in the International Shrine Clown Association competition, walking away with 2nd place in the Tramp division. He was definitely on top of his game. Congratulations, well done.

The Imperial Session is where we elect a new Imperial Potentate and Divan. Congratulations to elected Imperial Sir Brad Koehn and First Lady Cheryl. Also, our newest International Patients Ambassadors, Carlota and Brandon, welcome aboard, we are looking forward to an exciting year.

Saturday, July 12th was M.S.L.B.C. golf tournament at the Meadows Golf Course in Litchfield. A total of 26 teams were registered. Players arrived dressed for battle, but armed mostly with excuses. From the first tee to the final putt, one thing became clear: courage might be important, but it's no match for the lure of the beer cart. No records were broken but plenty of pride was gently dented. In the end, everyone had an awesome time. No legends were made but laughs were loud, the sand was plentiful and everyone walked away victorious ... in spirit, if not in score.



Rise and Thrive in 2025





A Proclamation

*Es Selamu Aleikum
The call of the muezzin
Cries out to all
Ye poor sons of the desert
It is the will of the Potentate
That the
Fall Ceremonial of Kora Temple,
Ancient Arabic Order
Of the Nobles of
The Mystic Shrine,
Be held at Kora Temple
Lewiston, Maine on
Saturday, October 11th,
In the year of our Lord 2025*

Ceremonial Doors Open at 10:00 a.m.

*Business meeting at 11:00 a.m.
followed by
Ceremonial First Section
2025 Dues cards will be required*

Aleikum Es Selam

*Ill. Michael Zubiate
Illustrious Potentate*

*See the Detailed Agenda in this issue
For registration information and
Please respond by the due dates listed*

FROM THE RECORDER'S DESK.....

by John R. Knox, P.P., Recorder

Greetings Nobles:



We are rapidly approaching the Third Quarter of the year and 2026 Dues Notices will be distributed via email in August, with the hard copy mailing in September. Plan to pay your dues early to make the Recorder's duties easier.

A reminder to those members who have NOT YET paid your 2025 dues – we are carefully checking dues cards at every tyled event, so you must present your dues card or have My Fezcard Viewer installed on your phone so your card can be easily scanned. If you have any issues getting that program, please reach out to the recorder for assistance

Watch this “SANDS” and the “Kora Konnections” for updates on what is happening. You can do your part by responding in a timely manner by the requested cut-off dates to assure the planning teams have the proper amount of food and “refreshments” available to guarantee that no one goes without!

Nobles, as you visit your Blue Lodges, don't be bashful in announcing our upcoming events and remind the Brothers that they too can participate in the fun events we have – join us at North Camps in Rangeley, August 9 for another “Cold Sands” opportunity for new candidates, and at our October 11 Fall Ceremonial. Our initiation fee has been set at \$200 which includes: 2025 dues (\$105) a stylish FEZ (\$150) meals on Saturday for candidates and their Lady (\$80 value) – over a \$300 value!

Looking forward to seeing many Nobles at these upcoming events – remember, read the “SANDS” and get your registrations in early – and as always, be sure you have paid your 2025 dues.

Fraternally,
John R. Knox, P.P.
Recorder

Think Membership!

**Invite Someone
to Become a
Shriner Today!**

It's up to you!



Imperial Shrine 2025

The 151st Shriners International Imperial Session was held in Atlanta, Georgia from June 29 to July 3, 2025. The following members were in attendance representing Kora Shrine:

- Mike Zubiate (Sue) – Potentate
- Mike Robitaille (Lolita) – Chief Rabban
- Frank Welch, Jr. (Pam) – Assistant Rabban
- Barry Irish (Debbie) – High Priest and Prophet
- Bo Clark (Elizabeth) – Outer Guard
- Paul Gardner (Michelle) – Past Potentate / Treasurer
- Gene Tanguay (Lorraine) – Chaplain
- Robbie McKinley (Debbie) – Past Potentate / Hospital Rep
- Paul Poulin (Kim) – Past Potentate
- Brent Tanguay (Karen) – Past Potentate / Springfield Rep.
- Bernie McAllister (Rebecca) – Membership Committee / Boston Rep.
- Don Pratt (Grand Master of Masons in Maine)
- Adam Tanguay, Noble and Potentate Security

The weather was a major factor in traveling to and from the Imperial Session this year. Many members travel plans were delayed or cancelled due to weather. Luckily for Kora all members finally arrived before the opening ceremonies.

On Saturday, June 28, 2025, Chief Rabban Michael “Tilly” Robitaille competed in the International Shrine Clown Competition as a Tramp Clown. He scored second place (or a first-place loser) in costume and makeup. He also received a Top 5 award in a 2-person skit competition. Many members of Kora spent the day supporting him in the competition and the support was greatly appreciated.

On June 29, 2025, the Imperial Shrine Parade was held along a very hot street in Atlanta. Buccaneer Gene Tanguay and Adam Tanguay, the Maine Shrine Lobster Bowl Mascot and Michael “Tilly” Robitaille dressed for the parade and marched in the sweltering heat alongside the Divan and other Nobility. This year we were proud to bring the KORA Banner with us.

The Imperial Session started bright and early on Monday morning. There were eighteen (18) Articles to be voted on. Seventeen Articles were IOWA Articles, and one Article was a Colorado Article.

- Article 18 (Colorado) was approved which made meeting notifications the same provisions as for IOWA articles.
- Article 17 – Acrux Shriners were granted approval for their Charter and exclusive jurisdiction in Australia.
- Article 5 – Establishes a Special Master and procedure to supervise the demands for information made in an Article 30. Also, this accessed reasonable costs, \$50 / hour, for said person. This article passed.

Tuesday morning and afternoon brought us all back into the conference center. More legislation was voted on.

- Article 1 – Would phase out the payment of expenses for Representatives Travel – Failed 368 to 200. This would have phased out Imperial covering costs of Temple Representatives who are required to attend. There was an amendment to change dates of phase out but that also failed 340-218.
- Article 2 – Increase the Per Capita tax from \$50 to \$70 effective 01/01/2027 – This failed 314-232
- Article 3 – Allows a vote to suspend a member for non-payment of dues at a stated or special meeting – Passed.
- Article 4 – This was an Article 30 amendment that would allow the complaining noble to withdraw his charges until the meeting under this section is completed. It would also eliminate the ability to withdraw the charges at the Grievance Committee hearing and would require that the Grievance Committee make the ruling. This was Defeated.
- Article 6 – Eliminate the need to submit 3 copies of bylaw changes and to attach the Temple seal. Also requires a red line copy. This Article Passed
- Article 7 – Araba Shriners will have exclusive jurisdiction rites on the Island of Aruba – Passed.
- Article 11 – Al Bahr Shriners would be permitted to join the Western Shrine Association – Passed
- Article 12 – Egypt Shriners would be permitted to join the Southeastern Shrine Association – Passed
- Article 13 – Jamal Shriners would be permitted to join the Southeastern Shrine Association – Passed
- Article 14 – Florida Association of Shrine Temples was established with Araba, Egypt, Sahib, and Morocco Shriners. – Passed
- Article 15 – Change of address for Elf Khurafeh Shriners in Michigan. – Passed
- Article 16 – Change Of address for Korein Shriners in Wyoming – Passed



Tuesday night was a night in which many members of the Kora crew went to see the Atlanta Braves play baseball. This trip was set up by Illustrious Sir Ryan Otis from Anah Temple. A great night although there was some rain...

Wednesday was the public opening for the Shriners Imperial Session. This is when the pageant for the Newly elected Imperial Potentate occurs. This year was a little different as the Imperial Chief Rabban Kevin Costello resigned just three weeks prior to the Imperial Session. This resignation was based on what was described as drunken behavior at an Installation. Noble Costello attended the Imperial Session and apologized for his behavior. He related it to cardiac medication that he was on. This was Noble Costello's third infraction while on the Imperial Divan, the previous two were handled by suspensions. An election was held with three names for the Imperial Potentate. Imperial Treasurer Brad T. Koehn, with the support of the Imperial Divan, was elected as the Imperial Potentate.

A nice event was held and Imperial Sir Brad T. Koehn, with his family by his side, was installed as the Imperial Potentate. The remaining Imperial Divan Officers were also 'fezzed' by their family members.

On Thursday morning there was actually some debate on the floor and the following Articles were defeated.

- Article 8 – Mecca Shrine would have exclusive jurisdiction in the Island of Bermuda.
- Article 9 – Mecca Shriners would have concurrent jurisdiction with Kismet Shriners in the New York counties of Kings and Queens.
- Article 10 – Withdrawn by originally signer. Asked for concurrent jurisdiction in West Virginia.
 - Imperial session 2026 will be held in Tampa Bay from July 12 to July 16, 2026
 - Imperial Session 2027 will be held in Philadelphia from June 27 to July 1, 2027
 - Imperial Session 2028 will be held in Pittsburgh from July 9 to July 13, 2028
 - Imperial Session 2029 will be held in Omaha from July 1 to July 5, 2029



The entertainment at night was outstanding with bands that played Country Music, 70's, 80's, and a Beatles Tribute band. The Marketplace was another great area to spend time and money...

Imperial Brad Koehn is using the theme "Unity" this year. He wants all Shriners to be united and to work together to make our hospitals and Temples a better place...

Be Safe and Get Involved in Your Shrine...

Michael S. Robitaille
Chief Rabban





Membership Hall of Fame & Temple Recognition

Kora Shriners was awarded a Membership Certificate for "Conversion Excellence" in Atlanta, Georgia at the Imperial Session Membership Hall of Fame Luncheon on Tuesday, July 1st. This award was presented to KORA and eight other shrine centers. This award is based on yielding both a 65% Master Mason Conversion Rate and a minimum of 10 Successful Conversions from ePetitions in the calendar year. *Way to go KORA!* Other awards presented were for achieving a greater than 3% increase in Membership (Platinum – 15 shrine centers), a net gain in overall Membership (Gold – 7 shrine centers), exceeding a level of at least 5% of their total membership (as of January 1st) in creations only during the calendar year (Creation Excellence – 23 shrine centers). As you can see by the numbers there is growth potential but also quite a lot of work still to be done.

