

MIDIAN Topics

vol. 80

issue 2

February 2025

Wichita, Kansas

POTENTATE'S MESSAGE



SCOTT SHIRKEY

And we're off! It's been a whirlwind start to the year, but we've had an absolute blast along the way. Illustrious Sir **Harold** and Lady Phyllis wrapped up the year with the "Thanks for the Memories" party. A heartfelt thank you to both of you for all your incredible contributions over the years—2024 was truly great!

At the 2024-awards night, Illustrious Sir **Harold** had the honor of awarding Noble **Steve Towns** the prestigious Shriner of the Year title. Congratulations, **Steve**—that's an extraordinary achievement!

We once again triumphed in the elections of officers, and we celebrated with a fantastic installation ceremony. Master of Ceremonies Illustrious Sir **Fred Smith** orchestrated the event with finesse, and Illustrious Sir **John Auch** served as the Installing Officer. We wrapped things up enjoying some delightful treats prepared by the Midian Chefs at the reception. I am deeply honored to have been installed as the 2025 Potentate of Midian Shrine.

The launch event was a success, with a remarkable turnout. We have an exceptional group of leaders for our units and clubs this year, and I am eagerly anticipating all the wonderful things we will accomplish together. Let's thrive in 2025!

Scott Shikey
Midian Potentate 2025

Congratulations Illustrious Sir Scott Shirkey



2025 Installation



Topics Reporters:

YOUR ARTICLE FOR THE MARCH 2025 TOPICS IS DUE
FEBRUARY 15, 2025
e-mail to topics@midianshrine.org
300 words or less in lower and upper case (not all capitals)

Midian Shrine 2024 Shriner of the Year



Congratulations Steve Towns!

“PLANE OF MERCY” DONATIONS

THROUGH 1/23/25 VANCE BURNS, CHAIRMAN

*Our sincere thanks and appreciation to all who support the mission of the Plane of Mercy.
Your generosity is appreciated more than we can say.*

- | | |
|--|--|
| <p>DONATIONS</p> <p>Michael R. Baldwin
Noble Kevin Pistotnik
Noble Robert D. Giesen
& Lady Judy
Helen Dennett Trust
Noble Don Bush
Bryan T. McCoy</p> | <p>SHRINERS CHILDRENS
HOSPITAL</p> <p>Charles Banks</p> |
|--|--|

SHRINERS CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL IN MEMORY OF (through 1/23/25)

- | | |
|--|---|
| <p>NOBLE JACK BRUNER
B&R Radiator</p> | <p>NOBLE ANDREW JOHNSON
Michael & Melanie Huff</p> |
|--|---|

In Memoriam

Through January 23, 2025

NAME	BORN	CREATED	DECEASED
Noble Lewis F. Hillard	11/30/1934	05/16/1964	12/29/2024
Noble Boyd W. Ayer, Sr.	04/21/1947	02/27/1984	01/04/2025
Noble Michael L. Decker	03/31/1957	11/05/1988	01/15/2025
Noble Eric C. Menne	07/03/1942	05/11/1974	01/17/2025

