

# THE BLADE

by Scimitar Shriners



Shriners Hospitals  
for Children®

Official Philanthropy of Shriners International

Volume 57, Volume 3

BI-MONTHLY

May 2024

## SHRINERS 7th Annual 50-CLAY CHALLENGE!

ALL PROCEEDS TO BENEFIT THE NOMAD SHRINE CLUB

**ONLINE REGISTRATION**

**\$75** INDIVIDUAL      **\$375** TEAMS

Payments not deductible as charitable contributions

REGISTER WITH QR CODE OR AT [EVENTBRITE.COM](https://www.eventbrite.com)

Registrations at event \$5 more per person

**AUGUST 24, 2024**  
**BENTON COUNTY QUAIL BARN**  
11570 AR-72 WEST BENTONVILLE, AR

Gate open at 7:00am Mandatory safety brief 7:30am

**25 SHOTS TRAP AND 25 SPORTING CLAYS**  
**\$500 CASH PRIZE FOR TOP INDIVIDUAL!**

12 OR 20 GA. AMMO PROVIDED FOR THE MAIN EVENT

Medals awarded for 1st-3rd teams  
Plus! Traveling Masonic Trophy for the top Masonic team!  
(must have at least 3 Masons on team to qualify)

**Don't want to shoot? Come out for cornhole, music, silent auction, 50/50 raffle, and other FUN festivities!**

Breakfast and Lunch Available for purchase on site

**EXTRAS!**

**SPORTING CLAY "BONUS 25" !**  
\$20 each bonus round  
Bring your own ammo for "Bonus 25" rounds

**TURKEY SHOOT !**  
\$5 per round  
Hit 5/5 and win a frozen turkey!  
12 or 20 ga. shells provided

The Blade is published bi-monthly by:

**Scimitar Shriners**

PO Box 255  
North Little Rock, AR 72115

**Website:** [arkansasshriners.com](http://arkansasshriners.com)

**Telephone:** 501-565-5992

**Email:** [admin@scimitarshrine.com](mailto:admin@scimitarshrine.com)

**New patient referrals:**

SHC-St. Louis: 314-432-3600

SHC-Shreveport: 318-222-5704

**Potentate**

Rickey Brandon

**Chief Rabban**

John Robinson, PP

**Assistant Raban**

Chris Underwood

**High Priest & Prophet**

Kyle Lutgen

**Oriental Guide**

Stuart Thomas

**Treasurer**

Joe Diederich, PP

**Recorder**

Bruce Anible

**First Ceremonial Master**

Shane Alexander

**Second Ceremonial Master**

Chris Fitzhugh

**Director**

Cole Fitzhugh

**Marshal**

Adam Bates

**Captain of the Guard**

Tony Ferro

**Outer Guard**

Craig Laine

**Chaplain**

Dennis Stevens, PP

**The Blade Content Deadline**

The deadline for submitting content for the next issue is June 25, 2024

Please send all content requests to:

[mrsvb420@gmail.com](mailto:mrsvb420@gmail.com)

# POTENTATE'S MESSAGE

Nobles and Ladies,

It is hard to believe we are half way through this year! Lady Kim and I have had a fantastic time. As I have said throughout the year, I cannot do this without everyone's support.

I have had the pleasure of visiting the Spring River Shrine Club and the Ft. Smith Shrine Club. This was a great time, Illustrious Sir David Adams joined me when I visited Spring River and First Ceremonial Master, Noble Shane Alexander joined me when I visited Ft. Smith. These two Shrine Clubs are very active and I am proud to have them at Scimitar. Thank you for inviting us to visit your clubs.

Our Vidalia onions have arrived! Thank you all to everyone who have ordered and sold these great onions. This has been a mainstay fundraiser for Scimitar Shrine.

Be sure to continue to check our calendar at [arkansasshriners.com](http://arkansasshriners.com). We have several events coming up quickly. The Spring River Hook, Shrine and Sinker Bass Tournament will be held on May 18 at Horseshoe Bend. The SCSA Ceremonial is coming up May 30—June 2 in Muskogee, OK. Then on June 6—10 the Potentate's Cruise out of New Orleans going to Cozumel. Golf at the Rock follows on June 15.

Before we know it the Potentate's Ball will be here. We will be holding the Stated Meeting at the Aloft Hotel in West Little Rock on Friday night, September the 13 with the Ball to Follow on Saturday September the 14.

I would like to remind everyone to continue talking to your friends and family and encourage those that you think would be a great Shriner, to join us for fun, fellowship and making memories. We have a membership committee, but membership is everyone's responsibility. We have set a goal of 30 new members this year. If we all work together and get out to our lodges we can do this. I challenge us to create 2 members a month for the rest of the year.

Lady Kim and I cannot thank you all enough for your support and encouragement, we are looking forward to the rest of this year and "Making Memories in 2024".

