

ALZAFAR

JANUARY 2025

ACHBAR



Potentate Elect
Michael Long



Elected Oriental Guide
Steve Fisk



Elected Recorder
Oscar Flores

The Alzafar Achbar is the Official Membership Newsletter of Alzafar Shriners published monthly by Alzafar Shriners, San Antonio, Central, and South Texas. All images are used with permission, additive art, creative commons, or with rights purchased by or created by DIM. Images submitted by contributors are theirs alone. To Submit articles or to contact the Editor email: alzafarshrineachbar@gmail.com.

Stated Sessions 2nd. Thursday Monthly
Chartered July 13, 1916
Phone: 210-496-1625
MAIL: 901 N. Loop 1604 West; San Antonio, Texas 78232
Alzafar Office E-mail Address: mike.barnes@alzafar.org
Official Website Address: www.alzafar.org

Imperial Sir Marty Bartlett - Imperial Divan & Representative

2025 ELECTIVE DIVAN

Potentate..... Michael Long
Chief Rabban..... Steve White
Asst. Rabban..... David Olivares
High Priest & Prophet..... Dan Dailey
Oriental Guide..... Steve Fisk
Treasurer..... Robert M. Norman, II
Recorder..... Oscar Flores

2025 APPOINTED OFFICERS

1st Ceremonial Master..... Bobby Miller
2nd Ceremonial Master..... Josh Miller
Director..... Chris Celis
Marshall..... Michael Gollohan
Captain of the Guard..... Paul Dawson
Outer Guard..... David Hadley
Temple Photographer..... Ron Spar
Chaplain..... Edward Mitchell

IMPERIAL REPRESENTATIVES

Potentate..... Michael Long
Chief Rabban..... Steve White
P.P. Reese L. Harrison, Jr..... Emeritus Representative
P.P. Robert L. Jett..... Emeritus Representative
Daniel M. Hutchison III..... Emeritus Representative
P.P. Robert W. Hunt..... Emeritus Representative
P.P. Eric A. DeWalt..... Elected Representative
P.P. Robert M. Norman, II..... Elected Representative

2025 FINANCE COMMITTEE

Potentate..... Michael Long
Chief Rabban..... Steve White
Asst. Rabban..... David Olivares
4 years..... OPEN
3 years..... Gary Basell
2 years..... Kyle Jackson
1 year..... Fabien Galindo

Notice of Stated Meeting of Alzafar Shriners The following Stated Meeting of Alzafar Shriners will be on **January 9, 2025 at 7:00 pm** in the San Antonio Shrine Auditorium, 901 N. Loop 1604 W. San Antonio, Texas 78232. Dinner is at 6:00 p.m. on a first come first served basis. The purpose all stated meetings is to receive and ballot on petitions to receive committee reports, to discuss and take possible action on matters as might come before it. **YOUR 2025 DUES CARD OR YOUR DIGITAL IMAGE VIA <https://www.shrinersinternational.org> WILL BE REQUIRED FOR ADMITTANCE into any STATED MEETINGS. BE SURE TO BRING THESE THREE THINGS:**

- **Your Fez on your head**
- **Your Dues Card in your pocket**
- **The spirit of fun & good fellowship in your heart.**