RECRUIT A SHRINER

Midian Shrine Tentative Schedule of Events

Subject to change

<p>FEBRUARY</p> <p>Sun 2/9 Superbowl Party - Midian 12:00 pm Wed 2/19 Stated Meeting - Mecca 7:30 Sat 2/22 Potentates Ball - Holiday Inn East Kellogg Fri-Sun 2/28-3/2 Dodge City Circus - Dodge City KS</p> <p>MARCH</p> <p>Sat 3/15 St Patty's Party - Midian Wed 3/19 Stated Meeting - Mecca 7:30 Fri-Sun 3/21-23 CSSA Mid-Winter - Des Moines IA</p> <p>APRIL</p> <p>Tue 4/15 Easter Egg Stuffing Event - Midian 6 p.m. Wed 4/16 Stated Meeting - Mecca 7:30 Sat 4/19 Easter Egg Hunt - Orchard Park</p> <p>MAY</p> <p>Fri 5/2 Pre-Glow - Midian 5:30 p.m. Sat 5/3 Spring Ceremonial - Midian 8 a.m. Sat 5/3 New Ladies Information - RCB 10 a.m. Sat 5/3 Spring Ladies Luncheon - RCB 11:00 a.m. Sat 5/3 Spring After-Glow - Midian 5 p.m. Sat-Sun 5/16-18 Winfield Golf - Winfield Wed 5/21 Stated Meeting 25 & 50 Yr - Mecca 7:30 Wed-Sun 5/28-6/1 Potentates Trip - Vegas</p> <p>JUNE</p> <p>Wed 6/18 Stated Meeting Fri-Sun 6/20-6/22 Shrine-Bowl - Dodge City Sun-Thurs 6/29-7/3 Imperial Session Atlanta - Atlanta Ga</p> <p>JULY</p> <p>Wed 7/16 Stated Meeting - Mecca 7:30 Fri-Sun 7/18-7/20 Mystery Trip - ???</p> <p>AUGUST</p> <p>Fri 8/1 Sportsman's Event Set-up - Cessna AC 4 p.m. Sat 8/2 Sportsman's Event - Cessna AC 11 a.m. Sat 8/16 Margaritaville EOS Party - Midian</p>	<p>Wed 8/20 Stated Meeting - Mecca 7:30 Wed-Sun 8/27-31 CSSA Des Moines IA - Des Moines IA</p> <p>SEPTEMBER</p> <p>Sat 9/13 Post CSSA - Midian 6 p.m. Wed 09/17 Stated Meeting - Mecca 7:30 ??? Family Day ???</p> <p>OCTOBER</p> <p>Sat 10/4 Octoberfest Theme Party - Midian Wed 10/15 Stated Meeting - Mecca 7:30 Sat 10/25 Halloween Party - Midian</p> <p>NOVEMBER</p> <p>Fri 11/7 Fall Pre Glow - Midian 5:30 p.m. Sat 11/8 Fall Ceremonial - Midian 8 a.m. Sat 11/8 New Ladies Information - RCB 10 a.m. Sat 11/8 Fall Ladies Luncheon - RCB 11 a.m. Sat 11/8 Fall After Glow - RR Inn Sat 11/15 Veterans Party - Midian Sun-Thurs 11/16-20 FOT Set-up - Midian 11 a.m. Wed 11/19 Stated Meeting - Mecca 7:30 Thu 11/20 FT Set-up, Lay snow, chains & ticket buckets - Midian Fri-Tue 11/21-25 Feztival of Trees - Midian Fri-Sun 11/28-30 Feztival of Trees - Midian</p> <p>DECEMBER</p> <p>Sat 12/6 Divan Christmas Party - RHCC Sat 12/13 Childrens Christmas Party - Midian 10-12 Sat 12/13 Aides Appreciation Party - Midian 1-3 Wed 12/17 Stated Meeting - Mecca 7:30</p> <p>JANUARY 2026</p> <p>Fri 1/09 Awards Banquet - Midian 6:30 p.m. Sat 1/10 It's a Rap & Roast Party - Midian 6 p.m. Wed 1/21 Stated Meeting - Mecca 7:30</p>
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MIDIAN TOPICS



"I pledge allegiance to my flag and country for which it stands, one Nation under God, indivisible, with Liberty and Justice for all."
Midian TOPICS (USPS 347-600). Published monthly by the Midian Shriners, 130 N. Topeka, Wichita KS.
 Printed by Valley Offset, PO Box 298 Valley Center, KS 67147.
 Under the auspices of Midian Shriners. Periodicals postage paid at Wichita, Kansas.

SUBSCRIPTION RATE...\$4.00 PER YEAR
 \$4.00 of the Annual Membership Dues is paid as a Year's Subscription
 to the Midian "TOPICS"

**POSTMASTER: Send address
 changes to Midian Topics, 130 N. Topeka, Wichita, KS 67202.**

Official Publication of Midian Shriners
 Wichita, Kansas 67202
 MIDIAN SHRINE, 130 NORTH TOPEKA
 topics@midianshrine.org

Recorder's Office.....265-9676 ext 204 and 205
 Oasis.....265-9676 ext 209

VOL. 80, NO. 2

FEBRUARY 2025

<p>ELECTIVE DIVAN</p> <p>Scott Shirkey.....Illustrious Potentate Richard Steele.....Chief Rabban Jim Hallberg.....Assistant Rabban Steve Juilian.....High Priest & Prophet Jeremy Woodson.....Oriental Guide Lyn Ungles PP.....Treasurer Wayne Wells PP.....Recorder</p> <p>PAST IMPERIAL POTENTATE Jeffrey L Sowder 2019 – 2020</p> <p>CEREMONIAL DIRECTOR EMERITUS Ron Van Etten, P.P. Fred Smith P.P.</p> <p>RECORDER EMERITUS Michael J. Kelley, P.P.</p> <p>LIVING PAST POTENTATES</p> <p>James B. McNemey.....P.P. 1984 Stephen A. Wolf.....P.P. 1985 Tonk Mills, D.D.S.....P.P. 1992 Berkley Conn.....P.P. 1995 Warren R. Rensner D.D.S.....P.P. 1998 Martin L. Sharp.....P.P. 1999 Michael J. Kelley.....P.P. 2001 Ron L. Capps.....P.P. 2002 David A. Schopf.....P.P. 2003 Jeffrey L. Sowder.....P.P. 2004 Gary K. Gates.....P.P. 2005 John Auch.....P.P. 2006 Ron Van Etten.....P.P. 2008 David Byerley.....P.P. 2009</p>	<p>APPOINTIVE DIVAN</p> <p>Jim Underwood.....First Ceremonial Master Ron Parker.....Second Ceremonial Master Fred Smith P.P.....Ceremonial Director Ian Cazabat.....Marshal Richard Hubbard.....Captain of the Guard Shaun Reeves.....Outer Guard George Finley.....Chaplain</p> <p>SOCIAL MEDIA Bryan Bird</p> <p>CHIEF AIDE Matt Cook</p> <p>TRUSTEES Ray Richecky ~ Kent Butz</p> <p>TRUSTEE EMERITUS Robert Giesen</p> <p>TREASURER EMERITUS Bob Bulman</p> <p>Richard C. Schopf.....P.P. 2010 David Pate.....P.P. 2011 Terry Schrant.....P.P. 2012 Lonnie Nichols.....P.P. 2013 Ed Day.....P.P. 2014 Wayne Wells.....P.P. 2015 Alvin "Bart" Ogden.....P.P. 2016 John "Rocky" McWilliams.....P.P. 2017 Jay Danler.....P.P. 2018 Norm Conley.....P.P. 2019 Fred Smith.....P.P. 2020 Lynn Ungles.....P.P. 2021 Mark Butterfield.....P.P. 2022 Robert Bair.....P.P. 2023 Harold Brewer.....P.P. 2024</p>
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ENDOWMENT/WILLS/GIFTS HUGH GILL, IV

