

**VOLUME 62, No. 11** www.ElZagal.org



# CAMEL ales

Seasons Greekings

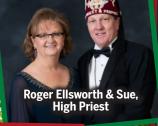




Dennis Sand & Tammy, Chief Rabban



From all of us at El Zagal



Travis Will & Meghan, Oriental Guide





Treasurer



Chad Decker & Katy 1st Ceremonial Master







The ANNUAL STATED MEETING of El Zagal Temple will be held on Saturday, January 9, 2021 at 9am at El Zagal Shrine Center.

The purpose of this meeting is as follows:

To conduct any business properly brought before the chair. Please wear your fez.

Attest William R Wedberg Jr. PP, Recorder

Yours in faith, Mike Dow, Potentate

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# CELEBRATING 130 YEARS!

We Cordially Invite All Nobles & Ladies to Witness A Ribbon Cutting Ceremony Marking 130<sup>th</sup> year of El Zagal Shrine Center.

### DATE: Monday, December 14 TIME: 4 PM

RSVP: Andrea at El Zagal: 701-235-7521 or info@elzagal.org (Refreshments to Follow!)

Join us later in the evening at 6:30 PM – we will be performing a Cold Sands to create some new Shriners into our organization!

### El Zagal Camel Tales

Published monthly for El Zagal Temple, Shriners International 1429 North 3rd Street Fargo, North Dakota 58102 email: info@elzagal.org www.ElZagal.org

### **Executive Office Manager**

Andrea Kallstrom Office Hours: 8 a.m. - 4 p.m. Temple Office / 701-235-7521 Temple Fax / 701-235-7522

## DIVAN OFFICERS Elective

Mike Dow	Potentate
Dennis Sand	Chief Rabban
Steve Larson	Asst. Rabban
Roger EllsworthHi	gh Priest & Prophet
Travis Will	Oriental Guide
Brad Richards	Treasurer
William R Wedberg Jr, I	PPRecorder

### **Appointive**

Chad Decker	1st CM
Bruce Ridgway	2nd CM
Shane HeibergCl	hief of Staff

### Membership

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Cal Braun	Fargo	701-793-6586
Jim Boatman	.Jamestown	701-952-6188
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Dean Anderson	Gwinner	701-678-2695
Gred Neisen	Detroit Lakes	218-841-1783
Jim Hildebrant	Valley City	701-840-1056

#### CAMEL TALES DEADLINE 16TH OF EACH MONTH

# CamelTales Email cameltales@elzagal.org

#### Editor

Rich Ellsworth 701-306-7424

### **Publisher/Creative Editor**

J&M Companies



# By Court Order of the El Zagal Divan

To help finish up the grand redesign of the Arabian Room, we are looking for a fez from each unit, club or other historical fez for public display. We have many generously donated Fez, but are still looking for more to represent each El Zagal unit, past and present, along with all clubs having a fez. Plastic inserts are also in need.

Please help us show off the pride of El Zagal which are our Fezzes! Naturally, we ask that each fez is in like new shape (exceptions for historical).

Please send/deliver to either the Arabian Room or El Zagal office. We appreciate your generosity in helping this come true. Reward is in the form of a great satisfaction and appreciation in El Zagal's rich history.

Questions can be sent to me at jon.juelich@sanfordhealth.org.

Thank you Nobles and Ladies,

Jon Juelich

# POTENTATE'S MESSAGE



Greetings Nobles and Ladies,

This is the last Potentate's message that I will write during this challenging year of 2020. I have to say that it surely hasn't been an easy year, but we've been able to accomplish a lot.

I want to thank each and every Noble and Lady who

stepped up to help make this the best year we could. It is during times like these where your continued support and effort are truly appreciated.

My Lady Lisa and I hope you all had a Happy Thanksgiving and were able to gather with family and to count your blessings.

October ended with a Halloween party, and although we were limited to the number of attendees, we still managed to have fun and fellowship!

