

Karem Karavan  
May 2025



PRESENTED BY:  
— METRO —  
ELEVATOR



**Cottonwood Creek Golf Course**  
**Waco, Texas**

REGISTRATION  
**8:30 AM**

30th May 2025  
FRIDAY

TEE TIME  
**10:00 AM**



Team of 4 players \$550.00 - Sponsorships available - Drone Golf Ball Challenge - AR Golf Ball Launch - Raffles - Silent Auction - Much More

For more information email [robert.karemshriner@gmail.com](mailto:robert.karemshriner@gmail.com)  
or Call/text 254-855-9542



# **Karem Shrine**

**Chartered June 12, 1919 400  
Karem Circle Waco, Tx. 76712 Ph.  
(254) 848-5600 Fax (254) 848-5610  
Office Hours M-F 10am-2pm  
www.karemshriners.com  
office@karemshriners.com**

---

**2025 Potentate  
Illustrious Sir Justin B. Duty**

## **2025 Divan**

**Chief Rabban-Travis Roberson  
Assistant Rabban-Robert Barben  
High Priest & Prophet-Kenny Steinocher  
Oriental Guide-Paul Hill  
Treasurer-Ray Pugh  
Recorder-Rob Smith**

---

**Karem Karavan published monthly by Karem Shrine  
Email your articles, pictures, flyers etc. to  
karemshrinekaravan@gmail.com**

**Article deadline for the next issue is  
May 21, 2025**

**Karem Shrine's next Stated Meeting will be  
held on Thursday May 15, 2025  
Your 2024 Dues card is REQUIRED**





## Chief Rabban's Notes

Dear Illustrious Sirs, Nobles, and Ladies all,

I'm deeply grateful for your incredible support over the past few months through our fundraising events like Bugs, Blues & Bikes, Fish Fries, and Burgers & Bingo. It takes our entire community to make these efforts a success, and your contributions have truly made a difference.

The Easter Egg Hunt was a resounding success! For those who couldn't attend, the McLennan County Sheriff's Office helicopter thrilled everyone by dropping Easter eggs from the sky. We gave away approximately 40 bicycles with helmets to excited kids, enjoyed plenty of food and fun, and celebrated the new playground that the children loved. The joy on the faces of kids, parents, and volunteers made every moment worthwhile.

Looking ahead, our annual golf tournament is next! We'd love your help—whether through volunteering, donations, or forming a team. Every bit counts. Please help us spread the word about our events on social media platforms like Facebook, Instagram, and Nextdoor. The more people we reach, the greater our impact.

Thank you again for being part of this amazing journey!

Warm regards,

Travis Roberson

Karem Shrine - Chief Rabban



## Treasurers Notes

Well so far this year we have had a lot of challenges with our finances, but the Shrine is doing fine. Thanks to the nobility contributions to our fraternal fundraisers. Burgers and Bingo and Fish Fry's are being well attended by members and non-members of the Shrine. The Bugs, Blues & Bikes brought in a large crowd.

Now we must focus on our next major fraternal fundraiser, the Golf Classic May 30. Let's make it a huge success. But let us not get wrapped up in finances because I would like to share a little about the history of the Ancient Arabic Order of the Nobles of the Mystic Shrine.

In 1870 13 Master Masons would sit down for lunch at a table for 13 at exactly 12:13 on the second floor of the Knickerbocker Cottage located at 426 Sixth Avenue, New York City. The most prominent of this 13 was Dr. Walter Millard Fleming; William J. Florence, Actor; Charles T. McClenachan, lawyer; William S. Patterson, paper merchant; George Millar, printer; and William Fowler, restaurateur and wine merchant. Mr. Fowler was the proprietor of the Knickerbocker Cottage which was known for good food and an excellent wine cellar. There were several tables for 13 in Fowler's place but the one on the second floor seemed to have the most fun. From this group the idea was conceived for the Ancient Order of the Nobles of the Mystic Shrine. Dr. Walter M. Fleming wrote "The First Complete Ritual of the Ancient Order of the Nobles of the Mystic Shrine." Mr. Florence and Dr. Fleming were created Nobles August 13, 1870, the remaining 11 Nobles were created June 16, 1871. On September 16, 1872, eight of the original 13 were elected as officers of Mecca Temple. Of course, Dr. Fleming became the first Grand Potentate. This was the founding of the first shrine temple. The source of the above information is from "PARADE TO GLORY" by Fred Van Deventer, Crescent Temple. It is the story of the Shriners and Their Hospitals for Crippled Children published in 1959. It is a history of Shriners from the beginning through 1959. Of course a lot of change has taken place since the book was published and Shriners have gone international with Temples in Mexico, Brazil and more.