Frank P. Welch, Jr.
Assistant Rabban

Membership Certificate Award

FOR CONVERSION EXCELLENCE

THIS IS TO RECOGNIZE THAT

Kora Shriners

HAS REACHED BOTH A 65% MASTER MASON CONVERSION RATE
AND A MINIMUM OF 10 SUCCESSFUL EPETITION CONVERSIONS
BY CLOSE OF THE CALENDAR YEAR OF 2024.



Imperial Sir Ron DeVoll
Chairman, Membership



Imperial Sir David Hamm
Vice Chairman, Membership





2025 SUMMER CEREMONIAL – FARMINGTON FAIRGROUNDS

Thank you!

The Summer Ceremonial was held June 13th-15th at the Farmington Fairgrounds. The theme for the weekend was “Mexican Fiesta” and Illustrious Sir Michael Zubiate and Lady Sue provided the membership of KORA with a wonderful time. There were also divan members from ANAH, LUXOR, and BAHIA temples in attendance.

Working with The Comfort Inn and Suites, Tim Luttrell was able to reserve 34 rooms for those staying there. We also had more than fifty campsites reserved at the fairgrounds for those who preferred to camp. Thank you to Ralph and Sue Webster (KORA Kampers) who checked campers in and provided them with their welcome bags. We also had Thomas Bergeron who volunteered his time throughout the weekend to chauffeur hotel guests to and from the fairgrounds. Thomas, thank you for a job well done!

On Friday afternoon, Bob Levesque, Jr., working with Wilson Lake Country Club put together an afternoon of golf. There were a dozen nobles and ladies who played nine holes of golf at the course which took about three hours to complete. A good time was had by all! There were also cornhole boards and various games set up in the Starbird Building which many in attendance took advantage of.

The Kitchen Club did an outstanding job providing meals Friday and Saturday nights along with the Nobles lunch and Ladies Luncheon on Saturday. It would be safe to say that no one went away hungry. A big shout out to Mike and his crew who worked tirelessly during the week and right through the weekend. We could not have pulled this off without them! Thank you to Randy Murray for collecting meal tickets on Friday and Saturday nights.

The parade which was held Saturday morning went off without any problems even with the political protest which was initially scheduled for the same time but was somehow moved back to noon as to not interfere with our parade and the prospect of rain which had been in the forecast all week. Led by our Grand Marshal Clyde Ross, a sixty-year member of KORA Shrine and the Farmington Fire Department, through the streets of Farmington. Special thanks to Bernie McAllister, Cliff Brown, the KORA Provost, and Shane Cote (in conjunction with the Farmington Police Department) who did an outstanding job coordinating the parade and adjusting the route as needed.

The Second Section as always did a remarkable job getting everything needed for the weekend to and from the Farmington Fairgrounds. The Second Section are a well-oiled machine and make everything they do look so easy. They, along with the KORA Kraftsmen, put together an enjoyable ceremonial that was well received by the nobles who made their way to Farmington on Saturday. Thank you to Brian Ellis and the staff of the UMF Fitness Center for allowing us to use their facility before and after the ceremonial.

The KORA Buccaneers led by Gene and Lorraine Tanguay put together an amazing fun degree called the “Salty Dog” degree. There were fifty-five who preregistered and another thirteen who signed up the day of to take part. The next time the “Salty Dog” degree is made available you might want to sign up!

The planning of the ceremonial initially started soon after the 2024 ceremonial. Things progressed during the late summer and fall. The committee started meeting in March of 2025. Illustrious Sir Michael Zubiate and Lady Sue worked alongside the committee to ensure your time was well spent and enjoyable. The Aides, led by Al and Al, had a few hurdles to overcome before the weekend got started. Al had some truck issues and had a friend bring the beverage trailer to Farmington. Could you imagine a KORA Summer Ceremonial without cold beverages! As always, they did a fantastic job all weekend keeping everyone hydrated. Maybe some a little too hydrated.... Al did you find your teeth?

On behalf of your Assistant Rabban Frank Welch, Jr., Lady Pam, your Second Ceremonial Master Gordon Kimball, Jr., and the entire SC Committee we thank you all for everything and look forward to seeing you in 2026 at Bayley's in OOB.



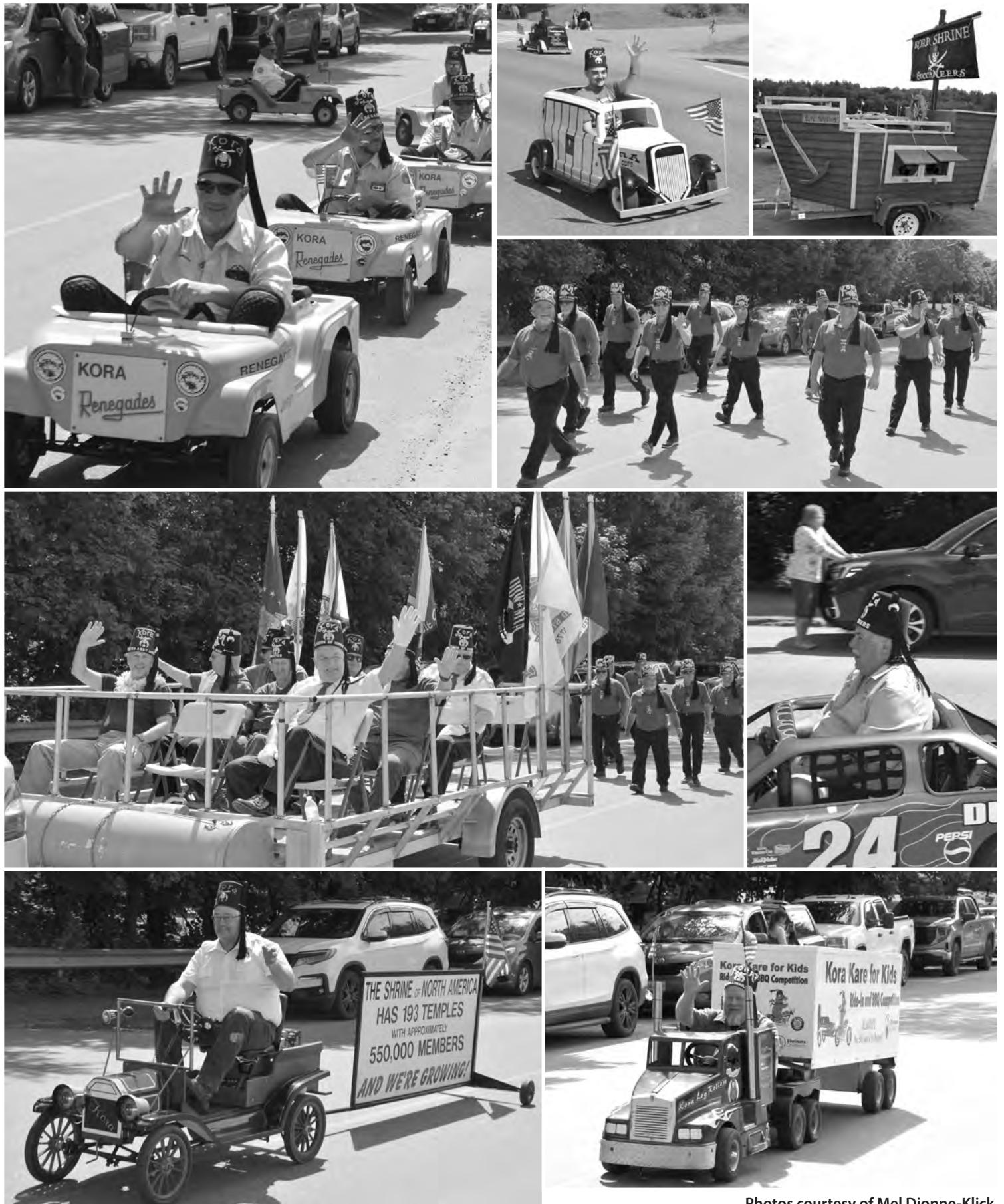
60-year pin presentation to Clyde Ross who served as Grand Marshall for the Summer Ceremonial parade Saturday, June 14th



2025 SUMMER CEREMONIAL



2025 SUMMER CEREMONIAL



Photos courtesy of Mel Dionne-Klick



On April 26, 2025, Shriners Children's New England held an open house for Shriners and their families. Illustrious Sir Mike Zubiate attended with members of Kora and their ladies, including Bo and Elizabeth Clark and their son, Carter—a patient of SCNE. Carter stole the spotlight during the hospital presentation, with his bright smile featured on the big screen.



*Recent check presentations for
Shriners Children's*





Shriners
Children's™
Official Philanthropy
of Shriners International



Kora Shrine Screening Clinics

For the past 11 months, we have worked with Shriners Children's in both Boston and Springfield. We have been connecting with local professionals at hospitals and pediatric medical offices to identify children we may be able to support.

Our team of doctors, nurses, and intake staff are getting ready. This summer, we'll reach out to local communities about Shriners Children's services for those in need. We believe local children can benefit from the medical care offered at Shriners Children's.

The first Screening Clinic will take place on Saturday, September 6, at Kora Shrine and will be held on the first Saturday of each month from 9am to 1pm. Walk-ins are accepted, but advance registration is recommended. For registration information visit korashriners.org. Registration opens August 1 for our September screening.

Shriners work to raise awareness of our support for children in need. For questions or presentation requests, contact any Board of Governors member for either Shriners Children's location. See information about hospital and Board Member on page 38 of the Sands.



Shriners
Children's™

the most
AMAZING
CARE
anywhere®

**REGISTRATION FOR THE SCREENING STARTS AUGUST 1, 2025****Shriners
Children's™****SHRINERS
INTERNATIONAL**

FREE SCREENING CLINIC FOR CHILDREN AND TEENAGERS

The Kora Shriners

are hosting a free clinic for children up to age 18. Shriners Children's clinicians will be on hand to screen children with medical needs treated by Shriners Children's.