STATEMENTS OF THE OWNERSHIP, MANAGEMENT, CIRCULATION, ETC., required by the Act of Congress of August 12, 1970, Section 3685, Title 39, United States Code of MIDIAN SHRINERS of Wichita, Kansas, for October 1, 1988 State of Kansas, County of Sedgwick

Membership Minute

2024 Membership in Review

Congratulations Nobles on a solid performance in building Midian Membership this past year. Having said that, we must improve our efforts to level out our losses year after year and turn the corner to where we gain membership each year.

How to do this?

- Double our efforts in using the Membership Cards when we meet possible candidates.
- Follow-up with those candidates and remind them when our Masonic Information Nights are.
- Let them know if the Masonic Information Nights don't fit their schedule, we can arrange a 1 on 1 get together.
- Encourage other Nobles to be involved with our efforts. If we look at the statistics, only a small percentage of Nobility is fully committed to our mission.
- Visit Blue Lodges and make them aware our mission is a cooperative effort and not a competitive effort. We want to improve their membership. Offer to set up Masonic Information Nights at the Blue Lodges

Why?

1. Build a Stronger Fraternity and in the process Build a Better World

1 man at a time!

(Aren't we all better men for our choice to be a Freemason and Shriner?)

2. Support a cause Bigger than ourselves! Shriners Children's

Assisting our Shrine Children live a more fulfilling life 1 Child at a time!

3. Improving Midian membership improves our financial position!

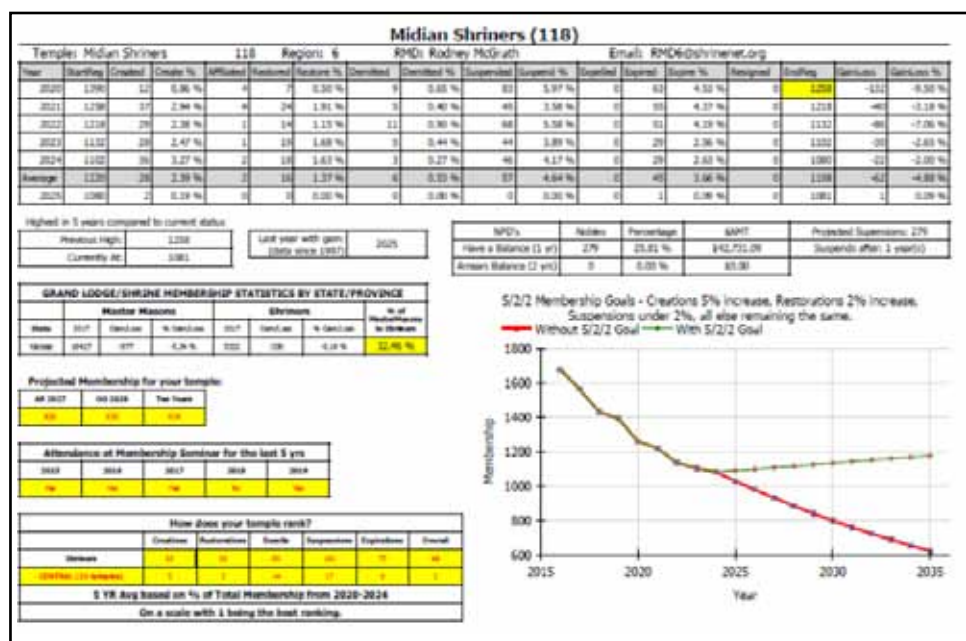
There are likely many more ways to improve our membership and many more benefits as well. We need all of Nobility's help in our mission!

If you have ideas let our membership committee members know. You can email me at lwungles@gmail.com or contact any of the 2024 team members as we have kept the same team with a few tweaks.