Oscar Flores

Recorder,
Oscar Flores

Michael Long

Potentate: Illustrious Sir,
Michael Long

The Past Potentates of Alzafar Shriners

1916 Frank R. Newton Sr*	1970 Jack W. Cones, Jr.*
1917 Ted Millburn*	1971 Bruce Waitz*
1918 J. A. Patterson*	1972 Floyd F. Graham*
1919 Henry Rabe*	1973 Drue H. Floyd*
1920 Robert Burne*	1974 Jack O. Dietz*
1921 Sylvan Lang*	1975 H.C. Kopplow*
1922 Robert S. Michael*	1976 W.H. "Bill" Elmore*
1923 Nathan K. Tracy*	1977 Thurman Barrett, Jr.*
1924 H. W. Weber*	1978 Floyd O. Schneider*
1925 Herman Horner*	1979 Reese L. Harrison, Jr.
1926 Charles D. Hall*	1980 Burdit W. McCoy*
1927 S. X. Callahan*	1981 James V. Gullette*
1928 John Lomax*	1982 Joseph M. Clark*
1929 Henry A. Hirschberg*	1983 George D. Vann, Jr.*
1930 A.J. McKenzie*	1984 Joe Roy Hollaway*
1931 Louis P. Hartung*	1985 E.C. "Bud" Jordan*
1932 Anton N. Moursund*	1986 Sidney D. Autry*
1933 G.G. Grebenheimer*	1987 Terry McQuire*
1934 Porter Loring*	1988 James Dockery, Jr.*
1935 P.D. Mathis*	1989 George J. Labinski*
1936 Geo. F. Dullnig*	1990 James W. Todd*
1937 Willard E. Simpson*	1991 Ray Fuller*
1938 C. Baumberger, Jr.*	1992 Robert "Bob" Jett
1939 William Eifler*	1993 Emmett C. George*
1940 William H. Wallace*	1994 E.C. "Ed" Vest*
1941 Daniel O'Connell*	1995 Tom Boothe*
1942 O.J. Solcher*	1996 Jerry Krupp*
1943 Rennie Wright*	1997 Harry D. Rose*
1944 Albert A. Green*	1998 Robert D. "Bob" Green
1945 W.D. Turbeville*	1999 Robert "Bobby" Hunt
1946 Ted E. Poppe*	2000 Bob Stephens*
1947 Alfred W. Harlos*	2001 Loren Hayes*
1948 Sam A. Chapman*	2002 J. Philip Knight-Sheen*
1949 Richard Adams*	2003 Wayne R. Duncan
1950 Roy Akers*	2004 Steve R. Molnar*
1951 Glen K. Schuepbach*	2005 Stuart H. Simms*
1952 W.C. "Pat" Welch*	2006 Frank B. Hunter*
1953 Elliot J. Bilhartz*	2007 Joseph Calvey
1954 Ray H. Trimmier*	2008 Paul F. McCombs
1955 T.M. McCormick*	2009 James "Jim" Strayer*
1956 H.S. Norman*	2010 Richard "Rick" Reyes II
1957 W.B. Jack Ball*	2011 Gregorio "G.I." Flores*
1958 Floyd J. Griffin*	2012 Robert "Bob" Jones
1959 Henry W. Eitt*	2013 Tom Young
1960 Harvey McDonald*	2015 Jay Dee Thomas
1961 L.L. Woodman*	2016 John Dunn
1962 George W. Henry*	2017 Gary Radvansky
1963 Barney Norris*	2018 Jason Triggs
1964 Jack B. Lee*	2019 Eric A. DeWalt
1965 Robert B. O'Connor*	2020 Marty Bartlett
1966 E. Jeff Ashcraft, Jr.*	2021 L. Travis Elmendorf
1967 D. Neal Talley*	2022 Robert M. Norman, II
1968 Wm. H. Ferguson*	2023 Richard "Rick" Reyes III
1969 Keith Gerstner*	2024 Marco A. Zuniga

Alzafar Shriners, Past Potentates of Other Shrine Centers

1964 Roy Reynolds*	(El Bekal Shriners)
1970-71 Eldon O. Wesner*	(Anezeh Shriners)
1979 Ray Robinson	(Suez Shriners)
1981 Donald Garrido*	(Abou Saad Shriners)
1983 David Martin	(Suez Shriners)
1998 Terry Zittle	(Abou Saad Shriners)
2012 Rick Oberg	(El Zagal Shriners)
2023 Phil Neil	(Al Amin Shriners)

***The passing of our Illustrious Sir**

Alzafar,

I want to extend my heartfelt thanks to all of you for your trust in me and for electing me as the leader of Alzafar Shrine. A special acknowledgment goes to Bobby Hunt for his nomination and to Bob Jett for overseeing this year's elections. This journey has been incredibly memorable, from organizing the children's parties and serving as membership chair to coordinating the hospital fundraiser and the circus. Each year on Alzafar's board has served as a significant stepping stone in my personal growth. The interactions I've had while understanding the nobility's needs, witnessing your enjoyment, and observing your competitions have been invaluable.



This coming year, I challenge every noble—whether young or seasoned—to return to your lodge and promote Alzafar. I encourage you to invite a Mason who is not yet a Shriner to join us. Let's showcase the joy we experience as Shriners. Additionally, it's important to highlight the philanthropic work we do. Share what Shriners are about and inform them about our network of hospitals.