**Saturday, September 6
9:00 AM – 1:00 PM**

**The Kora Shrine Center
11 Sabattus Street
Lewiston, ME 04240**

No appointment necessary | Walk-ins welcome
For more information, visit korashriners.org.



Shriners Children's provides specialized care for patients up to age 18, for orthopedic issues, burn injuries, craniofacial conditions, spine care and spinal cord injuries, and sports medicine. All care is provided regardless of the family's ability to pay or insurance status. More information may be found at ShrinersChildren.org.

**REGISTRATION FOR THE SCREENING STARTS AUGUST 1, 2025**



UPCOMING EVENTS

August

8-10 **Western Mountain Shrine Club Potentate's Reception and Parade**

11 **Cycle Corps Unit Monthly Meeting**
6-7 pm at Kora Temple

15-17 **Kora Ride-In and BBQ Competition**
Ossipee Valley Fairgrounds
Hiram, Maine
Enjoy a weekend of family fun, entertainment, and BBQ.
korashriners.org/koraridein/

September

8 **Cycle Corps Unit Monthly Meeting**
6-7 pm at Kora Temple

20 **Open House**
4:00-6:30 pm at Kora Temple
Welcome our new nobles and ladies
See page 19 for more information

25-28 **NSA Fall Field Days**
September 25 @ 8:00 am to
September 28 @ 5:00 pm
Summerside, PEI, Canada
Hosted by Philae Shriners of Nova Scotia
See page 24 for more information

Visit
KORASHRINERS.ORG/EVENTS
For The Most
Up-To-Date Information

October

1 **Kora – Stated meeting**
4-9 pm at Kora Temple

4 **Second Section Auction**
8 am - 9 pm at Kora Temple

11 **Fall Ceremonial**
8 am - 9 pm at Kora Temple
See page 20 for more information

12 **Cycle Corps Unit Monthly Meeting**
6-7 pm at Kora Temple

18 **100th Anniversary – SHC New England**
8 am-8 pm

19 **Boston Haunted Walk**
10 am-12 pm
The Garden at Elm Bank
900 Washington St., Wellesley, MA
See page 23 for more information

24-26 **ABK Visitation**
hosted by Bektash Shriners - New Hampshire

November

7 **Turkey Smoker**
Doors Open at 5 pm
Dinner at 6 pm
Turkey Raffle drawings at 7 pm
at Kora Temple
Androscoggin County Shrine Club

20-29 **Feztival of Trees**
8 am - 9 pm at Kora Temple
See page 25 for more information



MAINE SHRINE LOBSTER BOWL CLASSIC

Joe Hersom, President MSLBC

On behalf of the Maine Shrine Lobster Bowl Classic's Board of Governors, I would like to extend a sincere "Thank You" to every Noble that helped make 2025 and the 35th annual event such a great success. Beginning with Illustrious Sir Mike Zubiate and Lady Sue, to the Divan, the many participating units, clubs, and Nobles, this event would not be the premiere high school sporting event, nor the incredible hospital fundraiser it is, without YOU!! A huge congratulations to the MSLBC Class of 2025 participants and coaches for a record setting fundraising effort. This year, our participants worked extremely hard to fundraise until the last possible minute. The result was a total fundraising effort of over \$238,000! We thank every participant, coach, and their families for making this possible.

The week started on Saturday, July 12th, with the 20th annual MSLBC Golf Tournament. Twenty-seven teams participated and it a great day for all. Football players and coaches checked into Foxcroft Academy on Sunday morning and got to practicing right away! Cheering participants and coaches checked into Central Maine Community College on Monday and in a short time, put together their most amazing performance yet!! On Friday night, we all celebrated at the annual awards banquet at Anah Shrine Temple. After a great message from guest speaker Bill Russell (MSLBC 10 Alumni), each participant was acknowledged for their fundraising effort, and the top three fundraisers for 2025 were announced:

Charles Majkowski (Kennebunk) \$7,290

Abi Santerre (Kennebunk) \$5,280

Jeffrey Randall (Lewiston) 5,080

The Board of Governors would also like to especially thank the following: Jason Fuller, Kate Hansen, Doreen Mason, The Kora Divan and Nobility, The Anah Divan and Nobility, The Meadows Golf Club, Foxcroft Academy, Central Maine Community College, The City of Lewiston, Lewiston High School, LHS Boosters, New Balance, Pliable, Pepsi, Poland Spring, Northern Light Sports Medicine, and many, many, more. We are incredibly grateful for your efforts and support. We look forward to next year and a new record to break!

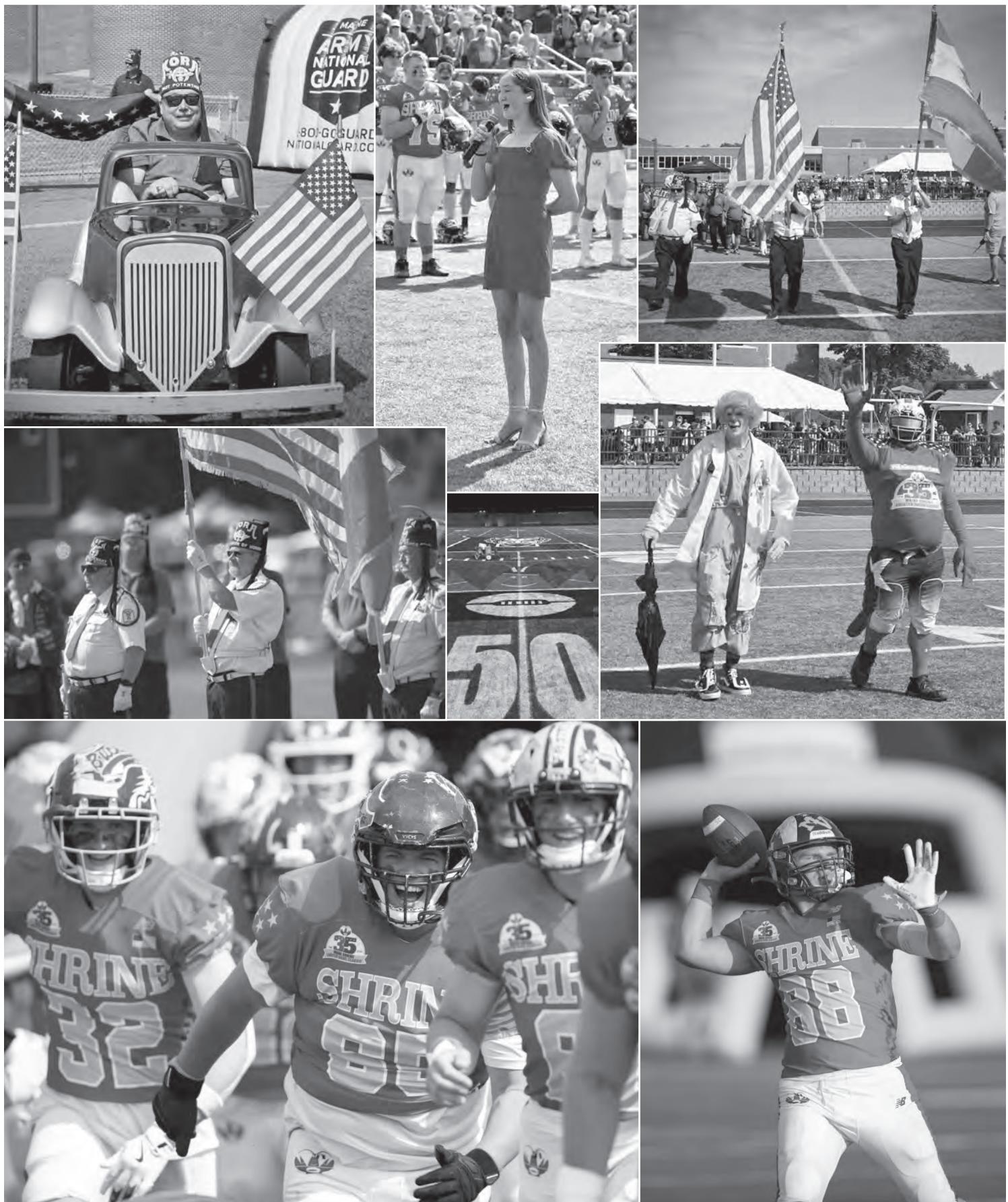


Mark Hartz, Imperial Assistant Rabban, Miss Maine's Teen Alana LaCourse, Illustrious Rick Olfene, an original founding committee member for the Lobster Bowl. Other founding committee members also present, but not pictured were Past Potentates Buster Downing and Frank Preble.





MAINE SHRINE LOBSTER BOWL CLASSIC





MAINE SHRINE LOBSTER BOWL CLASSIC





MAINE SHRINE LOBSTER BOWL CLASSIC





Open HOUSE

**Saturday, September 20th
4:00 pm - 6:30 pm**

*Welcome our
new nobles and ladies
of 2024 and 2025*

Join us for this opportunity to meet
and talk about what we do and
love about being in Kora Shrine

Open to all Masonic Communities

Divan, Committees, Units, and Clubs
are encouraged to join in
and mingle at the Temple