In early November, a Future Leaders meeting was held at the Shrine Center, along with a number of Units & Clubs attending via Zoom. With the help of Noble Mike Rieckman and our Office Manager Andrea Kallstrom, we outlined the requirements needed to lead a successful Club or Unit.

This included describing all the necessary documentation, permission forms, and financial reporting that is required not only by El Zagal but also by Shriners International. It was well-attended and provided some good foundation for moving forward. We hope that all new Unit and Club leaders have a great year!

A highlight of this month was the lighting of the Shriner's Hill in Jamestown. Our Nobles of the Clowns, Mystics, James Valley Shrine Club, and EZ Wheels wowed us with a splendid display of lights. These Nobles and their Ladies

showed their community what a great fraternity we have. Well done, Nobles!

We were then presented with the Fez and contribution to the Transportation Fund in memory of Richard "Dick" Dixon. He was a charter member of the Mystics and belonged for more than 40 years. We were very humbled to accept this in his honor.

At this writing, we have lost 27 Nobles from our fraternity this year. May they all rest in peace and provide all of us with a glimpse of a life well-lived through serving others.

As we finished up November, we had great hopes of hosting a few more events this year. But with our current COVID situation, we have had to—once again—cancel or postpone functions. Moving into December, we hope that everyone will be able to gather with those that are dear to you.

As we wrap up the year 2020, let's all take time to reflect on the good, the fun and fellowship, and most importantly—the work we do for the children.

I have been honored to serve as your Potentate and appreciate the opportunity to be surrounded by the talents and strength of the Divan. They, along with many Nobles who stepped up throughout the year, ensured that our Fraternity persevered throughout 2020.

As we journey into a new year, let's remain committed to being one of the best Temples in all of Shrinedom.

My Lady Lisa and I hope you all have a very Merry Christmas – and when January 1st rolls around, we hope we can all toast to a Happy New Year!

Until we meet again! Yours in Faith, Mike Dow El Zagal Potentate 2020



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# SHRINE CIRCUS MEETINGS

(All Meetings at 10AM)

Saturday, December 5, 2020

Saturday, January 2, 2021

Saturday, January 30, 2021

Saturday, February 27, 2021

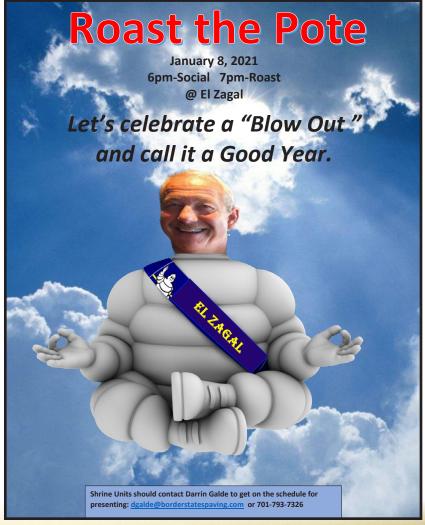
Saturday, March 13, 2021

Saturday, March 27, 2021

Saturday, April 3, 2021

Fargo Circus April 9-10-11, 2021

> Dan Beach Circus Chairman





Appreciation Award

Noble Vernon Habeck (member of Mobil Nobles) Receiving his award for 50 incredible years of service and membership!



# **ANNUAL MEETING ITINERARY**

### 2021 El Zagal Shrine Annual Meeting

Held on Saturday, January 9, 2021 At El Zagal Shrine Center 1429 3<sup>rd</sup> St N, Fargo, ND ATTEST: Yours in Faith

Bob Wedberg, PP, Recorder Mike Dow, Potentate This notice constitutes the official call. Wear your Fez.