Yours in faith,

Illustrious Sir Rick Brandon

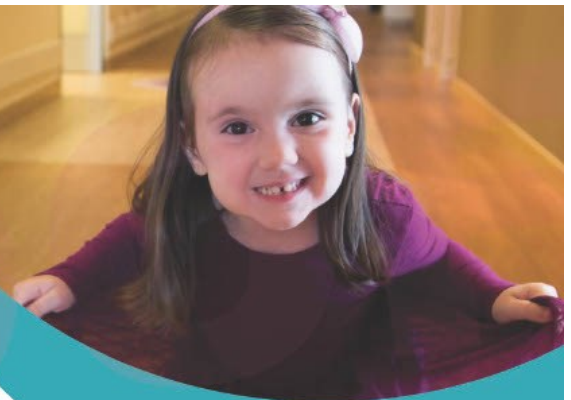
## Turn Your Car into Support for the Kids of Shriners Hospitals

### Easy process - Free pick-up - Tax Benefits

Donate any car, truck, trailer, motorcycle, off-road vehicle, RV, boat, farm machinery, or heavy equipment - *in any condition.*



**Shriners Shreveport Hospital**  
for Children\*



**1-833-742-5437**  
[shrinerscardonations.org](http://shrinerscardonations.org)

It's Easy! Just Call or Visit:

**1-833-SHC-KIDS**  
[shrinerscardonations.org](http://shrinerscardonations.org)



**Shriners Hospitals**  
for Children®— Shreveport



**Drive the love with your car donation!**

Shriners Hospitals for Children® - Shreveport provides care for orthopedics and other bone, muscle, and joint conditions including Scoliosis, limb deficiencies and discrepancies, sports medicine and fractures, and cleft lip and palate. We are in-network with most private insurance groups and we accept Medicaid. No insurance, no problem. We treat children from birth to age 18 regardless of the families' ability to pay. Shriners Shreveport Hospital is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization and relies on the generosity of donors.

### MEMORIALS

#### **James Moore:**

John Robinson  
Jane Archer

#### **Joe W McCormick:**

Gardner & Lynn  
Burton

### LOST IN THE DESERT

Broganlee Baker

Dustin Copeland

Gary Davis

Michael Dewberry

Robert Driesel

Mark Gillis

Phillip Harris

Charles Hodge

Johnathan Johnson

Casey Kensinger

David Langford

Bruce Martin

Vinney Pique

Tommy Radford

Thomas Rutherford

Chadwick Simpson

Ken Smeets

Matthew Winters

### BLACK CAMEL

**James Hobson**  
**Harry Stringfellow**





# SCIMITAR SHRINERS

## 2024 GOLF @ the ROCK

### PLAYER REGISTRATION

Saturday, June 15, 2024

Registration: 7:30 am; Shotgun Start: 8:00 am

*The Country Club of Arkansas, 3 Country Club Circle, Maumelle, AR 72113; 501-851-0095*

**\$125 PER PLAYER: INCLUDES CART, GREEN FEES, LUNCH, & GIFT BAG\*!**

Team Leader: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell # \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Golfer # 2: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell # \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Golfer # 3: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell # \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Golfer # 4: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell # \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**\*This year, each golfer will receive a Shriners' dry-fit golf hat ++ given on day of tournament.**

**All proceeds are for the benefit of Shriner's Hospitals for Children.**

Shriners Hospitals for Children is 501(c)(3) nonprofit, charitable corporate organization. Its purpose is to provide medical care to children without regard to race, creed, sect or nationality. The treatment is provided regardless of the patients' ability to pay.

Please send completed form & check for payment made payable to **Golf @ the Rock** and mail to-

**Golf @ the Rock, ATTN: Russel Betts,**

**1 Riverfront Place, Suite 630, North Little Rock, AR 72114**

**Questions? Call: 501-753-6977 or Email [bettsrussel@yahoo.com](mailto:bettsrussel@yahoo.com)**

TO PAY ONLINE: <https://www.arkansasshriners.com>



**SCIMITAR SHRINERS  
2024 GOLF @ THE ROCK TOURNAMENT**

**June 15, 2024, 8:00 am**  
Country Club of Arkansas, Maumelle  
Sponsorship Deadline: **June 5, 2024**

**PLATINUM SPONSOR- \$2,500**

- Named as a sponsor on all printed materials and announced verbally during the tournament
- Includes entry fee for your team- four (4) players and a color team photo for each
- Includes your logo on a rotating electronic screen on every golf cart

**GOLD SPONSOR- \$1,500**

- Named as a sponsor on all printed materials and announced verbally during the tournament
- Includes entry fee for your team- four (4) players and a color team photo for each
- Includes your logo on a rotating electronic screen on every golf cart

**SILVER SPONSOR- \$1,000**

- Named as a sponsor on all printed materials and announced verbally during the tournament
- Includes your logo on a rotating electronic screen on every golf cart with 50% off Team Entry Fee or only \$250 for a team of 4 golfers.