4:00 — Doors Open

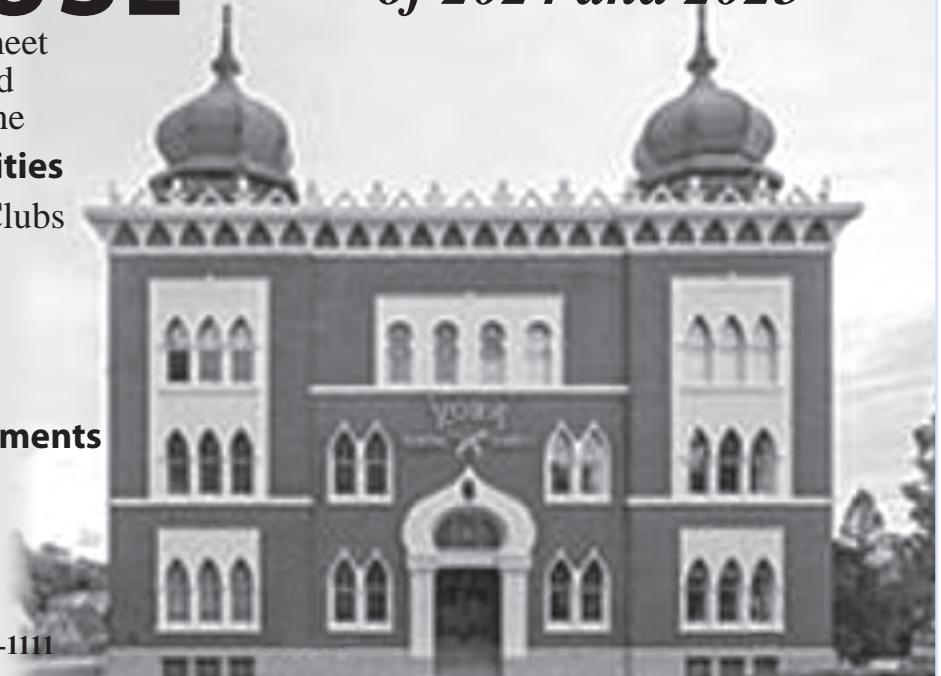
4:15 — Light food and refreshments

4:45 — Introductions

5:15 — Explore the Shrine

6:30 — Event Over

FMI contact john@blindtraffic.com or 207-951-1111



KORA KONNECT 2025 UTV PROJECT



**The Kora Connect Committee acquired a 2025
Can-Am 4 passenger Valued at \$20,600
Tickets are now on sale.**

**Drawing will be held October 11, 2025
at Kora's Fall Stated Meeting.**

Tickets 1 for \$10 or 3 for \$20.00

RULES:

Must be 18 years of age to buy a ticket.
Sale prohibit the use of a credit card.
A Debit card is allowed.
Winner does not need to be present to win.
The Winner is responsible for any taxes and fees resulting from their winning of the UTV.
The UTV must be picked up in Lewiston, Maine.

The net proceeds from this Kora Konnect Project are for the benefit of Kora Temple. Payments are not deductible as charitable contribution.





FALL CEREMONIAL

OCTOBER 11 ~ TEMPLE OPENS AT 10AM

11:00 a.m.

Ceremonial

11:00 a.m.

Ladies Program

12:30 p.m.

Lunch

2:00 p.m.

Water Buffalo Degree

5:00 p.m.

Dinner

More information coming soon
Please watch the Kora Konnections

Rise and Thrive in 2025





WATER BUFFALO DEGREE

October 11th 2 pm

This is an unofficial “Fun Degree”

Open to Masons of All Degrees and their Ladies

\$100 covers your full participation in this degree

\$55 if you are already a Water Buffalo —
Shirt, Pin, Dinner, must be verified in advance

LIMITED TO FIRST 100 PARTICIPANTS ONLY

RSVP A MUST!!

Check must be received in advance to reserve a seat.

Include your name, your email and phone number with your check

Made check payable to: Kora Shriners
(please write “Water Buffalo” in memo line)

Mail check to: Kora Shriners, 11 Sabattus St., Lewiston ME 04240

Candidates Receive:

- ▶ Participation in the Full Degree
- ▶ Authentic Water Buffalo Hat
- ▶ Water Buffalo T-Shirt
(one size fits most)
- ▶ Water Buffalo Degree Certificate
- ▶ Membership Card
- ▶ Enamel Lapel Pin
- ▶ Full Caveman Dinner





Kora Kare for Kids Ride-In and BBQ Competition

- Friday Night Parade
- Family Camping \$30/nite
- Escorted Motorcycle Ride
- Hillbilly Train Rides
- Live music
- Kidz Fun Zone – Mad Science of Maine

August 15-17
Ossipee Valley
Fairgrounds
Hiram, Maine



Help US Kare for Kids



- People's Choice Food Sampling
- KCBS Kid's Q
- KCBS Rib Competition and Auction
- KCBS (4 meat category BBQ contest)
- Blueberry Pie Eating Contest
- Pre-Holiday Craft Fair



For more information visit
korashriners.org/koraridein



BOSTON HAUNTED WALK

Join the Kora Shriners Hold On to Memories Team!

Help us raise \$7,000 for the 6th Annual Boston Haunted Walk!

When: Sunday, October 19, 2025

Time: 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Where: The Garden at Elm Bank

900 Washington St. Wellesley, MA



Family-friendly walk and fall festival benefits pediatric burn care, reconstructive plastic surgery, and cleft lip and palate care provided at Shriners Children's Boston, regardless of families' ability to pay or insurance status.



Scan the QR Code to join or make a donation to our team!

For more assistance, please contact
BostonDonorRelations@shrinenet.org, or 617-371-4717!

For more information visit BostonHauntedWalk.org



**Northeast Shrine Fall Field Days
September 25 to 28, 2025
Summerside, PEI, Canada
Hosted by Philae Shriners of Nova Scotia**

Plans are made, rooms are booked and we have over 50 Kora Nobles and Ladies traveling to Summerside in September. Information has been available in the "Kora Konnections" with details on reservations. If you STILL want go but missed the reservation dates, there may be housing available in the area. Summerside has many AirBnB and Inns in the area which you can search on line.

For future events we encourage everyone to watch the postings in the SANDS and KORA KONNECTIONS and please note the deadlines for reservations. Host Temples put a lot of effort in planning these events and need firm commitments months in advance.

A Northeast Field Days is always a FUN filled event and provides an opportunity to meet new Shrine friends and to reconnect with those you already know.





FEZTIVAL OF TREES

The Kora Shrine Feztival of Trees Committee is preparing for its 20th anniversary and exploring ways to commemorate the milestone. Our 35 members have been working to improve the Feztival with your support. Thanks to Tom and Joann Campbell, we are reaching out to sponsors earlier this year, which has shown positive results and will include additional incentives for our sponsors.

The Decorating Committee has selected "An Old Fashion Christmas" as the theme for 2025. Details are currently being finalized. The committee is also gathering photos from the past 20 years. Those with photos to contribute are encouraged to contact a committee member for a collage to be on display.

If any Noble or Lady has ideas on how to enhance and celebrate our 20th Anniversary email suggestions to korafeztivaloftrees@gmail.com.

Volunteer signups have gone well via Signup Genius, and we expect the program to be online by November 1. This year, admission time slots, tree locations, crafters, and the food court will remain unchanged. Tree sponsors and attendees gave positive feedback on visibility and enjoyment.

This edition of the Sands includes a save the date flyer you can share with friends.

2025 Kora FOT Committee 2025 Kora FOT Committee

KORA KONNECT PROJECT 2025

July 6th marks the completion of several events, including the Summer Ceremonial and Moose Lottery, both held at the Farmington Fair Grounds, and the Windjammer Days held in Boothbay Harbor, all of which were very successful. On July 3rd, we returned to our usual spot at Ricker in Turner. Thanks to all our locations for their continued support.

As of July 1, Kora units and clubs have signed out \$5,000 worth of raffle tickets. This opportunity is available to all units and clubs. For those interested in obtaining tickets, contact Bernie McAllister. Nobles may also request tickets book for sale at events in their community. Individuals who sell tickets personally are eligible to participate in a seller drawing.

Check the weekly Kora Konnection for local ATV schedule details.

This year's UTV raffle WILL NOT be available online.

With your support, we will raise funds to help Kora and our community.

Check the poster in this edition of Kora Sands and look for updates in the Konnection.

For questions or offers of assistance, please contact one of the following Nobles: Bo Clark, Tom Budek, Carl Skillings, Dave Castonguay, Mike Zubiate, Dan Labrie, Bernie McAllister, Gary Richardson, and Marc DeBlois.





GRAND MASTER'S CLASS SEPTEMBER 20, 2025 ANAH SHRINE CENTER 1404 BROADWAY, BANGOR, ME 04401

The six Scottish Rite Valleys and the two Shrine Centers of Maine are pleased to announce a statewide Grand Master's Class. We will welcome many Master Masons as new Scottish Rite Masons and Shrine Masons as we express appreciation for the contributions and accomplishments of the Grand Master of Masons in Maine, Most Worshipful Donald W. Pratt.

Schedule of Events

8am : Registration
9am : Opening and receiving the Grand Master
9am-12pm : 4th, 15th, and 17th Scottish Rite Degrees
12:00pm : Lunch, prepared by the Anah Clowns Unit
1:30pm : Introduction of the Potentates
1:45-4pm : 29th and 32nd Scottish Rite Degrees
2:30pm : Remarks by Most Worshipful Donald W. Pratt
4:15pm : Shrine Initiation
4:30pm : Social hour with hors d'oeuvres and drinks

Registration

Candidates are encouraged to register for this statewide reunion online with the websites or QR codes below.

Shrine: <https://beashrinernow.com>
Scottish Rite: <http://srnmj.org/join>

If you're planning on attending, please reach out to the Secretary of your respective Valley.



Shrine Center Contacts
Initiation fees reduced to \$125.00

Anah Shrine - 207-942-2254
Kora Shrine - 207-782-6831



Scottish Rite Valley Contacts
Initiation fees reduced to \$125.00

Aroostook - Lee Oliver, trestleboard96@yahoo.com, 207-538-7119
Augusta - Bruce Rueger, augustavalleysecretary@gmail.com, 207-314-1617
Bangor - Christopher Robison, secretary@bangorvalley.org, 207-942-0144
Portland - Michael Chambers, secretary@valleyofportland.org, 207-772-7711
Rockland - Jeffrey Sukeforth, jeffandconnie79@gmail.com, 207-691-2270
The Androscoggin - TJ Williams, secretary@valleyofandroscoggin.org, 207-357-9741



6th Annual Oxford County Shriners FEZtival of Trees

Cash Only Event

Location:

Jackson Silver Post #68 595 Gore Road Locke Mills, Maine

Dates and Times:

Friday, December 12: 4:00 PM - 8:00 PM

Saturday, December 13: 8:00 AM - 8:00 PM

Sunday, December 14: 8:00 AM - Noon

Once the room is cleared, winners will be drawn.