8:00 am: All NOBLES Breakfast

8:30 am: Camel Herders/Membership meeting

8:30 am: Hospital Dads and Hospital Rep Meetings: Upper level

9:00 am: Annual Meeting begins

After meeting: Lunch

5:30-6:45 pm: Open Bar Social with the Imperial Band playing music at

the Delta by Marriott 1635 42<sup>nd</sup> Street SW Fargo, ND 58103

7:00 pm: Banquet & Parade to Glory (Formal/Semi-formal attire is

requested) \$50.00 per person

8:30 pm-11:30 pm Social

Rooms are being held at the Delta by Marriott under "El Zagal" until December 12th. Please call 701-277-9000 to reserve your room at \$119.00 plus tax.

**Book your group rate for El Zagal Shrine Room Block JAN2021** 



# ANNUAL MEETING LETTER TO UNITS

Start thinking about the Annual Meeting on January 9, 2021 Banquet is at the Delta by Marriott (Ramada) 1635 42nd St. SW, Fargo Social at 5:30 pm: Dinner at 7 pm: Social at 8:30 pm Unit:
We would <b>like</b> you to register as a <b>unit</b> for the event with payment due at that time, even if each Noble pays separately, attach checks or money with list. Please drop off the list with the money or mail it to 1429 3rd St N, Fargo, 58102 We need to have a more accurate count for the meals. Thank you.
Please have the list and payment due in the office by December 8, 2020 and no later. If you are not signed up, we cannot guarantee you will have a meal. Annual Meeting Banquet is \$50.00 per person Nobles and Ladies Names

# Jamestown Clowns And the Clowns Said, "Let There Be Lights"

Hello to all Nobles and Ladies, the Holiday Season is upon us. That means this year is almost over. A good year to get behind us. Our own Fluff will be heading up the new year, and a BIG congratulations is in order.

CONGRATULATIONS Dennis !

Now you're at the helm and steering the way. Remember most units are listening to your every directive. Of course, you are aware of the Clowns. You are a proud Clown, and we are like herding 125 cats.

Not always easy, wait... never easy to convey your wishes. And we usually don't listen either. But we all do wish you great luck and a fantastic 2021. Let's have a blast and a boisterous and pleasant 2021.

Looking back on the Clown Maze and Pumpkin Patch, it turned out to be all that it could be and it helped us ( Clowns ) to have the year to compare many years too. I hear nothing but thanks and the community is behind us 100%. We now have a bar that has been set high, so ALL Clowns be on alert for next year!! Many hands make light work.

The Shriner Hill project, which was a Scott Anderson idea, also turned out to be a marvelous thing for Jimtown. The lights are so bright and colorful and dense on the trees that people are going up and down the hill just to do it. It has put the merry and happy back into the holidays.

I for one was skeptical when it was first mentioned, now I am glad I kept my mouth shut! We are getting nothing but rave reviews and thank yous from all.

Thank you to all who came to the tree lighting from Fargo, that was very cool. The speeches were just what we needed, thanks again! It is so good to be a part of something that gets community recognition and now we have two somethings to be very proud of. Thank You, Scotty!

By the time you are reading this it will be close to the event for drawing winners, for the NO CLOWN FOR A NIGHT RAFFLE, which is just one more community backed event. We are so thankful for our surrounding area that supports us with such enthusiasm.

Clown Motorcycle Run will be the next big event. JUNE 19TH, 2021. Stutsman Harley is helping out once again. Be there or be square. Kick Stands up at 11am. Raffling off a Brand New 2020 Road Glide Special --- Deep Red and white --- what a combination of majestic colors. Tickets will be coming. We are letting our area chill out and unwind a bit before lighting up the sales on Motorcycle Run tickets.

Mark Kennard has been a howling, tremendous extraordinarily grand officer who presided at our meetings in 2020. Thanks to Seth in advance for speaking English, like it was meant to be spoken. It will be a breath of fresh air. Gotcha MARK !!! If you have read this, you now know why we are the BEST UNIT in El Zagal.

Thanks for Reading This ...