Look over the Membership Chart that accompanies this article to see how we have been doing over the past few years. This past year shows 36 new Nobles, 2 Affiliates, 18 Restorations. We experienced a net 2% loss of members for the year, which is the lowest percentage in the past few years. Our problem is the Red Line in the chart. If we continue our losses and don't double up on our efforts, we drop too quickly. This chart is also available on WebFez as a copy of a pdf is a bit hard to read.

Let's Thrive in 2025

Lynn Ungles



Monthly Dues Payment Plans

Midian is excited to offer its members the ability to pay dues on-line or select a monthly payment plan for their dues. This is through PayPal and is very secure. You do not need a PayPal account but it's recommended. Please note that the total amount you pay is \$10 a year more than your dues. This is to help pay for the cost of this platform and you can cancel anytime. If you have a PayPal account, enter your email, if you don't click pay with credit card.

There are 5 options to enroll based on your situation. Just go to midianshrine.org and click the "Pay Dues" button to sign up!

OPTION 1: Stay current on Midian dues. Enroll and current dues are paid. Enrollment time is January through June.

- You will pay \$30 a month for the next 6 months which will pay your next year's dues. After the 1st 6 months of \$30 you will be charged \$15 a month which is applied to your future year's dues.

OPTION 2: Stay current on Midian dues. Enroll and next year's dues are paid. Enrollment time is June through December.

- You will pay \$15 a month for the next 12 months which will pay your following year's dues. After the 1st 12 months you will continue to be charged \$15 a month which is applied to future dues.

OPTION 3: Stay current on Midian dues. Enroll and pay next year's dues. Enrollment time is June through December.

- You will pay \$180 now plus \$15 a month for the next 12 months which will pay your following year's dues. After the 1st 12 months you will continue to be charged \$15 a month which is applied to your future year's dues.

Option 4: Pay Annual Midian Dues. No Enrollment time. This is a one-time payment and not a subscription.

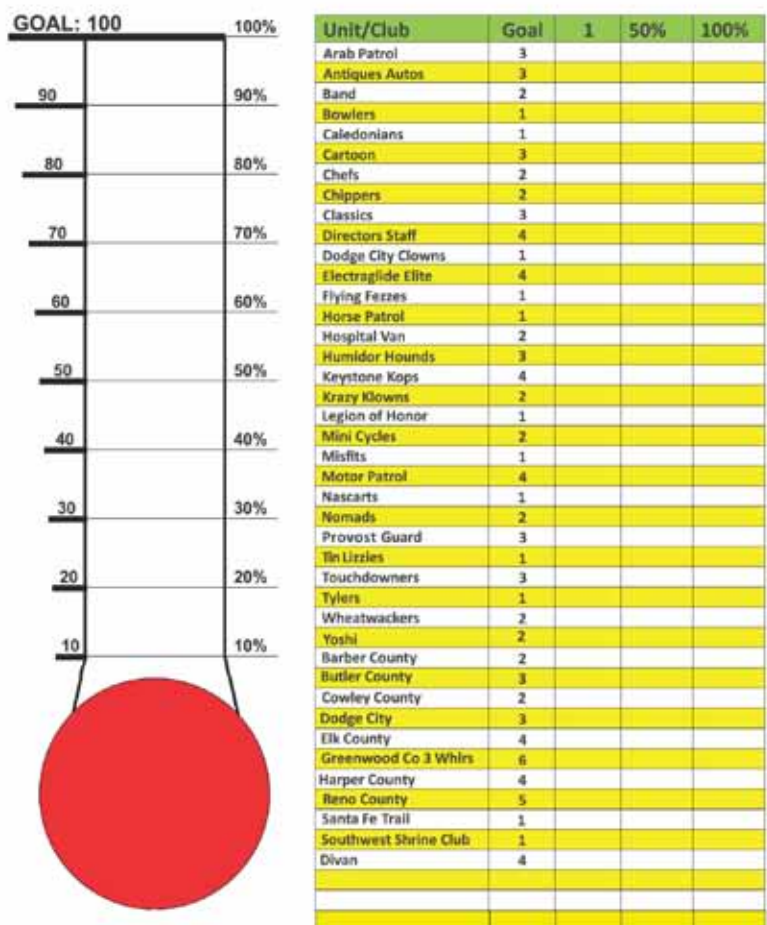
- You will pay \$180 for one month which will pay your annual dues.

Perpetual Life Membership Payments. Enroll anytime.

- You will pay \$375 now which will pay your dues for the next two years. Then you will pay \$163.09 a month for the next 23 months. This will pay your dues for Perpetual Life.
- Program is non-Refundable.