Membership is a crucial focus for me. As we approach 1,100 members in Alzafar, we risk losing an Imperial representative if our numbers drop below 1,000. Currently, Alzafar boasts the highest number of representatives among all temples, with 9. Notably, our average age exceeds 75, while the average male lifespan in America is 74. Therefore, I urge each of you to bring in just one noble this year, one Mason whom you can sponsor.

I am excited for another memorable year at Alzafar, leading the brother nobles whom I deeply care for. Let's have fun, while helping kids!

Until next time, Illustrious Sir

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Michael Long".

Alzafar Shrine 2025 Potentate Elect



Hello Nobles,

Wow, what a year we have had and next year looks just as exciting and promising. Thanks to all for electing me your Chief Rabban. I promise to continue to serve the Nobility of Alzafar Shrine and the support of our hospitals.

This coming year we will continue with our Life Happens program. If you have yet to attend one you are missing out. Yes, we are having a Shrine Circus again and are already working on putting it together. We will need many hands to put this together. We are starting a new way to promote the circus. We are selling programs as always and will sell ads in our Achbar to companies wanting to advertise their services. By selling ads we help in the cost of the Achbar and help raise funds for our

fraternity from the net proceeds of the circus.

Looking forward to the future looks bright. As always you can contact me anytime with great ideas or questions you may have. If you're in the office, please thank the staff for all the great work they have done. I do not believe we have ever had such dedicated staff as you have now.

Fraternally yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Steve White".

Alzafar Shrine 2025 Chief Rabban Elect

RANDY ROGERS & WADE BOWEN

HOLD MY BEER & WATCH THIS

Saturday, April 12th



All net proceeds from the ticket sales will benefit the Alzafar Transportation Fund



JOIN US AT THE



SAN ANTONIO STOCK SHOW & RODEO BBQ COOK-OFF

COME SUPPORT



HOT SANDS BBQ & MEMBERSHIP EVENT

BROTHERHOOD • MUSIC • FOOD



JANUARY 24 & 25, 2025

1723 CREEKVIEW DR SAN ANTONIO, TX 78219
BUY YOUR TICKETS ONLINE



BACK
TO THE

80's & **90's**

2025 POTENTATES BALL

FEBRUARY 8TH, 2025

DOORS OPEN AT 6:00 PM

PRESENTATION OF OFFICERS AT 7:00 PM

BUFFET DINNER BY SPICE OF LIFE AT 8:00 PM

FEATURING MUSIC BY PASSING STRANGERS

**ALZAFAR SHRINE TEMPLE
901 N LOOP 1604 W,
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS 78232**

\$65 PER PERSON OR \$550 A TABLE

RSVP [210]496-1625

**POTENTATES BALL BENEFITS FRATERNAL/OPERATIONAL ACCOUNTS.
PAYMENTS ARE NOT CHARITABLE CONTRIBUTIONS**

HAPPY NEW YEAR! As we start another year, we can reflect on the many things we should be thankful for here at Alzafar. What a great year we had! A huge shoutout to the Alzafar Nobility and to our Divan. Kudos and a huge Thank You to our now Junior Past Potentate Marco Zuniga and his Lady Lori for the great job done for the last 5 years. This past year was a very successful year under your leadership. I know you may take a minute to relax but I know you will be back. Thank you to the rest of the Divan for the work that was put in which made for a great year. Many changes were made and now we have many great things to look forward to as we start a new year with our slate of officers.



This year I look forward to my duties as your Assistant Rabban. Thank you for your support and Luly and I look forward to serving you this year. One of our many duties is to lead our hospital fundraising. I have so big shoes to fill with some great successes from my predecessors. This year I am trying something a bit different. I do want to thank you for your support in going forward with our hospital fundraiser for this year. We have everything in place for a successful fundraiser. This year our big fundraiser will be a concert held at Cowboys Dancehall where we are hosting a concert. The performers for this event are Randy Rogers and Wade Bowen where they will be doing their "Hold My Beer & Watch This" concert tour. The concert will be held on April 12th, 2025, and starts at 7:00 pm. All net proceeds from the ticket sales will be going to the Alzafar Transportation Fund. You can get your tickets now for this event by going to <https://cowboys.apexticketing.com/>

Our January Finance and Divan meetings will be held on Monday, January 6th starting at 5:00 PM for Finance and the Divan meeting immediately following. Our Stated meeting will be held on January 12th and starts at 7:00 PM. We look forward to seeing you there!