Weezer.

# Mandan's Indians

We Will Keep The Faith
Well, when you think it can't get any worse, you

Well, when you think it can't get any worse, you may be wrong. On my birthday, October 5, I was put in the hospital. That is not the way to have an 84th birthday.

I was sick for five weeks; had a hard time walking. But I am doing OK now. Things just have to get better sometime soon.

Anyway, we are getting a new Worshipful Master at the Steel Lodge. His name is Jake Zink; he lives in Steele.

We were going to have a Christmas party on December 7th, it doesn't look good right now. I just keep hoping for better days next year.

Time to strike the teepee. I hope I can write about good things next month.

God Bless Everyone Chief Mato Edward J C Dockter



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# Color Guard Croonings

I don't know about you, but we in Color Guard Land are really ready to see life get back to normal! We hope this finds you all well with plenty of Lutefisk in the cupboard for Thanksgiving!

Our report this month will be rather short, as we seem to have been shown up by a bunch of clowns and race car drivers! We have to acknowledge the Jamestown Shrine Family for the hard work they have done this fall. From pumpkins to tree lighting, they actually didn't do too bad! Of course, our hands were tied in Minnesota by ......vell, ya know! Great job guys!

It was fun to attend the tree lighting ceremony. I noticed the eye doctor walking around drinking "orange juice" from a can.....great guy, but should probably have his eyes checked. I happen to notice the world famous composer of the Clown article walking around. Too bad the boys can't pool their resources and buy him both shoes instead of just one. And I noticed Jake (Boxcar) Meszaros in the crowd. He must have thought it was the middle of winter the way he walked around hugging all the ladies to "stay warm". OF course Charlie (Sweetpea) was walking around – I think he was running for office or something. He kept barking things at the Mayor. All in all, not a bad group of

guys out there – that is if you can keep 'em off the moonshine!

The next big event for the Color Guard we hope will be the Christmas Party. I know the Color Guard is looking to have a fun time. The gift exchange is well underway, with plans set up by Gilligan to have models there from "Hilda's Hive". They are world renowned for modeling the latest in ice fishing gear for the girl on the go! Gilligan has "hooked" a few in his day, so this was his party to plan!

Ian Somerville has agreed to allow Lady Pam to give salsa dance lessons, and no, you don't need to bring crackers. Should be something!

With Thanksgiving approaching, our minds turn to Lutefisk, lefse, fauteman, and good old fashion head cheese. We hope everyone's table has at least some of these lakes area treats ready to go.

The Color Guard wishes all a very happy Thanksgiving, and remember – NEVER FORGET! It's a great time to be a Shriner, but there is NOTHING FINER THAN A COLOR GUARD SHRINER!

Don't let your pumpkin get soft!





Joel Douglas Swanson, Financial Associate 3575 45th St S, Ste 104 Fargo, ND 58104 701-371-7152 joel.swanson@thrivent.com connect.thrivent.com/joel-swanson facebook.com/joel.swanson.thrivent linkedin.com/jn/joel-swanson-ba808b55

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# **Director's Staff**

### We Will Accomplish What is Needed to Get Done

I hope this finds everything well! Although it's been a year of cancellations, the Director's Staff has kept busy! Most of our fundraising events were cancelled, so we made our own events to sell raffle tickets and let the community know we are still here, whether we crashed a bike or cruise night, brought a group of us to go out and canvas bars and

restaurants, or stand in the streets holding signs.

We did what it took and we wrapped up our Cash Raffle on October 24th and congratulations to the winners. Thank you to all who helped support this and good luck on the next one. A few of us worked very hard and got the tickets sold and turned this

into a successful event...we should be proud of our accomplishments as Director's Staff!

Also on October 24th a few of the DS and Misfits organized a Drive-thru style BBQ meal and fed all of the West Fargo First Responders and their families. This was to show support for all they do for the community and give them thanks.