Gold Rush to Success

2025 Membership Goals



For MEMBERSHIP information

or assistance please call:

- Jeff Sowder 620-583-4228
- John Auch 316-259-6092
- Lynn Ungles 316-640-0607
- Bart Ogden 316-648-6525
- Kent Butz 316-706-6290

CLUBS

Greenwood County 3-Wheelers

CARL "C.F." COX
Reporter



January is already behind us and that brought the official passing of the torch for our leadership team. Our 2025 officers were formally installed at Midian in January and are Nobles: **Scott Starkey**, Captain; **Steve Richard**, Lieutenant; **Jeff Sowder** PP, Secretary; and **Jed Morse**, Treasurer. Congratulations to Noble **Scott Shirkey** on being elected and installed as the 2025 Potentate! Let's all get behind our leadership team and have a great 2025!

As we closed out 2024, the 3-Wheelers received the Scimitar Award for attaining our goals of participation, fundraising and membership. This is an award we can all be proud to receive! Special thanks to our Captain, Noble **Travis Wyss** and Lady Tamara for your leadership as well and now Past Potentate Noble **Harold Brewer** and Lady Phyllis for another great year of Shrine fun and fellowship, and all you did for Greenwood County and being "one of us". Please don't be strangers and come to see us often.

Lady Melinda Nichols, her daughter Kelsie, daughter-in-law Staci and her three daughters made a girl's trip to Pasadena

Ca. in December to work on the Shrine Float for the Rose Bowl Parade. What a great experience for all of them.

If you are still in the market for a bike, the unit has a couple for sale. We have two Big Reds; a 250cc and a 200cc that have been acquired by the club and are basically parade ready. We also still have a few sets of new tires for those of you that are running on slicks and need to get your bike ready for parade season. Please see any of the officers if you are interested in these items.

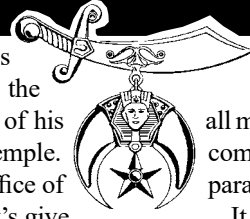
Last but certainly not least... Don't forget your special person this month and celebrate Valentines Day. I am testing to see who reads this article... When you see me, tell me how you plan to celebrate and let's see who plays along.

Our next regular meeting will be February 12th at the Shed, with hospitality at 6:00 and a meal and meeting to follow. The meal will be a covered dish soup supper. Please bring you favorite soup. Hope to see you there!

UNITS

Midian Classics

#2 ON THE LIST
Reporter



Congratulations to Classics Noble **Steve Towns** for receiving the Shriner of The Year award for all of his work this past year for Midian Temple. **Steve** was also re-elected to the office of treasurer for the Classics Unit. Let's give new Classics member Noble **Jayson Moffett** a warm welcome to the Unit.

The first meeting of 2025 was very informative. Deep discussion lasted late into the night as the gavel was handed over to the

new President **Robert Giesen**, who will soon be sending a list to all members the parade schedule for the coming year. It was duly noted the first parade will be sometime in the Spring.

It is reported that this reporter will soon be driving a 1942 Packard 21 Convertible Coupe in the Spring Ceremonial parade.

Don't forget to check your car for anti-freeze leaks.



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ATTENTION MASTER MASONS:

Keep looking, Masonic prospects are everywhere! You do not have to be a detective to search out new Masons. Don't forget to look in your family treethat is where the best prospects are hiding!

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We make good men better

Antique Autos

KEE CLAAR
Reporter



The New Year is here and we are off and running. The January meeting had to be rescheduled due to the ice and snow storm we had. We finally had our meeting January 13th.

Antique Auto's dues are \$50, and \$25 for Veterans. They are due the end of January and considered late beginning February 1st.

Please bring proof of insurance to Midian so they may take a copy and give you your 2025 parade sticker.

The new club shirts are here and need to be picked up and paid for.

We had 33 attend our Christmas party this year at the Candle Club. I know it is early to start thinking about Christmas parties for this coming year, but we want you to save the first Saturday in December (December 6th) for our Antique Auto Christmas party.

The social for February will be the Chili Cook Off. It will be held at the shrine on

February 9th from 1 to 4, before the Super Bowl game. Come sample some chili for \$5 or enter your own special chili for \$10.

Potentate's Ball is February 22nd at the Holiday Inn East.

February 28th is the Dodge City Shrine Circus.

Birthdays: Lady Melodee Armfield

Sickness: Noble **Randy Edwards**, Lady Pam Edwards, Noble **Willie Williams**, Noble **Elscott**, Lady Sheila Orr, Noble **Carl Donham**, Noble **Ian Casabat** and Lady Melodee Armfield.

See ya all at the next Antique Auto meeting February 3rd at 7 PM in the Isis Room.

Motor Patrol

RUSTY BUCKET
Reporter



Happy February! 2025 started off with an ice and snowstorm.

Several members braved the weather and icy conditions for their monthly meeting on January 6th. Captain **Chad Tompkinson** along with **Alvin Turner** made the trip from Harper Kansas. **Lynn Ungles**, **Jeremy Woodson**, **Mark Kastens**, and **Kent Butz** also showed up for great food and fellowship.