Hope you have enjoyed just a snippet of the beginning of this wonderful fraternity that we all enjoy. I tried to be brief and just hit a few highlights from the beginning of the book. Maybe next time I will add more details or some of the controversies of the beginnings.

Es Selamu Aleikum.

Fraternally,  
Ray Pugh, Treasurer



# Happenings Around Karem in April



April 19, 2025  
Easter Egg Hunt



What a GREAT turnout we had!



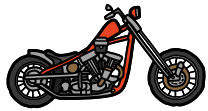
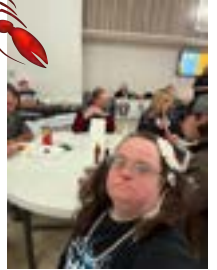
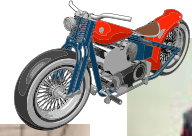
**HOPPY  
EASTER**

The Kiddos had a great time on the new Playset!!



# Happenings Around Karem in April

## Bugs, Blues and Bikes



### Reports from Club and Units

Saturday March 29th the Karem Gunrunners Provost Team competed in the Alzafar 2025 Mid-Winter Provost Bullseye shooting competition at Maskat's range in Wichita Falls. The Gunrunners Johnny Price, Merlin Kunz, Daniel Bogard and Paul Cole took 3rd place in the C team bracket. In the 2-Handed open competition the Illustrious Sir Larry Johnson P.P. took 3rd place. Receiving honorable mention was William Van Etten. This was a long day with over 80 Shriners from all over Texas competing.

The Karem Gunrunners will be meeting May 6th 5:00 P.M. at Karem. The Gunrunners are looking for new members and everyone is welcome to attend, Wife's too as they are allowed to shoot as well. In the competition we shoot 22lr pistols with red dot sights at 25 yards one handed 4-man teams and 2 handed singles. If you just want to try it, we have a variety of guns you can borrow to see if it's for you. Rugger Mark 3's & 4's, S&W Model 41's, and the S&W Victory along with Browning Buck Marks too. You will find others at competition such as Hämmerli's and High Standard's. You can even use a revolver if you prefer. We are hoping to have several of these guns on display at the May 6th meeting and hopefully before the stated meeting as well. Our next shoot is in Tyler at Sharon's new range for 2025 TSA competition June 14th and our Potentate has offered to pay the entry fee for each member attending TSA. This will be a Saturday event. There will be a fee of \$25 should you want to attend the banquet after the shoot.





## Hospital Transportation News

Hello fellow Nobles and Ladies of Karem! Just wanted to give a little update on Hospital Transportation. The Roadrunners are still busy running the roads getting the kiddos to all their appointments. The last couple of months have been busy! May is shaping up to be a busy one as well. We have received a new patient on our transport list, a two year old little boy from the Hillsboro area. This now brings us up to six patients that we are currently transporting. We will be taking him down to Galveston this month for a surgery. Please keep all the patients on your prayer list. Also, Please keep the drive teams on your prayer list as well. They devote their personal time to getting these kiddos to all their appointments. I would like send a BIG THANK YOU to all the Roadrunners for their unselfish dedication to helping these families!

Fraternally,  
Kenny Steinocher

### Upcoming Events

- May 9- Burgers and Bingo
- May 23- Fish Fry
- May 30- Golf Tournament
- June 19- Festive Board Stated Meeting/Awards Night
- June 13- Burgers and Bingo
- June 12-14 TSA
- June 21-22 Chili Cookoff (See Flyer Below)
- June 27 Fish Fry
- June 29-July 3 Imperial Session in Atlanta, Georgia