Our Shriners made El Zagal proud and worked hard to put this event together. I have received so much positive feedback on what we accomplished and feel that this was a great way to serve and give back to the community. Thanks again to everyone that made this happen!

Whether we're escorting a fallen member and widow to the cemetery, being honorary pallbearers, or helping another clean their gutters...we show up! We may be a small unit, but the heart our guys bring to everything we do makes me want to work harder for this organization and my Brothers.

Stay hydrated! Shaun Engelsrud

# Wild Game Feed

Well here we sit with a presidential election still up in the air, and COVID guidelines going up and down, so I guess it only seems fitting that the WGF 2021 is a toss up.

Our plan is to still move forward with an event that day; the magnitude of the day will depend on COVID. We will be monitoring our limits all while moving forward with plans for 2021.

If you are in your budget process, and are willing / capable of donating funds for the WGF, we will take it. Again, the net proceeds go to buildings and grounds, our facility.

Mike Dow and I will be out to meet up with units / clubs as our plans solidify.

You can expect more of the good times we have had in the recent years. New ideas for games, food and frolicking will come out.

Keep an eye on direct email contact about future meetings and planning. As we have stressed before, this is a TEMPLE WIDE EVENT. And only the TEMPLE benefits from everyone's hard work and dedication. THANK YOU FOR **BEING PART OF THIS!** 

If you have any questions, concerns, or donations, please make sure to converse with Mike Dow or myself on these matters. Then information and goods will not be lost in translation. Let's keep in touch.

WGF 2021 Chairs Mike Dow Mike Rieckman aka Mike2

# Membership Rise Up and Respond to the Challenge

The year has brought adversities and challenges to our daily routines.

The key to dealing with those adversities and challenges is getting up and getting out there and doing what you can to make a positive impact.

October 17th, the Misfits and Director Staff teamed up to provide a Pulled Pork/Ribs feed for the West Fargo First Responders. It was a proud moment to be Shriner and be able to serve those who are out there everyday serving and protecting us. They/I've gotten a tremendous amount of positive feedback from the First Responders.

November 3rd It was a complete team effort by the Mystics and Clowns to put up over 7 miles of lights to light up what is now called "Shrine Hill" it was a very impressive showing. When I saw the Mayor and Jamestown community mingling with all of us. I thought, "Now this is how you bring the community together". Again, great work!

Being part of a philanthropy that helps families and kids the way the Shrine does still tugs at my heart strings every time I explain "why I'm a Shriner". However, when we come together to be part of the community and serve those that are always there to help us, brings out that extra sense of pride and belonging.

That makes others ask, "What do you do?" "How can I become part of an organization like that?"

Membership Chairman **Russell Schell** 

Jamestown
Mystics
An Honor To Answer the Calling

# To This Great Brotherhood

With just a few weeks to go before 2020 vanishes to the wind, the Mystics find themselves looking towards the future. While this year has been fairly turbulent, the Mystics are proud to report that overall our fundraising efforts were still a great success! We definitely won't be rolling into the Parade of Glory with our tails between our legs. The community of Jamestown stepped up in a big

Ultimately, our success results from a strong brotherhood that continues to be led by great men and supported by brothers who believe in our cause. A truly heartfelt thank you is graciously extended to the Lady Mystics. Your continued support is without question and is genuinely appreciated. We couldn't do it without you!

As the page of 2020 is close to being turned, we find excitement in the future and look forward to 2021. The formation of committees and the elections of officers for 2021 are well underway.

As the Mystics establish committees and elect new officers, we are reminded of our duty to our brothers, ladies, faith, country, and cause.

To our future bothers, we will be reaching out for your help soon.

The Mystics will never forget our duty to family, community, self, the brotherhood, and those in

The call to be Shriner is an honor, and we look forward to serving along the sides of our future brothers in 2021.

God Bless, Jeff Moser Jamestown Mystics

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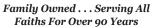


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