**Free
Admission**

Other Events:

Story Time with Santa and Mrs. Claus - Saturday starting at 9:00 AM

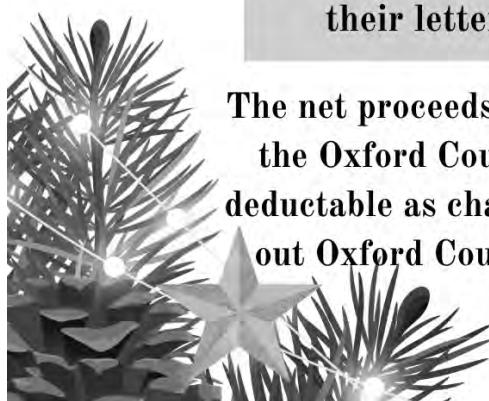
Selfies with Santa and Mrs. Claus

Children's Activity Area

**Write your letter to Santa, make a Christmas craft
and color a Christmas Picture**

**Bring your letter to Santa
and every child who includes their full name and address on
their letter to Santa will receive a letter from Santa**

**The net proceeds from the FEZtival of Trees are for the benefit of
the Oxford County Shriners of Kora Shrine. Payments are not
deductable as charitable contribution. For more information check
out Oxford County Shriners FEZtival of Trees Facebook page.**





Shriners Children's

Bentley's First Steps Made Possible Through Teamwork After Hurricane Helene

Thanks to the seamless teamwork between Shriners Children's locations across the country, Bentley received his first prosthesis just in time for his birthday, allowing him to take his first steps and avoid long-term physical challenges.

Though Tampa, Florida, is hundreds of miles from Pennsylvania, the impact of Hurricane Helene was felt all the way to Shriners Children's Erie. The Category 4 storm forced a temporary shutdown of the main Pediatric Orthotic and Prosthetic Services (POPS) central fabrication facility in Tampa, creating challenges for families like Bentley's who rely on their services in Erie.

Last October, Bentley was set to receive his first prosthetic leg, which his parents hoped would arrive in time for his birthday. However, with the hurricane closing the central fabrication facility, the Erie POPS team was uncertain they could meet the timeline.

In response to the closure of the Tampa facility, Shriners Children's Erie POPS clinicians Alex Betancourt, MS, MBA, CPO, and Hannah Clark, MS, CPO, quickly searched for a solution to ensure Bentley's parents' hopes were fulfilled. Betancourt, though in Ecuador at the time, coordinated with the East Coast POPS teams, reached out to his network of POPS prosthetists at other locations along the East Coast and connected with Brock McConkey, CPO, at Shriners Children's New England.

McConkey volunteered to take on this special project to ensure Bentley's prosthetic leg would be completed on time. "The nationwide Shriners Children's POPS team is the largest and most experienced group of pediatric orthotists and prosthetists in the country," said Betancourt.

This collaboration showcases the expertise and dedication of the international healthcare system's POPS team, ensuring Bentley's needs were met seamlessly despite the obstacles.

Bentley's prosthetic leg was shipped to Springfield, Massachusetts, where McConkey took personal responsibility for the fabrication. He worked diligently to ensure that Bentley's prosthesis was completed and returned to Erie in record time.

"In my 21 years at Shriners Children's, there is nothing more rewarding than fitting a patient's first prosthesis," said McConkey. "The fact that it was Bentley's birthday made the project even more special. Fitting a first prosthesis is an important milestone for both the child and their family. I am grateful to have played a role in making his day memorable."

At Bentley's next appointment, he received his prosthesis a day before his birthday. This timely delivery was crucial, not only for his parents, who were eager to see Bentley walk before his birthday, but also for Bentley's development. As Clark said, "Receiving a prosthetic leg early helps children avoid long-term physical challenges and facilitates easier adaptation, unlike older children who may struggle to wear their prosthesis."

During his appointment, Bentley met therapy dog Tucker, who provided entertainment while Clark explained the prosthesis care and wear instructions to his parents. As Bentley donned his new leg and played with Tucker, he took his very first steps, using his hands to guide himself along Tucker's back, all while wearing his first pair of shoes. For clinicians like Clark, moments like these serve as inspiration. "By providing tools that help patients and families achieve their goals, I get to witness the joy unfold every day and watch the remarkable progress they make," he said.

Bentley's journey to receiving his first prosthetic leg highlights the exceptional collaboration and commitment of the Shriners Children's team. Despite the unexpected disruption caused by mother nature, the POPS teams in Erie and New England worked closely together to ensure Bentley could celebrate his first birthday with his prosthesis and take his first steps.

Surrounded by his loving family, his new prosthesis and his new furry friend Tucker, Bentley's story reflects the compassion and determination that make moments like these possible, marking the beginning of an exciting new chapter in his life.





Shriners Children's

Former Shriners Children's Boston Patient Encourages Other Burn Survivors to Embrace Their Journey

Sienna was just two years old when an accidental spill of boiling honey resulted in second and third degree burns on her leg, hand and torso. Living in Ontario, Canada, Sienna's family sought treatment at Shriners Children's Boston after a lengthy stay at a Canadian hospital.

Now 21, Sienna has advice and encouragement to share with other burn survivors as she reflects on the care she received. "My journey through burn treatment has been long and sometimes difficult, but it has also been filled with support, resilience and moments of joy," she said. "Your experiences, no matter how challenging, have shaped who you are and the person you will become. Embrace your story and the strength you have gained from it."

The youngest of four children, Sienna's burn injury occurred when her siblings were making breakfast early one morning. Her sister heated honey in the microwave, causing a hole in the bottom of the container. When Sienna's sister removed the jar with oven mitts and discovered the container had melted, she ran into a nearby bedroom, where Sienna and her mother were still sleeping. As she attempted to hand the container to her mother, the hot liquid spilled on Sienna.

Upon their arrival at the nearest emergency department, Sienna's mother was told they would have to take an air ambulance to a children's hospital in Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada. Sienna's father, a mine manager, got an emergency radio call underground directing him to drive to the airport immediately. He arrived in time to meet Sienna and her mom on the tarmac. In Winnipeg, the family learned that Sienna had suffered second and third degree burns and required skin grafts.

After many weeks in the hospital, Sienna's mother began searching for pediatric facilities that could help her daughter's burn injuries heal properly. She was referred to a local shrine center which offered support and suggested she contact Shriners Children's Boston. Sienna traveled to Boston with her mom for follow-up appointments every six months until she turned 6 years old. "The cost of travel and lodging was covered, which was a huge help," said Sienna.

Sienna's care team at Shriners Children's Boston monitored her healing and provided a care plan for scar management, including compression garments. They also presented options for future care. "During my last appointment, we discussed the option to get laser treatments when I turned 16," she said. "The goal was to reduce the thickness and appearance of the scars with a series of treatments."

After discussing it with her family, Sienna decided to email her nurse care manager, Sandy Barrett, BSN, RN, CCM, when she turned 16. Sandy worked with Sienna's family to navigate pandemic travel restrictions and arrange for her treatment series to begin. Grateful for the opportunity to continue her care journey, Sienna said, "The fact that Shriners Children's Boston gave me the opportunity to feel better in my own skin is something I will never forget."

Returning to Boston after a ten-year absence brought back many fond memories for Sienna. She enjoyed visiting her favorite places each time she returned for laser treatment, including TD Garden. "My whole family has always been big hockey fans, but more specifically Bruins fans," she said. "Having the opportunity to go to many games definitely helped keep a smile on my face through treatment."

Above all, it is Sienna's care team that she remembers with the most gratitude. "The members of my care team that made the biggest impact were Branko Bojovic, M.D., and Sandy Barrett," she said. "Sandy guided me every step of the way, and her visits and hugs post-op always put a smile on my face. Doctor B. was very clear and concise, so I knew exactly what to expect before, during and after surgery. He is very interested in the lives of his patients and is such a kind man."

Today, Sienna enjoys an active lifestyle and cherishes the time she spends with her nieces and nephews. She is starting a post-secondary program in social work, fulfilling a desire to help people in her community. Now that her care journey at Shriners Children's has ended, she has words of support for other burn survivors. "Life may have thrown you a scary curveball, but healing is possible, especially with care from Shriners Children's. I promise you that although it may not seem like it now, you will treasure your time spent, the people you meet, and the experiences you gain through your time at Shriners Children's Boston."





Our past potenteate doesn't like to get wet.



CRAZY COPS

by William Brochu, Scribe

Here we are, wrapping up another year of parades across the area. The weather was much better than in the past few years. We will do a couple of hot laps at the fairs and pack things up for the season. Our work doesn't end though. We will just transition indoors at the Shrine. Events really get going at Kora, which is a lot of work and a lot of fun.

Crazy Cop members continue to be active in so many ways, working at events, cooking in the kitchen, selling raffle tickets, on and on. The legacy of the unit continues with some striving to lead Kora as the Potentate. Several members have been there and done that already which is notable for the unit. Their dedication to Kora is amazing.

We encourage everyone to stay active at Kora. Sands, Kora Konnection, or Kora's webpage are all good resources to stay informed of upcoming events. All the events require bodies to pull things off. Don't be shy of lending a hand and helping out.

Crazy Cops have a couple Facebook pages. We update them with parade photos and events. Any noble interested in becoming a Crazy Cop member or associating with the unit, please reach out. Stay safe friend and keep connected for upcoming events at Kora.

KORA FACTS & FIGURES

by Lenny Perkins, Scribe

Greetings! By now, hopefully you all know that the Facts & Figures Unit is back and going strong. This is a result of the great support that we have received over the last several months. I'd like to extend my gratitude to Carl Pinkham and Wayne Akerly of Kora Cycle Corps for all their work in getting the F&F cars ready to be on the road. It has been nice seeing them participating in parades once again. Outstanding work, guys!

I'd also like to thank Ill. Potentate Mike Z and the Kora Divan for their financial support, as well as John Mellor for his donation to the Unit, which has helped with the expenses of getting the cars in shape. In addition, the Oxford County Shrine Club made a generous donation of support...Brothers helping Brothers...it doesn't get any better than this.