Sincerely and Fraternaly,

David O'Keefe

Alzafar Shrine 2025 Assistant Rabban Elect



Misty and I hosted the children's Christmas party on December 15th in the ballroom from 12 noon to 3 PM. Santa and Mrs. Claus were there to hand out presents and take Christmas wishes from the kids! The food was catered by Ay Chiwawa Mexican Restaurant. There were over 150 very happy kids who visited with Santa and received gifts! Parents, grandparents, and even some great-grandparents attended the party, had some great food, and helped to make this a fun time for all. Thanks to everyone who donated toys for the kids!

This was our last "OG" event of 2024. Misty and I had a wonderful time this last year coordinating the various parties and events for kids and the golf tournament for adults. We cannot begin to express our heartfelt thanks to everyone who has

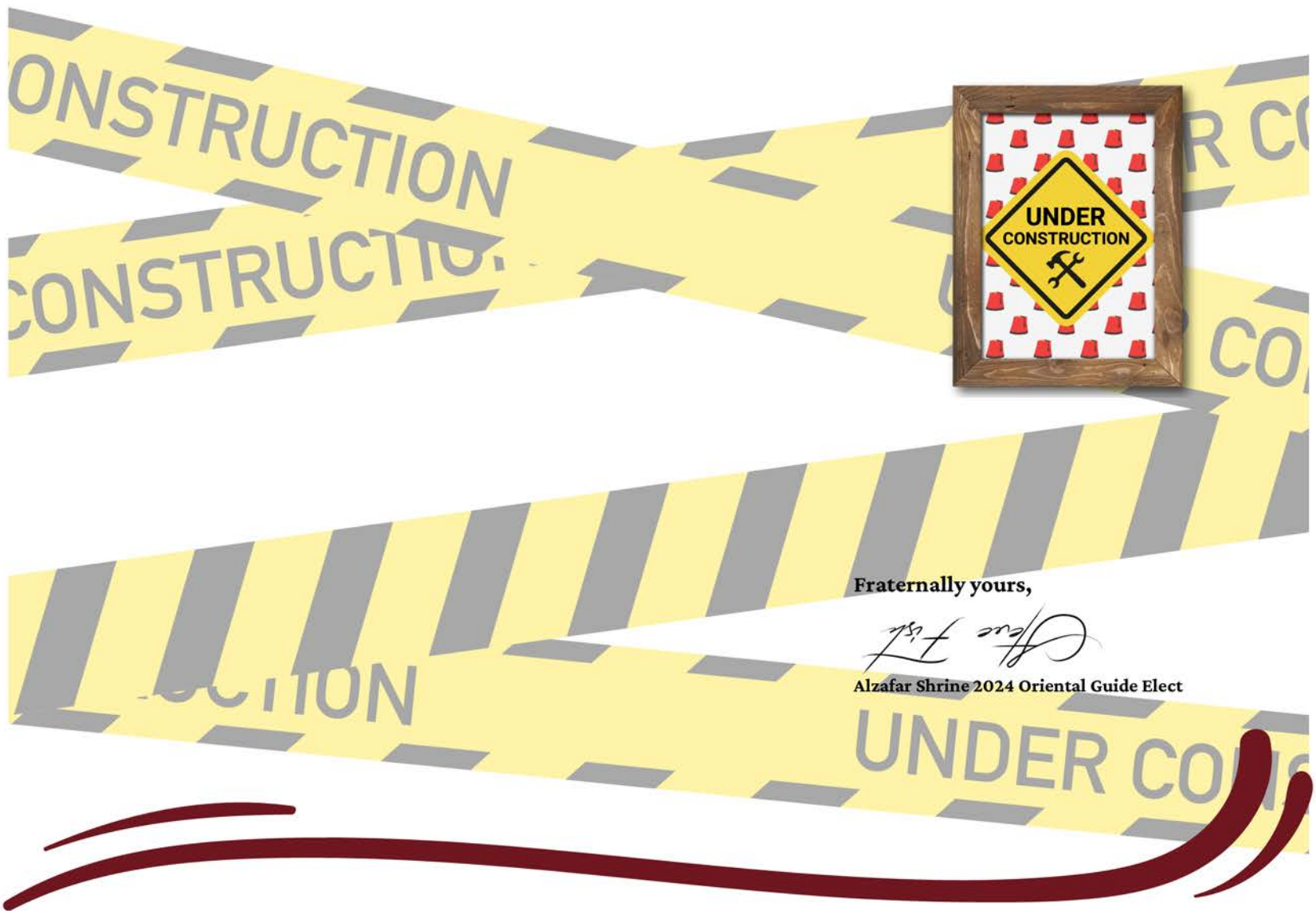
helped us and supported us during our journey at Alzafar Shrine! We both look forward to the coming years and the opportunities they will bring and the friendships we will cherish.