At the December Stated meeting, Imperial Sir **Jeff Sowder**, as Membership Chairman for 2024, congratulated Captain **Jeremy Woodson** for obtaining the unit's member-

ship goal for the year. Excellent job and thank you! We do not want to rest on our membership laurels though, keep looking for men that will make good Masons and Shriners.

Steve Julian was our Liaison last year and did an extraordinary job. It was great to have someone that looks good in a cowboy hat as well as their fez. Thank you **Steve!**

Something to think about: Valentine's Day is February 14th, the Potentate's Ball is February 22nd. Tickets to the Ball for Valentine's Day – Priceless.

Provost Guard

BRIAN CAVANAUGH
Reporter



The TOPICS article submission deadline is here again and so is my writer's block. All my great ideas and inspiration for this article are buried under the polar ice cap that is Wichita in January.

The year started with the Midian Awards banquet on Friday January 3rd. Provost Guard Marshal **Mark Seaman** accepted the 2024 Simitar award for the unit. Several Provost members were recognized for their 2024 Sportsman's Event ticket sales.

Provost member **Steve Towns** received the prestigious Shriner of the Year Award. Congratulations **Steve** for all that you do!

You are truly an inspiration to us all.

The Provost Guard is hosting the 2025 Fun Shoot at STC. It will be held Saturday May 10th.

This is always a great time. Please visit our Facebook page for signup information or if you'd like to sponsor a station. All Midian Units and Clubs should field a squad and compete in this great event!

The Provost Guard meets on the first Wednesday of every month @7:30 at Midian. Please join us for a meeting and/or dinner beforehand in the Oasis.

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Fundraising: On-line donation campaigns and ticket sales featuring Pledge-Drive software.

Embroidery and Screen Printing: Caps, Shirts, Jackets, Lapel Pins, Mugs and More

Be a HERO to a Shrine Child



Midian Shriner Drivers Wanted

We need Shriners and Ladies to help transport our patients to Shriner's Hospital in St. Louis.

Ages 18-80 with time to volunteer.

Please contact Julia at

pom@midian.kscoxmail.com or

Mark at mark.midian.mail@gmail.com



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
FEBRUARY						1
2 ELECTRA GLIDE ELITE MONTHLY MEETUP & RIDE	3 ANTIQUA AUTOS YOSHI KOPPETTES KEYSTONE KOPS	4 BAND REHEARSALS	5 PROVOST GUARD MOTOR PATROL TOUCHDOWNERS	6 DIRECTOR'S STAFF	7 SCOTTISH RITE REUNION	8 SCOTTISH RITE REUNION
9 SUPER BOWL PARTY	10 DON PATROL ARAB PATROL	11 TRUSTEES HOLDING CORP / BOD KRAZY KLOWNS BAND REHEARSALS	12 MOTOR PATROL BOD CHEFS CLASSICS MINI-CYCLES GREENWOOD COUNTY LEGION OF HONOR DODGE CITY COWLEY CO	13 CARTOON FLYING FEZZES HARPER COUNTY HORSE PATROL	14 ELECTRAGLICE ELITE	15 TOPICS DEADLINE
16	17 DON BAND OFFICERS HUMIDOR HOUNDS NASCARTS	18 KULINARY KUTIES BAND REHEARSALS MASONIC INFO NIGHT	19 TILERS DIVAN/LADIES STATED MEETING	20 LOS WAYS AND MEANS WHEATWACKERS NOMADS	21	22 POTENTATE BALL
23	24	25 BAND REHEARSALS	26 CALEDONIANS KRAFTY KREW HOSPITAL VAN DRIVERS	27 MISFITS	28 BUTLER CO DODGE CITY CIRCUS	

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
MARCH						1 DODGE CITY CIRCUS
2 DODGE CITY CIRCUS	3 ANTIQUA AUTOS YOSHI KEYSTONE KOPS KOPPETTES	4 BAND REHEARSALS	5 MOTOR PATROL TOUCHDOWNERS PROVOST GUARD	6 DIRECTORS STAFF	7 LOS PRACTICE	8 LOS INSTALLATION BARBER COUNTY CALF FRY
9	10 ARAB PATROL DON PATROL	11 TRUSTEES HOLDING CORP / BOD BAND REHEARSALS KRAZY KLOWNS	12 MOTOR PATROL BOD CHEFS CLASSICS MINI-CYCLES GREENWOOD COUNTY LEGION OF HONOR DODGE CITY COWLEY CO	13 CARTOON FLYING FEZZES HARPER COUNTY HORSE PATROL	14 ELECTRAGLIDE ELITE	15 ST PATTY'S PARTY TOPICS DEADLINE
16	17 DON BAND OFFICERS HUMIDOR HOUNDS NASCARTS	18 KULINARY KUTIES BAND REHEARSALS MASONIC INFO NIGHT	19 TILERS DIVAN/LADIES STATED MEETING	20 LOS WAYS AND MEANS WHEATWACKERS NOMADS	21 CSSA MID-WINTER	22 CSSA MID-WINTER
23 CSSA MID-WINTER	24	25 BAND REHEARSALS	26 CALEDONIANS KRAFTY KREW HOSPITAL VAN DRIVERS	27 MISFITS	28 BUTLER CO	29 DON INSTALLATION
30	31					

Presenting.....