Marc DeBlois, Director of the Cycle Corps, and the KCC unit members have all

stepped up in a number of ways to help get Facts & Figures on the road.

Their assistance has made all this possible.

And, I extend my appreciation to Marc's lady Ann Boudreau, for designing the new logo for Facts & Figures, it looks great. We hope to soon have shirts available for anyone who drives one of the cars in a parade – it will be nice to have a "uniform" look!

Last, I want to thank the members of Kora's nobility who have driven for Facts & Figures in the summer ceremonial parade as well as the other parades we have been in so far. It really does make a heart feel good to know that we are all there for each other. For anyone interested in learning more about Facts & Figures, or looking to help out during a parade, please give me a call at 207-212-3638. The more, the merrier!





MIDCOAST SHRINE CLUB

by Dennis Boyd

After several years of inactivity, the Midcoast Shrine Club is back up and running. Nobles from the Midcoast area have been meeting regularly at St. George Lodge, 105 Camden Road, Warren, ME 04864, on the fourth Thursday of every month. If you are anywhere between Brunswick, Belfast and Augusta come join us for fun, fellowship and food. For more information, contact Dennis Boyd at 207 380 3099 or dennis.boyd39@gmail.com for more info.

PROVOST

by Jeff Peaslee, Chief Provost

*Over hill, over dale,
Thorough bush, thorough brier,
Over park, over pale,
Thorough flood, thorough fire,
I do wander every where,
Swifter than the moon's sphere...*

~Shakespeare

*What's the use of crying, in a Yesterday that's gone?
What's the point of worrying, in a Tomorrow not yet born?
Why not live in bliss and joy and peace?
In the present moment be happy, be happy, can we please?
Be happy in the NOW, that's the only way to be
Don't be worried in tomorrow, to there we cannot see
Don't rehearse the past that's dead and gone
Be happy in this moment, as if we were just born...*

~Unknown

Or at least this is how I feel. It's been a busy late spring and early summer thus far.

Let us investigate how far we have travelled since last I scribed:

We covered,

- Outdoor Expo
- A hypnotist
- A comedian
- A Kora Wedding
- Cold Sands and the fezzing of a future unit member
- A Kora Kentucky Derby
- The Rainbow Conclave
- A summer ceremonial (I got to dunk His Illustriousness), and....a great shout out to Honorary Noble Ryan Cote who was in his glory spinning platters and talking what matters
- We will be at the Lobster Bowl.

We welcomed Noble Dustin LaBrie as a new member at the ceremonial and Noble Neal Coro as an associate member soon thereafter. I believe I am somewhat remiss in failing to mention Noble Joe Gorman joined our ranks during the winter. (are you listening Danny?)

Our deputy chief, when not attending to his Provost duties, has been spotted operating a vehicle for the Facts and Figures Unit, on the 4th and again during the Moxie Day washout, we perambulate not only within our own bounds...

Noble Randy Williams has been spotted out and about, keep up the Kora therapy brother.

Please keep Brothers Mike Arsenault and Jim DuFresne in your thoughts.

Remember brothers, we are all in this together, together for the kids. Just because the time of darkness is upon the lodges, remember your oaths and vows, wear your aprons every day, if only in your mind. Plan to get back to labor and represent all that is good in our Fraternity.

You know how to find us....





KORA BUCCANEERS

by Gene Tanguay, Director

With summer finally upon us, the Buccaneers 2025 parade season has begun. As usual, Memorial Day in Old Orchard Beach was the first parade for us. It was a beautiful day, with lots of people on the sidelines cheering us on and thanking us for coming. Thank you to Brandon and Kenneth for coming out to represent the Buccaneers. It is always a pleasure to honor our Veterans on this very special day by participating in this parade.

The next event for the Buccaneers and all of Kora was the Kora Summer Ceremonial. The Buccaneers had representation for all aspects of the weekend. All of the meals were amazing thanks to our very talented Kitchen Crew. The parade was fabulous and we enjoyed entertaining the people on the sidelines. There were many great activities but the highlight was the Buccaneers being able to put on the "Salty Dog Degree" for many of the Nobles and Ladies attending the Summer Ceremonial. Thank you to Kenneth and Adam for helping Lorraine and I put on this "Fun Degree." Congratulations to all those who walked the plank, dug for buried treasure and survived a fatal shot. We hope we are able to put the degree on again in the future.



Lady Lorraine and I had the opportunity to attend the 2025 Imperial

Session in Atlanta, Georgia. We had a great time and participated in many of the activities associated with the Imperial Session. We had the opportunity to meet up with shrine friends that we have through our travels. Imperial had a spectacular parade that lasted about an hour and a half that highlighted some unusual Shrine Units and Clubs. It was nice to converse with other pirate units from around the country. Congratulations to our New Imperial Potentate Brad Koehn and his Lady Cheryl. We hope they have a wonderful year.

Our next parade was Moxie Days. What a day to remember! The day started out a bit overcast but when it came time to step off, the clouds opened up and the rain came down! As we turned the corner onto the parade route the thunder and lightening started. It poured during the entire parade and finally let up when the parade was ending. The rain did not deter the spectators from coming out and coming up with some ingenious ways to deflect the soaking rain. Thanks to everyone who came out to see the parade.

Some of our upcoming events include the Lovell Parade, The Maine Shrine Lobster Bowl, Wilton Blueberry Festival and the Western Mountain Shrine Club Parade in Wilton to name a few.

We are always looking for new members, so if anyone out there is interested in becoming a Buccaneer and joining the fun please contact me at buccaneersgene@gmail.com. If you are unable to walk a parade route, we can always use a driver.

KORA SHRINE BAND

By Noble Steve Peterson - Sec'y

Kora Band is in the middle of our 2025 parade season. We played during the Summer Ceremonial but were unable to have enough musicians to participate in the Ceremonial Parade.

We have already performed at a few events this Summer. Our first event was the Lewiston Memorial Day Ceremony, see picture. We were fortunate to have a few of our Kora Band Friends play with us. We will be parading in the Casco Days Parade at the end of July and will be playing in the Fryeburg Fair's Parade in October. Our numbers are small but we are trying our best to help support Kora the best that we can.

The band is looking for new members, so if you have ever played an instrument, we welcome you to join the band unit or just "sit-in" at any of our rehearsals or meetings. Even if you are in another unit and play an instrument, we would love to have you sit in with us, this includes your Shrine Lady as well! We especially need help



when it comes to "Shrine Only" events such as our Ceremonials. For civic parades, we can reach out to local musicians to help compliment our numbers. For more details and exact meeting dates contact Steve Peterson (Band Sec'y) at 713-5318 or e-mail at sales@down-east.com. Don't forget to stop by and visit us in the band room at the top of the stairs, our door is always open and the music is always on!



GREETERS UNIT

Submitted by Marc Gilbert, Scribe

Summer is here now. The lakes, ocean and gardens are ready to enjoy. The seasons are a gift and a curse. We have seen a slow start to the growing season, but my tomato plants seem to enjoy the warm weather and have an abundant number of blossoms.

Speaking of blossoms, this is a good time of year to let new relationships blossom within the shrine. It is a good time to become involved with various events like the Lobster Bowl and the Kora Shriners Ride-In and Barbecue. The Greeters support these events by helping with various duties as requested by the Potentate. That is how I became a Greeter, my good friend and I asked if we could provide a helping hand at the Lobster Bowl, and the Greeters put us to work selling tickets and checking people in.

I met my first Shriners child at that event when a four-year-old walked up to me and tugged on my pant leg and said thaank youuuu. It was barely understandable. I asked her mother what she was trying to say. Her mother explained to me that the child was thanking me for her clef pallet surgery that the Shriners Hospital had provided the child with at no cost. Without that surgery, the child's mother would not have been able to adopt her. What a moving experience for me.

Let's not forget why we became Shriners. It's for children. Many children with medical problems need us. So, don't sit on your laurels. Get up and find a way to help these children in whatever way you can by becoming involved with a Unit. The Greeters Unit has been a good fit for me, but there are many units to explore. And, most of all, remember to have fun while helping the children that we have been tasked with helping.

TURKEY GOBBLAH CLAN #187

by Scott Ainsworth



Save the date, September 20th.

Come reunite with your cousins
from near and far.
We are looking for
new cousins as well.
Want to be a Kora Hillbilly?

Ma and Pa degrees will be conducted on
this date for any Shriner
and their significant other.
More information to follow.

Kora DeMolay Council's Annual DeMolay Breakfast

Sunday, October 5, 2025
8 am to 11 am

Kora Shrine Temple
11 Sabattus Street
Lewiston, Maine



\$10.00 per person
(kids \$5.00)

All you can eat Breakfast!

All are welcome to attend so invite
your family and friends.

Come Support
Maine DeMolay Association
& Kora DeMolay Council



KORA RENEGADES

By Rich Otten, Scribe

Wow, what a great start to the summer! We'd like to thank Potentate Mike, Lady Sue and the Kora Divan for a wonderful Summer Ceremonial in Farmington. We welcomed five of the new Nobles to our Renegade family, and all have been participating in the recent parades. One of the highlights was seeing young Everett Beals emerging from the hot sands and being greeted by his father Tim with an emotional hug. Everett is the 4th generation of the Beals family to be a Renegade; following his dad, grandfather Ellis, and great grandfather J. Everett (Red) Ridley Jr. who was a founder of our unit.



We are halfway through parade season and have had a great time entertaining the young and old around southern Maine. Our members have opened their homes to some great post parade cookouts where families share some camaraderie, laughs and family fun.

We look forward to the upcoming events at the Temple, Lobster Bowl, and various Shrine Clubs. We hope everyone has a safe and fun summer as we move into fall!



KORA MINI-RACERS

By Brandon Richardson, Assistant Director

The Kora Mini-Racers are rolling full throttle through parade season!

With most of our cars and our golf cart passing inspection with flying colors, we've been tearing up the streets and turning heads at every event. The unit is growing quickly, but we're always looking for new members and drivers to join the fun.

A special thank you to the dedicated members from other units who have stepped in to help us fill every seat and deliver an unforgettable show in each parade. Your support has been instrumental in bringing this unit back to life.