We hope you and your family had a very Merry Christmas and will have a happy and prosperous New Year!

Fraternaly yours,

Dan Dailey

Alzafar Shrine 2025 High Priest and Prophet Elect



Fraternally yours,

Alzafar Shrine 2024 Oriental Guide Elect



Hello Alzafar!! I am humbled and honored and cannot THANK YOU enough for your continued support and trust in me to serve on your Board of Directors for Alzafar Shrine. This will be my third term as your Treasurer and fifth term as an Imperial Representative in 2025. I am excited to continue to serve and lead this great organization.

Congratulations to our newly elected/installed Potentate Illustrious Sir Michael Long. I look forward to seeing you in action this year. Always remember this, as you were presented the gavel as an emblem of authority “You should enjoin upon the duty of wielding it with dignity, impartiality, and courtesy, never forgetting that, though you are temporarily the chief among your brethren, you have only emerged for a brief time from the ranks and to the ranks you will soon return”. To the rest of the board congratulations to you all for moving forward in your journey and to the

Oriental Guide for your journey beginning. I am truly excited to continue working with you all as we all work for our shrine. To the Oriental Guide, the best advice I can give you is always remember you work for the individuals who voted you into the position. Never forget that.

I would like to say Thank You one more time for 2024!! I needed you all more than you needed me last year and I can't thank you enough for that. As always, I appreciate your continued support and trust in me with the responsibility to lead you all as well as watching over your money. I look forward to seeing you all again real soon. If there is something I can do better don't hesitate to stop and tell me or reach out to and let me know. I hope you all have a blessed 2025 stay tuned for what's coming up next.

Alzafar Shrine 2024 Treasurer

Happy New Year to everyone in Alzafar!

I'll start off saying thanks. Thanks to those that provided me the opportunity to serve Alzafar as the Recorder. Thanks to all the staff that work at Alzafar day in and day out. Joy for keeping the building rented and income flowing in. John who has the ability to repair anything and everything - vehicles, vacuums, mop machine, scissor lift, and the list goes on and on. Marilyn who spell checked and grammar checked most everything I penned and took care of the Nobility with a smile and desire to help. Irma who coordinates the transportation of the patients to and from the hospital and clinics for treatment. She also shows up at o'dark thirty to meet the drivers and talk to the patients shows how much she cares about her duties. Lisa who handles the books and can find an answer to every question about anything number related I came up with, and there were lots of those.

Dickie, Shelby and Glynn – the camp guys who keep that place looking good and functioning which is no easy task. Everyone who showed up and represented Alzafar in all the parades. No matter what the weather was, you were there. And thanks to you, the Nobles that volunteer and serve this fraternity. You who extended your hand to shake, your smile and words of encouragement. All the experiences and all the memories have enriched my life more than I could have imagined.

I want to give the Divan my thanks as well. I witnessed all the hours they put in at all the events and meetings attended in order to manage Alzafar and keeping it headed in the right direction. Definitely not last and especially not least I give a huge Thanks to every Lady who has been there. Ladies, without a doubt, you are a huge part of Alzafar too.

No question that this year will be every bit as rewarding and fulfilling. I don't know what tomorrow brings, but today is full of new opportunities and I can't wait to see what comes next.

As you read this in 2025 there is someone new sitting in the Recorder's office. Since the elections have not occurred and I don't know for sure who it will be, all I can say is I know he will do a great job. With all those mentioned above doing what you do day in and day out, he will be equally rewarded as I have been.

Thanks again Alzafar!

Steve Fisk

Pro tem Recorder
Steve Fisk

The Philosophical Musings of Mr. McButterpants

Here is an oldie but a goody!!!