**THE 2025
MIDIAN SHRINE
POTENTATE'S BALL**
Vegas Style

**Illustrious Sir Scott Shirkey
& First Lady Tasha invite you to join
them Saturday February 22, 2025**

**HOLIDAY INN EAST WICHITA
549 S ROCK RD 316-686-7131**

*Doors open 5:30 ~ Introductions 6:30 ~ Dinner 7:00
Dance following until 11:00 featuring King Midas & The Mufflers*

\$70 per person, hotel rooms available \$125.00

**FLASHY & CLASSY FORMAL ATTIRE
(VEGAS STYLE)**

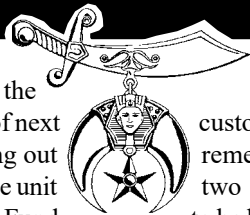
Arab Patrol

NORM CONLEY P.P. Reporter

The patrol supported the January Stated meeting presenting the flags. The captain filled out the list of next years' officers and worked on filling out the form for the Scimitar award. The unit presented checks for the Sunshine Fund, Operating Budget and report on the \$1500 donation of the FOT to the operating fund and the support to the Shrine Bowl sponsorship. At the Awards banquet our own Noble **Nick Rhorer** won top salesman. The Patrol met its goal for membership and was recognized. The Patrol also was presented the Scimitar Award for participation at events. The Patrol has earned a Scimitar award since it was first conceived. The Arab Patrol congratulates 2024 Shriner of the Year Noble **Steve Towns**

Patrol ladies Amber West, Traci Danler, Anita Simpson, Jackie Wilson, Teresa Rensner, Lesa Fisher, Michelle Tomes, Ashley Hughes and Melanie Rhorer were at the Christmas party. The pictures show our ladies and men at the party and Divan Liaison **Steve Julian** and Lady Sissy and the Captain **Brian**, Jamie and Lady Amber at the Party.

Captain **Brian West**, PC **Kyle Rhorer**, Nobles **Nick Rohr**, **Jamie West**, PC **Dick Simpson**, **Gabe Hughes**, **Doc Rensner**, **Lloyd Geist**, **Gary Tomes**, **Ron Fisher** and



PP **Jay Danler** were at the party. The captain received a custom 18-month calendar for him to remember this year by. He received two framed pages from the calendar to be hung in his garage. I believe they were excited or shocked when they realized the pictures were taken at their home while they were on a cruise. Needless to say, the home is not open to the Patrol now.

Installation saw an integrated honor guard of Keystone Kops and Arab Patrol in class B usher Potentate **Scott Shirkey** in and PP Harold Brewer out. The Kops did not want the Patrol to carry swords. We are not sure they trust us.

Spanky (**Bill Stevenson**) and Dottie need good thoughts. Candy Mitchell is recovering. **Devon** and Beth **Olson's** daughter Katlyn has not had a seizure from a mysterious malady for seven months and seems to be doing better. Our own Past Captain **Kyle Rhorer's** sister-in-law passed followed by his sister in short succession. Vet. Patrolman **Ron Fisher's** lady Lesa is having problems with her throat. Our Lt. **Devon Olson** had his 3rd shoulder surgery. Keep these people in your thoughts and prayers.



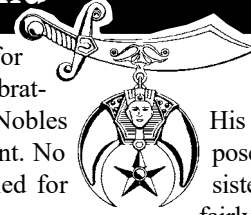
Million Dollar Band

RICK MILHON Reporter

Last month the main event for the Million Dollar Band was celebrating Installation. We played as Nobles and Ladies gathered for the event. No other performance was scheduled for January.

We returned to rehearsals: Polkatz and Dixiekatz alternating Tuesdays nights at 7 in the Mecca Room; Polkatz first and third, Dixiekatz second and fourth; The Concert Band at 7pm on Thursdays at Horace Mann School...except that first week in January when we canceled because of weather/road conditions. Rehearsals continue this month as above.

The musician we're featuring this month was a child prodigy. At age five he was competent on keyboard and violin and had begun composing music. Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart




was born in Salzburg in what is now Austria on January 27, 1756. His father, Leopold was a minor composer and a violinist who taught older sister, Maria Anna, and Wolfgang. As is fairly common knowledge in Wolfgang's short 35-year life, he composed many works: symphonies, concertos, smaller ensembles, operas. Wolfgang married Constanze Weber in 1782. They had six children of whom only two survived infancy.

On 14 December 1784, Mozart became a Freemason, admitted to the lodge Zur Wohltatigkeit. He went to meetings and a number of his friends were Masons. Mozart died December 5, 1791.