**BRONZE SPONSOR- \$250**

- Named as a sponsor on all printed materials and announced verbally during the tournament

**Please email a JPEG of your logo, sized to 1024 X 600 pixels to  
Russel Betts, [bettsrussel@yahoo.com](mailto:bettsrussel@yahoo.com)  
with "Logo for Golf Tournament" as the subject line.  
Questions? Call Russel, 501-753-6977**

Please send completed sponsorship form and payment made payable to *Golf @ the Rock* to-  
**2024 Golf @ the Rock Tournament, ATTN: Russel Betts**  
**1 Riverfront Place, Suite 630, North Little Rock, AR 72114**

**TO PAY ONLINE:** <https://www.arkansasshriners.com>

**SPONSOR** \_\_\_\_\_ **CONTACT** \_\_\_\_\_

**WEBSITE ADDRESS** \_\_\_\_\_

**EMAIL** \_\_\_\_\_ **CELL #** \_\_\_\_\_

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# **CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

## **MAY:**

- 4th Sahara Golf Tournament
- 8th Divan Meeting
- 10th Stated Meeting 7:00pm-Dinner 6:00pm  
Clown Meeting-& Misfits Meeting 8:30-9:30 Temple  
Ladies Meeting  
CSSA Business Meeting (8-10)
- 13th Bedouin Meeting
- 14th Director's Staff Meeting
- 15th SCSA Planning Meeting
- 16th Faulkner County Shrine Club Meeting & Hot Springs Yacht Club Meeting
- 18th D.O.N.
- 23rd Spring River Shrine Club Meeting
- 27th Finance Committee Meeting & Ft. Smith Shrine Club Meeting
- 28th North Pulaski Shrine Club Meeting
- 30- June 2 SCSA Muskogee, OK

## **JUNE:**

- 5th Fun Raisers
- 10th Bedouin Meeting
- 11th Director's Staff
- 12th Divan Meeting
- 13th Nomad Shrine Club Meeting
- 14th Stated Meeting-7:00pm-Dinner 6:00 pm  
Clown Meeting & Misfits Meeting -8:30-9:30-Temple  
Ladies Meeting
- 15th Golf at the Rock Golf Tournament  
D.O.N.
- 19th SCSA Planning Meeting
- 20th Faulkner County Shrine Club Meeting & Hot Springs Yacht Club Meeting
- 24th Finance Meeting & Ft. Smith Shrine Club Meeting
- 25th North Pulaski Shrine Club Meeting
- 27th Spring River Shrine Club Meeting

=====  
*This is an old story that I used in my Masonic lodge trestleboard (newsletter) some time ago, but applies to us Nobles in the temple just as well... Our Temple is a fraternity after all, and one of the most priceless benefits it offers us is the opportunity to get together regularly with friends and like-minded associates. Masonry, after all, isn't something that you can get from a book or look up online. Even Google won't find it for you. To discover and reap the benefits of Shrinedom, you find it here, in the Temple – just like in the Lodge... in the hearts, minds, and companionship of your fellow Nobles and brethren.*

### **The Silent Summons**

A member of a certain Lodge, who previously attended meetings regularly, stopped going. After a few months, the Worshipful Master decided to visit him. It was a bitterly cold, chilly evening, and the Worshipful Master found his brother at home alone, sitting before a blazing fire.

Guessing the reason for the Worshipful Master's visit, the brother welcomed him, led him to a comfortable chair near the fireplace and waited. The Worshipful Master made himself comfortable, but said nothing.

In the grave silence, he contemplated the dance of the flames around the burning logs. After several minutes, the Worshipful Master took the fire tongs, carefully picked up a brightly burning ember and placed it to one side of the hearth, all alone. Then he sat back in his chair, still silent.

His host watched all of this in quiet contemplation. As that one, lone ember's flame flickered and diminished, there was a momentary glow, and its fire was no more. Soon, it was cold and dead.

Not a word had been spoken since the initial greeting. The Worshipful Master glanced at his watch and chose this time to leave. He slowly stood up, picked up the cold, dead ember, and placed it back in the middle of the fire. Immediately, it began to glow once more, with all the light and warmth of the burning coals around it.

As the Worshipful Master reached the door to leave, his host said, with a tear running down his cheek, "Thank you so much for your fiery summons, my brother. I'll be back in our Lodge next meeting."

*...You are so missed my brothers! Come to Stated Meeting, enjoy a meal with others who maintain the same foundation of belief as you do in Masonic (and Shrine) circles, break bread with us and stick around for the meeting... on the second Friday of each month, and so let your ember burn with ours again!*

Submitted by Tom Ezell



# SCIMITAR SHRINERS



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## My Old Red Fez

My old red fez has faded a bit;  
But that hasn't dimmed my love for it,  
For into that bit of old headgear  
Are woven the friendships of many a year.  
It knows the touch of a friendly hand,  
And symbolizes -- you'll understand --  
All things I found both good and fine  
In my happy days with the Mystic Shrine.

My old red fez has faded a bit;  
But I'm still mighty proud of it,  
Proud of all for which it stands  
The loyal hearts and willing hands,  
Really always to do their best  
And meet with courage every test;  
Proud the memories that are mine  
Of Noble friends of the Mystic Shrine.

My old red fez has faded a bit;  
And someday I'll take leave of it,  
But not without a friendly smile,  
For it had been mine long, long while.  
So here's to the fez and those who have worn it;  
May love and loyalty ever adorn it;  
May the sun of good fellowship eternally shine  
In the hearts of the men of the Mystic Shrine  
SUBMITTED BY TOM EZELL