- Morris and his wife Esther went to the state fair every year, and every year Morris would say, "Esther, I'd like to ride in that helicopter."
 - Esther always replied, "I know, but that helicopter ride is fifty dollars, and fifty dollars is fifty dollars!"
 - One year Esther and Morris went to the fair and Morris said, "Esther, I'm 85 years old. If I don't ride that helicopter, I might never get another chance."
 - To this, Esther replied. "Morris that helicopter ride is fifty dollars and fifty dollars is fifty dollars!"
 - The Pilot overheard the couple and said, "Folks I'll make you a deal. I'll take both of you for a ride. If you can stay quiet for the entire ride and not say a word, I won't charge you! But if you say one word, it's fifty dollars."
 - "Morris and Esther agreed and up they went. The pilot did all kinds of fancy maneuvers, but not a word was heard. He did his daredevil tricks over and over again, but still not a word.
 - When they landed, the pilot turned to Morris and said, "By golly, I did everything I could to get you to yell out, but you didn't. I'm impressed!"
 - Morris replied, "Well, to tell you the truth, I almost said something when Esther fell out, but you know, fifty dollars is fifty dollars!"

That's all I have for this month! Always remember and never forget, Keep the Sun in your eyes!!
Smiley T. McButterpants!!

AAANNND THE RECIPE FOR THE MONTH IS???

BEANIS WEENIE CASEROLE

From the Kitchen of Smiley T McButterpants

Ingredients:

- 2 tbsp olive oil
 - 1 medium yellow onion, finely diced
 - 2 cloves garlic, minced
 - 12 oz smoked sausage or kielbasa, sliced into 1/4-inch rounds
 - 2 cups cooked white beans (e.g., cannellini or navy beans)
 - 1 cup cooked black beans
 - 1 cup tomato passata (pureed tomatoes)
 - 1/2 cup barbecue sauce (use a smoky, rich variety)
 - 1/2 cup chicken or vegetable stock
 - 1 tsp Dijon mustard
 - 1 tsp smoked paprika
 - 1 tsp fresh thyme leaves
 - 1/2 tsp cayenne pepper (optional)
 - 1/2 tsp black pepper
 - Salt to taste
- Topping:**
- 2 cups panko breadcrumbs
 - 1/2 cup grated Parmesan cheese
 - 2 tbsp butter, melted
 - 1 tbsp parsley, finely chopped

1. Preheat Oven: Preheat your oven to 375°F (190°C).
2. Sauté the Base: Heat olive oil in a large skillet over medium heat. Add the onions and garlic, cooking until soft and fragrant (about 3 minutes). Add the sausage slices and cook until browned.
3. Build the Sauce: Stir in the beans, tomato passta, barbecue sauce, stock, Dijon mustard, and seasonings. Simmer for 5-7 minutes, allowing the flavors to meld. Adjust seasoning with salt as needed.
4. Assemble the Casserole: Transfer the mixture to a greased casserole dish.
5. Prepare the Topping: Spread evenly over bean and sausage mixture.
6. Bake: Bake for 20-25 minutes, or until golden and crispy.
7. Serve: Let rest for 5 minutes before serving. Garnish with additional parsley if desired.

This elevated version balances smoky, savory, and slightly sweet flavors while giving it a gourmet flair with fresh herbs and a crispy topping!
Or.....
Can of beans mixed with cut weenies. Done.



Imperial Happenings

By Marty Bartlett

As your representative on the Imperial Divan, I wanted to periodically update everyone on things happening at the Imperial level of Shriners. It is an exciting time with many moving parts. Shriners Children's has hired Kaufman and Hall, a major hospital consulting firm, to strategically guide the system into the future. The new plan will be known as Vision 2035 and will involve guidance and clear metrics provided to each hospital and clinic. These new metrics will be based upon industry-standard performance benchmarks. These guidelines will help ensure that we are treating more kids, in more places, with the fiduciary responsibility that our system will be financially secure for many years to come.



There are a number of exciting Shriners Children's events coming up, but the first to put on your calendar will be the 100th anniversary of the Shriners East / West football classic to be played this year in Dallas Cowboy stadium! This game is the second oldest college football game, with only the Rose Ball being around longer. The game will be on January 30, with a Fanfest tailgate in the afternoon and the game at 7 PM. This event is where you will see the next NFL stars, with 52 of our players drafted into the NFL just last year. Call the office to purchase special suite tickets or go online to get general admission seats. Martha and I wish each of you a great holiday season and a happy New Year and we look forward to seeing you around the Shrine.