# Nobility Ball 2025



High Priest & Phophet  
Kenny Steinocher & Lady Mechelle



Chief Rabban  
Travis Roberson & Lady Alicia  
with daughter Katrina



Illustrious Sir  
Justin Duty & Lady Neeley



Assistant Rabban  
Robert Barben & Lady Robin



Oriental Guide  
Paul Hill & Lady Vickie



Recorder  
Rob Smith & Lady Kathy



Ill. Sir James Pless P.P.  
& Lady Melissa



Ill. Sir Yancy Marteney P.P.  
& Lady Sarah



Ill. Sir Greg McEwen P.P.  
& Lady Jerry



Ill. Sir James Koehler P.P.  
& Lady Edie



Treasurer  
Ray Pugh & Lady Cathy



Director Jason Spivey  
& Lady Melody



Ill. Sir Glen Boyd P.P.  
& Lady Susan



Ill. Sir Bruce Bubel P.P.  
& Lady Patti



Ill. Sir Tommy Grusendorf P.P.  
& Lady Janelle



Ill. Sir Larry Johnson P.P.  
& Lady Jennifer



Parade Marshal  
John Brooks & Lady Jilla



First Ceremonial Master  
John Hill & Lady Sandy



High Priest & Prophet  
Ricky Hayes & Lady Angie  
Ben Hur Shrine



Oriental Guide  
Ron Speaks & Lady Debbie  
Ben Hur Shrine



Queen Kaye Campbell  
Merak Temple No. 104  
Escort Kenny Steinocher



## Merak Temple No. 104

Hello. Let me introduce myself, my name is Kaye Campbell, and I am the reigning Queen for Merak Temple, Daughters of the Nile.

I would like to express my gratitude to the Karem Shrine and First Lady Neeley Duty who attended my installation of officers and brought in the Bible.

It is my hope this year that Merak Temple and Karem Shrine can work together to build a better working relationship and can help each other in whatever ways are possible.

As Queen, this year I am hoping we can get together to have some fun. We all have so many demands on our time that we forget to relax and have fun. With that in mind, I decided we would have fun activities that would be open to everyone. Daughters of the Nile, Shrine Ladies, next door neighbor, friend/co-worker and even your husband.

In April, we went to Ennis to look at bluebonnets, we did not see many, but we had fun just visiting with each other.

In May, we are planning to go to Lone Star Park in Grand Prairie.

In June, we will be playing Dominos in the Nile room.

If you are interested and would like more information you can contact:

Patsy Mathis	817-219-0041
Lynnette Koehler	254-716-6008
Jane Mohon	817-991-2574
Sandy Hill	254-366-4158
Mechelle Steinocher	254-339-8204



I always send out emails to my co-workers about the activities going on at Karem, and I am happy to say several attended the Easter Hunt. One co-worker's daughter won a bike. She was so excited and happy; brother was not since he did not win. But I was told he does have a bike at home. So, all is good on that front.

I hope you will consider joining us in all activities, we all need to have fun.

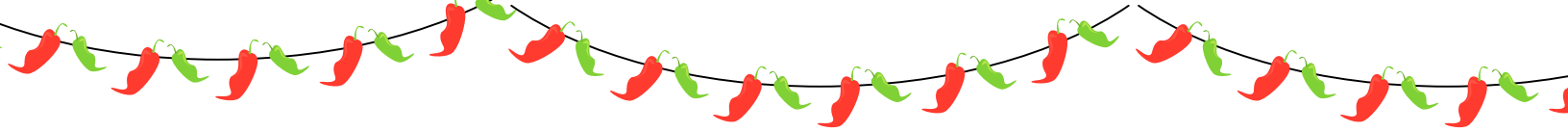
With Nile Love,

Kaye Campbell, Queen



In April Vickie Hill PSQ and Robin Barben represented Karem Shrine Ladies and Daughters of the Nile Merak Temple No 104 by delivering blankets that were made by some of the ladies to Galveston Hospital. These blankets were requested by the hospital for the patients that stay in the new housing facility while they are at the hospital receiving care. They will take the blankets home with them when they go home. This will be an ongoing venture until the hospital says otherwise, so if you like to help in making the blankets please reach out to one of the Divan ladies and they can assist you with any information needed.

Thanks to all the ladies that had a hand in helping with the blankets thus far.



# KAREM SHRINE'S FIRST LADIES PROJECT 2025

## CHILI COOKOFF FUNDRAISER

June 21 & 22, 2025



400 KAREM CIRCLE WACO, TEXAS 76712

### Friday Night, June 20th

Pulled Pork Sandwiches with sides  
Served from 6:00 to 7:30pm  
Cookoff Registration 5:00 to 7:00pm



### Saturday, June 21

Registration 9:00 to 10:30a.m.

## BEAN COOKOFF

\$10 Entry Fee \* 12 noon Turn-in

**100 % PAYBACK TO TOP 3**

## CASI CHILI

\$25 Entry Fee \* 2:00 p.m. Turn-In

**Potluck Dinner at 6:30 p.m.**

### Sunday, June 22

Registration 9:00 to 10:00 a.m.