The 1984 movie "Amadeus" although not entirely accurate historically is an engrossing take on the life of Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart.





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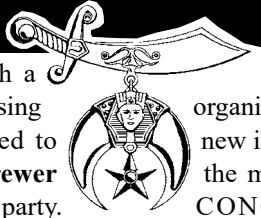


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Keystone Kops

BOBBY "TURF" DUKES
Reporter



Well, 2025 started off with a typical Kansas winter storm, causing cancellations, but soon returned to normal with Ill Sir **Harold Brewer** and Lady Phyllis "we're done" party. Thank you both for a great year and enjoy your return to normalcy. Everyone had a great time and even though we couldn't get Ill Sir **Harold** to buy a round with his year end "bonus" the Kops still had a gift of gratitude for him. **Steve Graham, Jeremy, Hurley** and **Bobby** presented Ill Sir **Harold** with his very own "Dang Kops' whistle". We know he enjoyed it because of his big smile after blowing his own whistle. It's fun when you're the one with a whistle, isn't it sir.

The Kops are excited working to prepare for our very own Kop, **Scott Shirkey**, being installed as Midian's 2025 Potentate. This is a first for the Kops and we are extremely Proud of **Scott**. **Scott** has worked very hard for the Kops and Midian over the years. His working in the background

over the years, leadership and organizational skills have and will bring new ideas and changes for Midian and the membership. You've earned this. **CONGRATULATIONS SCOTT!**

Wishing you a great year.

The Kops are also planning their own installation of Chief **Heath Catron** and his Officers. Congratulations Heath and we likewise wish you a great year leading the Kops. If you don't have any gray hairs yet, just wait. Likewise, we hope Chief Rabban **Richard Steele** is ready to be the Liaison of the funniest Unit in Midian.

It's tough being a Kop; Congrats **Fred Smith**, the winner of the Kops grill raffle. **PP Harold** keep blowing that whistle if you want to "feel the love". A huge THANK YOU to Arab Patrol for the Brotherly Love by allowing the Kops to line up with you for **Scott's** installation. See ya all at the Super Bowl party. The Kops will be there to "test your luck".



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Noble Bill Bair

Noble Bob & Lady Mandy Bair

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| Bradley D Clites | Harold R Farrier | Richard A Rhodes |
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| Cameron H Ferguson | James J Kelly | Robert C Kurtz |
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| Daryl A Crotts | Kyle L Jones | Terry W Garman |
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| Eric M Stromquist | Michael S Campbell | William J Helkenberg |
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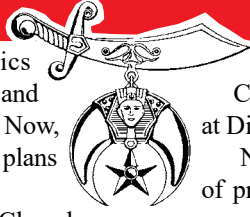
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LADIES

Arami Court

JAN HIEBERT, PGHP
Reporter



I'm sure from previous Topics it's apparent that 2024 was a busy and successful year for Arami Court. Now, it's time to look forward to all the plans for 2025.

First, we must thank Lady Cheryl and Imperial Sir **Jeff Sowder**, Lady Melinda and Noble **Lonnie Nichols** for a very nice Christmas party at Lady Melinda's SheShed in Eureka. THANK YOU!!!

Arami Court was pleased to be able to collect \$1,141 for aluminum cans and donate it to the Plane of Mercy in 2024. Lady Nadine Bruner and Noble **George Finley** do a great job every year making this project happen. Thank you both! The collecting goes on so let Lady Nadine or Noble **George** know if you have cans to donate.

Also continuing is the sale of Meat Sticks. There are quite a few flavors available. The price is 2 for \$3.00. Lady Julie Smith has them with her most of the time so get with her to get yours. They make a great snack if your blood sugar gets too low.

Also of note, we received a total of \$77.98 from the Kroger Reward Program. it

was donated to the LOS Grand Council Foundation. Keep shopping at Dillons!

Near the end of January an interview of prospective candidates was held. A ceremonial of initiation will be conducted on February 8 at North Star Lodge. Officers must be at the lodge by 8:30 a.m. for rehearsal. The ceremony will begin at 10:30 a.m. A carry-in lunch will follow. Trailers (our Nobles) are welcome to come for lunch.

Our new teal Court shirts are in! They are really pretty. If you haven't picked yours up or still need to pay for yours, contact Lady Dee Guthrie, ASAP.

Plans are underway for our annual Spring Flower/Plant Sale. Watch here for more information to come.

Nationally, 2025 will see the institution of two (2) new Courts - Zara Ct. # 113 in Dallas, PA (near Scranton, PA) and Auset Ct. #114 in Topeka, KS. We are anxious to have the Ladies of these Courts join us. It is especially nice to have another Court near us.

Until next time, Happy 2025 to everyone!



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Mission Statement

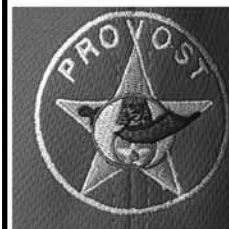
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