The Mini-Racers would also like to thank Perry Palmer for the very generous donation of our new trailer! Thank you Perry





KORA KLOWNS

by Rick "Divot" Green, Scribe



The KORA KLOWN UNIT starts off the parade season a lot like NASCAR with our largest parade being the first event of the year. Like a good parent we will always say that we love all of our events equally but there is a strong connection within the Klown Unit to the Lisbon/Lisbon Falls communities that make the annual Moxie Day Parade a little more special. As you can see from the turnout, the Kora Klowns were in full force to the point that we might need to consider upgrading our Klown Cart.

Like many of the other units, the next few months will be very busy and require a significant amount of time and energy to keep things running smooth. As our fearless leader once said, "Many hands make light work" and we thank and commend everyone for their dedication and commitment to supporting the Kora Shrine and our great cause. Hanging out at "camp" after, definitely helps as well, even if you don't feel 100% the next day!

As of now, it is all thumbs up as we prepare for our 2025 season and we look forward to seeing everyone out on the parade routes!

As always, if you are interested in being part of the unit with the most expensive makeup at the temple, please feel free to speak to any one of our KLOWN members or email Ryan "Checkah" Robitaille, at Lisbon52@gmail.com.





DRIFTERS

by Dan Guilmette, Scribe

It's mid-summer and our parade season is in full swing. We have had some great parades so far and some interesting weather. This year's Moxie Parade was a wet one but did not dampen our spirits. Plenty of smiles and cheers from parade spectators and I have to say this unit had a great time playing in puddles and putting on a show. It's been a while since we have been that wet in a parade. We are looking forward to the next few parades, the Kora Shrine Lobster Bowl and the Kora Kares for Kids Ride-In and BBQ Competition. I know I'm ready for some BBQ...

We also want to welcome a new member John Dyke and his lady Sabrina. John has jumped in with both feet and is driving our golf cart for now but I have a feeling it won't be long before he is getting sideways with the rest of us :-). Welcome to the family John and Sabrina. And to all Kora Shriners and your ladies, have a wonderful summer, be safe and have fun!!!!



MOTOR CORPS

By Kevin T. Cole, Scribe

At a recent meeting at the temple, we resolved that all of our vehicles should be inspected for safety before participating in any parade. The last thing we want is for someone to be hurt by one of our vehicles. Noble Jon Lizotte was appointed to conduct the inspections. He has tiny Motor Corps stickers to verify that an inspection has occurred. If your vehicle has been inspected recently by a licensed shop, Jon won't need to conduct a separate one. Some of us, however, are driving antique vehicles that do not require inspection by a State-licensed shop, those are the ones that should be inspected by Noble Jon. If Jon is unavailable before a parade, you might be able to get it inspected by a state shop. If it fails for non-safety related reasons, then please keep the inspection results and bring them to the parade to demonstrate that. Let's do our part to keep all parade watchers safe.

See you on the highway!





Jeff and Robbie giving the trucks a final once-over before the Windham Parade.

LOG ROLLERS

by Jamie Marshall, Scribe

We welcome Past Potentate, Illustrious Sir Rob McKinley and his Lady Debbie. Robbie has long been a frequent participant with the Log Roller Unit, and we are glad he chose our unit to call home.

Weather has been mostly cooperative, with the exception of the latest parade at the Moxie Festival. To all those who participated, whether a Log Roller or any other Shrine Unit, and by the power vested in me by King Neptune himself, I bestow upon you the Royal order of the Deep for your participation in this parade. What a wet one ... I was soaked through and through in every crack and crevice, from my head to my toes. I must say I was expecting a smaller crowd than we had. Although there were less than in previous years, those that remained were highly enthusiastic and made the drenching worthwhile.



We continue the never-ending task of maintenance on the trucks in hopes that we minimize breakdowns and maximize our time on the road so we can gather those extra applause from the crowd as they watch the unique maneuvers of the Log Rollers extraordinaire. If you are interested in becoming part of a very active unit let us know, there are more than a few rigs in mothballs that can be resurrected for your driving pleasure. Just reach out to our Unit Director, Ron Guptill, and he will make it happen.

KORA HIGHLANDERS

by Chet Matthews, Chief Highlander

La' Math (good day) Noble Lads & Lassies

It was a great start to the season with our annual Saint Patrick's performances at the Eagles Club in Westbrook and Gritty McDuff's in both Auburn and Portland. As in past years, 100% of all donations received from those events go directly to our hospitals. Participation in the Old Orchard Beach Parade in May followed, and we now move on to improving our skills, expanding our repertoire and recruiting new musicians.

Several of our members have been invited to play at the opening of this year's annual Chief Justice's Conference to be held on July 27th at the Samoset Resort in Rockland. Chief Justices from all 50 States and US territories will be attending.

The Highlanders get together at the temple most Sunday evenings at 6:30 for practice, camaraderie and fun. So, if you think the Highlanders might be the place for you, or if you would just like to learn more about us visit us at one of our practice sessions. Contact Chief Highlander, Chet Matthews (207)8412474, cwmatt@comcast.net or any Highlander for more info.

Until next time, Slainte mhath (good health) and Sealbh m ath dhuit (good luck)



"And they are off" Highlanders at the Memorial Day Old Orchard Beach Parade



CYCLE CORPS

by Bob Levesque, Scribe

Summer is in full swing and parade season is upon us. The Cycle Corps has been busy this year with lots of fun stuff and team building. Marc DeBlois is keeping the boys on track for another fun year. We had a great showing at the Summer Ceremonial in Farmington this year. Our very own Assistant Rabban, Frank Welch and Lady Pam, along with a host of others did a great job planning and running Potentate Mike and Lady Sue's event. The parade was well attended by the town and Kora had a lot of units participating. Kudos to Bernie, Timmy, Mike R., Adam, and the rest of the committee, it truly takes a village.

Our parade coordinator Chris has us lined up for a bunch of parades this summer season. Looks like it will be a banner year for parades. We have been to the Old Orchard Beach Memorial Day Parade, as well as the Summer Ceremonial Parade, we even attended the Anah Summer Ceremonial and Parade after we received a personal invite from Potentate Ryan Otis, it was a great time for the boys, The 4th Of July Parade in Augusta, The Moxie Festival Parade in Lisbon, which turned out to be quite a soaker of a rainstorm. Brady calls it the Soggy Bottom Boys Parade, which is apropos. Carl has done a fabulous job getting the old Rupp Roadsters, road worthy again this year. Carl is doing double duty, as he is also keeping the Facts and Figures carts and truck running like tops. We are working diligently to keep all these machines running safe for the guys in our units as well as the safety of the crowds that come to cheer us on.

We are still planning to attend the Richmond Parade, the Wilton Blueberry Parade, the Balloon Festival Parade and maybe a couple others. We love to spread the good word about Shriners Hospitals and the Kora Temple. By the time this gets to you, the Lobster Bowl will have come and gone. What a great event for the State of Maine, Kora Temple, Anah Temple and the Shriners Hospitals. It looks like it will be an amazing day weather wise and I'm sure the game will be great. What a great opportunity to get the next generation involved in the good work we do on a daily basis. I have talked to many kids who have played in this game in years past and they all have said it is a life changing event, you can't beat that kind of praise.

Mike and Sue continue to do a great job with the Temple and I'm sure the rest of the year will be wonderful. There were a bunch of new Nobles initiated at the Summer Ceremonial and we hope they all jump in with both feet and join in the fun and fellowship. Remember everyone, new members are how we keep this fraternity thriving into the future, so let's help them find a home in one of our units or groups.

We hope to see everyone out this summer at one of the parades having fun. Reach out to a KCC member if you are interested in joining this unit or just want to find out more about us. We have way too much fun...

Remember to always walk and act like a Mason and enjoy every day God gives you.

Until next time KCC Mr. Scribe





**Do you or have you ever play an instrument?
Do you miss "making sweet music"?**

If so, you are invited to come and "sit in" with the band at any of our rehearsals. There is no commitment to join the "Band Unit", so we welcome members from other units. So please feel free to stop by the Band room (at the top of the stairs) and check us out.

For more information on our upcoming dates please contact Steve Peterson, (207)713-5318 or email at sales@down-east.com.

HELP SUPPORT OUR SANDS!

Ad Rates for the Sands
(per issue)

Full page ~ \$300
7.75" wide x 9.5" high

Half page ~ \$200
7.75" wide 4.75" high or 3.79" wide x 9.5" high

Quarter page ~ \$100
7.75" wide x 2.375" high or 3.79" wide x 4.75" high

Business card size ~ \$50
3.79" wide x 2.25" high

Email ads to Office@korashriners.org

The Black Camel

January 1 through July 15

Please note: We continue to receive notification of Nobles passing in previous months and will include them in the Necrology when received



Noble Name	Date of Passing
Allan J. Benner	10/10/2024
Francis M. Brown	1/14/2025
Alton R. Bryant	2/4/2025
Kurt R. Campbell	5/5/2025
Robert C. Carleton	5/27/2025
III. Douglas C. Cooper	4/26/2025
Past Potentate 1980	
Esau Cooper, Jr.	2/8/2025
Royall M. Dodge	1/12/2025
Richard L. Duplisea	3/24/2025
Joseph T. Foster	2/10/2025
Martin E. Gibbs	2/7/2025
Robert L. Goding	3/1/2025

Alden Grant	3/6/2025
Robert C. Huntington, Sr	12/28/2024
Melville C. Jones, Jr	2/14/2025
David J. Lepage	1/13/2025
Frederick R. Maitland	3/23/2025
Nelson M. Peters, Jr.	2/13/2025
George W. Rugh	4/10/2025
William W. Sprague	6/28/2025
Robert D. Steele	10/6/2024
George E. Walker	10/2/2024
Harry D. Walker	4/12/2025
Peter White	4/11/2025
Herbert A. Young	1/21/2025

"DEATH IS A BLACK CAMEL THAT KNEELS UNBIDDEN AT EVERY GATE"



PETITION FOR INITIATION AND MEMBERSHIP SHRINERS

TO THE POTENTATE, OFFICERS AND NOBLES OF _____ SHRINERS,
SITUATED IN THE OASIS OF _____, DESERT OF:
_____.