## CASI CHILI

\$25 Entry Fee \* 12:00 noon Turn-In



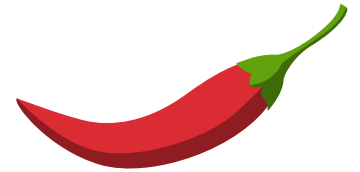
### COOKOFF CONTACT INFO

Vickie Hill

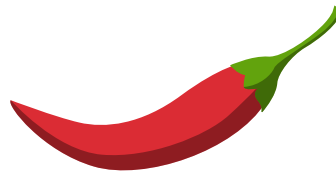
hillbilly.wildflower.chili@gmail.com

Ph. (254) 681-1613

1301 Bluebonnet Dr., Marble Falls, TX. 78654



**RV SITES \$20.00 FOR BOTH  
FRIDAY & SATURDAY NIGHT**



**Proceeds are for the benefit of  
Shriners Hospital For Children**



# *Love*

## *In Action*

**Join Us Saturday August 16, 2025**

**For our First Annual**

**“Love in Action” Table Gala**

**Place: Karem Shrine  
400 Karem Circle  
Waco, TX. 76712**

**Time: Doors Open 10:30am  
Table reveal/Viewing  
11am-11:45am**

**Lunch Served at 12:00pm**

**Special Guest Speaker**

**Tickets are \$40 Person until June 1st  
\$50 person after June 1st**

**Proceeds are for the benefit of  
Shriners Hospital for Children**



**Serving others is Love in Action  
Matt 20:26-28**



**MERAK TEMPLE**  
**QUEEN'S**

**KAREM SHRINE**  
**POTENTATE'S**



## **2026 BAHAMAS CRUISE**

**Sat Apr 18, 2026 - Sun Apr 26, 2026**



*CARNIVAL DREAM*

*Galveston > Key West*  
*Celebration Key > Half Moon Cay*  
*Nassau > Galveston*

**WE WOULD LOVE FOR YOU TO JOIN US**

***CONTACT:***











**DANIELLE COLEMAN - 1-800-819-3902 ext. 85225**

*Deposits will vary depending on promotion: Full price deposit is \$250 per person. Final payment is due 01/18/2026.*

***PIN CODE: 0104***








**Past  
Potentates of  
Karem Shrine**

 1919-1920 Thomas F. Bush  
 1921 William A. Parker  
 1922 James H. Lockwood  
 1923 Frank M. Miller  
 1924 E.D. Burchett  
 1925 W.E. Gaylord  
 1926 L.C. Puckett  
 1927 G.H. Zimmerman  
 1928 Gallaway Calhoun  
 1929 Frank Holg  
 1930 A.C. Uplegger  
 1931 Lee Dewey  
 1932 William D. Lacy, Jr  
 1933 Albert T. Clifton  
 1934 M.T. Bell  
 1935 John C. Calhoun  
 1936 Rolla S. Greig  
 1937 John Maxwell  
 1938 H.L. Turner  
 1939 H.F. Hellmuth  
 1940 June F. Holderman  
 1941 T.M. Gribble  
 1942 George H. Rohan  
 1943 William L. Baine  
 1944 Giles P. Lester  
 1945 Charles E. Miller  
 1946 Bryan W. Payne  
 1947 Lee Lockwood  
 1948 Alva Bryan  
 1949 L.M. Crow  
 1950 Sam Darden  
 1951 John C. Young  
 1952 C.V. Anderson  
 1953 S.P. Hooker  
 1954 Vernon Cole

 1955 Clarence C. Burnett  
 1956 Charles R. Embry  
 1957 M.S. Brooks, Jr  
 1958 Joe H. Craven  
 1959 Roy C. Thomson  
 1960 Harold O. Clark  
 1961 Henry H. Spragins  
 1961 William Quebe  
 1962 L. Neil Gatley  
 1963 Arthur Williams, Jr.  
 1964 John R. Rogers  
 1965 A.C. Hicks  
 1966 Bill R. Baggett  
 1967 I. Winthrop Sealey  
 1968 Stanley G. Jayroe  
 1969 Joe Sawyer  
 1970 Bill Meadows  
 1971 M.A. Taylor  
 1972 O.I. "Ike" Carroll  
 1973 Tom Griffith  
 1974 Charles A. Call  
 1975 Bill Buzzee  
 1976 Bill Doshier  
 1977 Dick Clark  
 1978 David Keathley  
 1979 Cecil Johnson  
 1980 Porter Ridlehuber  
 1981 James W. Hunt  
 1982 Bill G. McClain  
 1983 Bill Price  
 1984 Cecil E. Denison, Sr.  
 1985 C.E. Howard, Jr.  
 1986 Alfred C. Johnson  
 1987 John D. Pippin  
 1988 Bobby G. Graham