I, the undersigned, hereby declare that I am a Master Mason in good standing in _____
Lodge # _____ located at _____ City _____ State _____

which is a Lodge recognized by or in amity with the Conference of Grand Masters of North America. Furthermore, I have resided at my current address for not less than 6 months, as required by the Bylaws of The Imperial Council. I respectfully pray that I may be made a Noble of the Mystic Shrine, and become a member of your temple.

If I be found worthy, and my request granted, I promise to conform to the Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws of The Imperial Council and the Bylaws and Ceremonies of your temple.

Birthplace _____ Date of Birth _____

Were you ever a DeMolay? _____ If so, what was the Chapter name and location? _____

Profession or occupation _____

Have you previously applied for admission to any temple of the Order? _____

If so, what temple? _____ When? _____

Residence Address: _____
Street _____ City _____

County _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Business Address: _____
Street _____ City _____

County _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Business Phone: _____

Mail Address: _____

Home Phone: _____

E-mail Address: _____

Wife's name: _____

Date _____ 20 _____ Signature _____

Print Full Name Here _____
Name in full, initials not sufficient

Recommended and Vouched for on the Honor of Noble _____

Noble _____

Fez size: _____ Method of payment _____

Applications for Shrine membership may also be made at BeAShrinersNow.com



KORA SHRINE BOOSTERS

A

Allen, Lonnie & Beverly 12/25
In Memory of Laurence S. Allen, Sr.
Anonymous 11/30
Anonymous 5/35

B

Badger, Ash & Marie 3/26
Barden, Thomas & Christine 12/25
In Memory of "Pop" Gilbert
Bonney, Charles & Sharon 8/26

C

Cote, David & Donna 5/26
Crane, Bob & Diane 10/25
In Memory of Bill & Ruth Crane
Cullen, Kevin D. 01/29

D

Dionne, Philip A. 06/26
Drouin, Claude R. 08/25
Durgin, David & Lisa 04/26

F

Fales, Eileen M 12/25
Fales, Thomas H 12/25
Feyler, Jay 6/26

G

Gardner, Paul & Michelle 04/27
Gellatly, Joan 01/26
In Memory of Oriel F. "Bud" Gellatly

H

Hall, Bunky & Marion 12/25
Hanslip, Joseph 08/25
Head, David A. 11/25
In Memory of Rep. Frances M. Head
Herrick Jr, Terri & George 12/25

I

Irish, Barry & Debbie 5/26
Irish, Claire 5/28
In Memory of Richard "Dick" Irish

S

Scottish Rite of Maine 12/25
Smith, Les & Gail 2/26
Swett, Kathy 12/25
In Memory of Carl (Doc) Swett

J

Jordan, Bob & Harlean 8/26

W

Welch, Jr., Mr. & Mrs. Frank P. 12/27

K

Kearley, Roland 05/27
In Memory of Janice Kearley
Kinnear, Claudia 12/25
Kora Buccaneers 2/29

L

Lewis, Richard & Diana 5/26
Lord, John & Barbara 11/26
Lorleberg, Thomas 2/27
In Memory of Gloria J. Lorleberg
Lovett, Walter 2/26
In Memory of Honorable Glenys Lovett

M

Macomber, Bruce 2/27
In Memory of Viola, Alden
& Peg Macomber
McDonough, John & Helene 5/26
McKenna, Bob & Jean 12/25
McWilliam, Robert & Karen 8/26
Melvin, David B. 8/25
Mitchell, Frank & Ruth 6/25
Moore, Kevin & Brenda 11/26
Morgan, Robert 11/24
In Memory of Marilyn Morgan

P

Perkins, Laurence & Nancy 5/28
Perry, Crawford & Kathe 8/27

R

Ridlon, Chuck & Sally 2/26
Roy, Michael & Tracey 09/27

ONE YEAR BOOSTER RATES

One line (single name or Mr. & Mrs.) is \$20.00. If you want your name and your Lady's name on separate lines, it is \$30 for two lines.

Make check payable to:

Kora Shrine Center,
11 Sabattus Street
Lewiston, ME 04240-7090

If you have enrolled as a Kora Sands Booster and your name has not been listed, please notify the Kora office and the situation will be corrected.

KORA SANDS BOOSTER SIGN UP

Name (s):

Check Amount: \$ _____



KORA SHRINE CENTER

11 Sabattus Street
Lewiston, Maine 04240-7090

Fax: 207-782-2870

207-782-6831

www.korashriners.org



OFFICE HOURS

Mon-Thurs 7:30am to 4:00pm
Closing daily between 12:30 and 1:30
Fridays Closed

ELECTIVE DIVAN

Potentate	Michael Zubiate
Chief Rabban	Michael Robitaille
Assistant Rabban	Frank Welch, Jr.
High Priest & Prophet	Barry Irish
Oriental Guide	Ryan Sherman
Treasurer	Paul Gardner, P.P.
Recorder	John R. Knox, P.P.

APPOINTIVE DIVAN

1st Ceremonial Master	Ben Weisner
2nd Ceremonial Master	Gordon Kimball, Jr.
Marshal	E. Andy Caron
Captain of the Guard	Michael Klick
Outer Guard	Bo Clark
Chaplain	Eugene Tanguay
Ceremonial Director	Robert Farrington
Chief of Staff	Steven Peterson

HEADS OF UNITS

Units Colonel	***
Units Lt. Colonel	***
Aides - Chief	Al Milburn
Arab Patrol	Richard Libby
Band	Cal Yeaton
Buccaneers	Eugene Tanguay
Crazy Cops	William Brochu
Cycle Corps	Marc DeBlois
Drifters	David Bucknam
Facts and Figures	Leonard Perkins
Funsters	Adam Tanguay
Greeters	Jason Davis
Highlanders	Chester Matthews
Karts	Matt Ouellette
Klowns	Ryan Robitaille
Legion of Honor	Michael Clinton
Log Rollers	Ron Guptill
Medical Unit	David Saphier
Mini Racers	John Mellor
Motor Corps	Thomas Budek
Provost	Jeffrey Peaslee
Renegades	Ron Bolduc
Second Section	Brian Craig

E-MAIL ADDRESSES

Potentate (Michael Zubiate)	potentate@korashriners.org
Recorder (John Knox, P.P.)	recorder@korashriners.org
Office Manager (Kate Hansen)	khansen@korashriners.org
Webmaster	webmaster@korashriners.org
Kora Sands	sands@korashriners.org

HOSPITAL INFORMATION

Shriner's Childrens - Boston	617-722-3000
Member Board of Governors	David Saphier
.....	Charles Bonney
.....	Rob McKinley, P.P.
Associate Member	Bernie McAllister
Shriner's Children - New England	800-322-5905
Member Board of Governors	Brent Tanguay, P.P.
.....	Randy Williams
Associate Member	Dana Brown

HEADS OF CLUBS/OTHER

Androscoggin County Shrine Club	Frank Welch, Jr.
Cash Calendar Club	Gary Robinson
Communications Committee	Frank Welch, Jr.
Cumberland County Shrine Club	Ron Guptill
Donor Relations	Tim Luttrell
Feztival of Trees	Marc DeBlois / Bernie McAllister
Foundation	Barry Gates, P.P.
Hillbilly Club	Steve Zimmerman
Hospital Committee	Tim Luttrell
Insurance Committee	Dick Albert
Kampers	Dan Beardsley
Kare for Kids Ride-In	Brent Tanguay, P.P.
Kora DeMolay Council	Peter Provencher
Kora Kitchen Club	Michael Bolduc
Kraftsman	Tim Turner
Lobster Bowl	Joe Herson
Membership	Brad Johnson
Midcoast Shrine Club	Dennis Boyd
Outdoor Expo	Pat Penley
Oxford County Shrine Club	Rob McKinley, P.P.
Trustees	Daniel Labrie
Western Mountain Shrine Club	Glen Gibson
Widows Club	Eileen Fales
York County Shrine Club	Linwood Dall

KORA SANDS DEADLINES

October 15th, 2025 ~ to cover December, January, February

January 15th, 2026 ~ to cover March, April, May

April 15th, 2026 ~ to cover June, July, August

July 15th, 2026 ~ to cover September, October, November

Please e-mail articles and photographs to:

sands@korashriners.org

Kora Sands editor: Doreen Mason

Published four times a year by Kora Shrine Center



20th ANNUAL



- 60 Decorated Trees
- Food Court
- Craft Fair
- Photos with Santa and Mrs. Clause
- Entertainment



SCAN FOR TICKETS

Kora Shrine Center
11 Sabattus Street, Lewiston

Admissions Tickets
Available Online Only
\$6/Person
FREE 12 & UNDER
visit korashriners.org/feztival

THANKSGIVING WEEK

Friday, November 21st - 9am - 8pm
Saturday, November 22nd - 9am - 8pm
Sunday, November 23rd - 9am - 5pm
Monday, November 24th - 9am - 8pm
Tuesday, November 25th - 9am - 8pm
Wednesday, November 26th 9am - 8pm
Closed Thanksgiving
Friday, November 28th - 9am - 8pm
Saturday, November 29th - 9am - 5pm





Kora Shriners
A.A.O.N.M.S.

John Knox, P.P., Recorder
11 Sabattus Street
Lewiston, ME 04240-7090

NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION

U.S. POSTAGE

PAID

AUGUSTA, MAINE
PERMIT NO. 275

TURKEY Smoker

Open to all Kora Shrine Members,
Families, and Friends

Friday, November 7, 2025

Tickets go on sale Monday, September 15

Doors open & games start at 5:00 PM
Dinner served at 6:00 PM
Turkey Raffle Drawings at 7:00 PM

This fundraiser helps raise proceeds for
the Androscoggin County Shrine Club

\$25 each

Available for sale through
ACSC board members and
Kate in the Shrine Center office

A cartoon turkey with a red body and orange feathers is standing on a red ticket stub.