 1989 W.O. "Bill" Griffin  
 1990 C.M. "Dub" Garner  
 1991 Nolan H. Flowers  
 1992 Roy H. MacKenzie  
 1993 Aubry Ray Farris  
 1994 Jack Hawkins  
 1995 Jake Roberts  
 1996 George Brinegar  
 1997 H.W. Lockridge  
1998 Ralph Reynolds  
 1999 Mel Baker  
2000 John Bryant  
2001 Larry Cantwell  
 2002 Oran C. "Boots" Baker  
2003 Osborn "Salty" Brown  
2004 Greg "Snake" McEwen  
 2005 Frank D. Fisk  
2006 G. Roger Daniel  
2007 Robert L. "Bob" White  
2008 Glen Boyd  
 2009 J.A. "Jay" Baker  
2010 James Koehler  
2011 David Buckles  
2012 Larry J. Taylor  
 2013 A. Sam Moore  
 2014 Tom Young  
2015 Robert L. "Bob" White  
2016 Bruce Bubel  
2017 Tommy Grusendorf  
2018 Larry Johnson  
2019 James R. "Jim" Pless  
2020 B. Lynn Everett  
2021 Steve L. Everett  
2022 Thad Barker  
2023 Justin B. Duty  
2024 Yancy Marteney

# May

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3 Nobility Ball
4	5 	6 6pm Lockwood Lodge Patio/lodge room 6:30pm Karem Cowboys	7	8	9 Burgers & Bingo 	10
11 	12	13	14  TSRVA	15 7:30 Stated Meeting  7pm DON Stated Session  TSRVA	16  TSRVA	17  TSRVA
18  TSRVA	19 6pm Classic Cars Patio	20	21	22 11am Tem-Bell Shrine Clem Mikeskas-Temple	23 5:30pm Fish Fry 	24
25	26 6pm Cove Oasis Lil Tex in Cove <b>MEMORIAL DAY</b>	27 6:30 Tri-County	28	29	30 Golf Tournament 	31



## Happy Birthday



1  
David Pareya  
Michael Moore  
Nicholas Johnson

5  
Gerry Abendschein  
Allen Sharp

6  
Erryl Broadman

8  
Billy Van Cleave  
Terry Wooten

9  
William Smith  
Ronnie Jackson  
Joe Seymour

10  
Harold Birth

11  
12  
Robert Murphree

Max Worley  
Larry Cantwell  
Michael Gassaway

13  
Gene Clements  
Scott Haire

14  
Thomas Wilkerson  
Paul Cole

15  
Carl Knight

16  
Robert Bain

18  
Lloyd Hamilton  
Robert Barben

21  
Jeffrey Spittler

22  
Michael Rush

23  
David Bandy  
Ryan Dirker

24  
William McNeill  
Roy Bomberger  
Ryan Brockmeier

25  
Tristan Mabry  
Dustin West  
Christopher Wehri



27  
William Gainey  
Adam Kososki

28  
Scott Irwin

31  
Glenn Seeley  
Robert Coleman  
Douglas Marvin



# June

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3 6pm Lockwood Lodge Patio/lodge room 6:30pm Karem Cowboys	4	5	6	7 Ballroom/Saloon rented
8 Ballroom/Saloon rented	9 Ballroom/Saloon rented	10	11	12  TSA	13 Burgers & Bingo  TSA	14 Saloon rented  TSA
15  TSA	16 6pm Classic Cars Patio	17	18	19 7:30 Stated Meeting	20 Ballroom/Saloon rented	21 Ballroom/Saloon rented
22	23	24 6:30 Tri-County	25	26 11am Tem-Bell Shrine Clem Mikeskas-Temple	27 5:30pm Fish Fry 	28 Saloon rented
29	30 6pm Cove Oasis Lil Tex in Cove	1 6pm Lockwood Lodge Patio/lodge room 6:30pm Karem Cowboys	2	3	4	5 Ballroom/Saloon rented

HELLO  
SUMMER





PUBLIC/NOBLE RENTAL RATES-2024

	<u>PUBLIC</u>	<u>NOBLE</u>
Ballroom	\$2500.00	\$1200.00
Deposit	\$550.00	\$225.00
Patio- all day	\$400.00	\$200.00
6 hrs.	\$300.00	\$150.00
4 hrs.	\$200.00	\$100.00
Deposit	\$125.00	\$65.00
Pavilion	\$250.00	\$125.00
Club/Units		\$125.00
Deposit	\$75.00	\$25.00
Cookshack/Tumbleweed	\$200.00	\$100.00
RV Site	\$20/day	\$15/day
RV Storage w/o water & Elect	\$20/day	\$5/day

**For more information or to reserve  
 a rental please contact  
[rentals@karemshriners.com](mailto:rentals@karemshriners.com)  
 254-848-5600**