EAST WEST
SHRINE BOWL
100 YEARS

100TH EAST-WEST
SHRINE BOWL
AT&T STADIUM | JANUARY 30, 2025



Brews Brothers

by Noble Brandon Mical Curry



Pour a beer for the New Year, Nobles! We're all putting our lives back into a semblance of order after those wonderful holidays. Thanks to all who came to the Brews Bros. Christmas Shindig at James' house. A good time was had by all! Beer was imbibed and enjoyed responsibly, and plans for this year's brewing and competitions were made. "As the beer goes in, wisdom comes out," Nobles, and we were all very wise this Christmas & New Year's!

So now, LOOK OUT: it's January and the time has come for our POLAR PLUNGE! If you haven't pledged yet, please contact our Secretary Russ Brown at Alzafarbrewers@gmail.com to let him know your donation and who you want to see freeze their bottlecaps off! Minimum donation is suggested at \$100.00, but please feel free to be generous as we are donating all funds to the Transportation Fund. The schedule shall unfold thusly: on Saturday, February 1, 2025 at 1 PM we gather at Camp Alzafar to do the very intelligent thing of jumping into the pool. By all logic the water is going to be, as sophisticated gents say, "a titty bit nippy." Polar-like, even. After the jump, it's Happy Hour until 2 PM. That's when the rib cook off and potluck begins, so get ready for all the fellowship you can stand. Check the heater in your RV, camper or cabin now, Nobles. Come out and join us and stay warm!

Winter won't quit until March, so take the cooler weather as the perfect excuse to try dark and rich brews. May we suggest: join the Brews Bros. unit if you want to hang out with a group who does so regularly and with aplomb! Get tips, advice, and even help with brewing if you're looking to start or expand your hobby. We hope to see you Nobles and your families at our Polar Plunge and many other events & meetings throughout 2025. Cheers!

Alzafar Shrine
BREWS BROTHERS
Presents
POLAR PLUNGE
7

February 1st, 2025 - 1pm
Camp Alzafar Pool
221 Camp Alzafar Rd, Boerne Tx
78006
\$100 per participant
Pottluck/ Rib Cookoff to follow.

All proceeds to benefit Shriner Hospital Texas. Shriners Hospitals is a 501(c)3 corporation. All donations are tax deductible to the extent permitted by law.



Camp Alzafar Bar Project

by Noble David Hernandez

A newly arrived bar top installation is underway at Camp Alzafar's pavilion, incorporating materials salvaged and donated by Kyle Jackson, including pecky cypress salvaged from the river bottom at camp Alzafar by Kyle during the 2016 river cleanup and oak from Kyle's Boerne property. The pecky cypress and oak began its journey to Houston in 2023 where Allen Grotzinger used his expertise in carpentry skills and his vision of what the raw lumber would become. Miguel Arizona, owner of Arizola Carpentry, graciously shared his work shop, and so the task of building the 19 foot bar top began. You can think of the pecky cypress as a giant sponge full of holes. Stabilizing the pecky cypress required extensive labor and over 5 gallons of epoxy. Oak components were carefully milled, cut, and sanded for what was to become the drink and bar rail. As the vision came to life the so did the bar top. Applying the finish took more than 1 1/2 gallons of polyurethane with 15 plus coats, sanding and repeating until a mirror like finish was obtained. Allen Grotzinger donated the funding for additional materials and over 300 hours of labor in support of Shriners Children's philanthropy. We look forward to the completion of the bar as we continue to finish this project.



**Next time you are at camp,
visit the pavilion to admire the newly installed bar top.**



Directors Staff

by Noble Christopher Celis, Director

The new year is here , 2025! Thank you again for electing me to Director, it means a lot for you to put your trust in me for another year. I am honored to be carrying on the traditions that the past directors have laid out before me. I respected the nobles who ran the unit and showed me the directors staff way and I will keep it going by showing the new guys how it should be done!

Our Christmas party was held at The Barn Door this past December, we had a wonderful turnout. The food was great and I got a lot of compliments on the venue. High Priest and Prophet David Olivares was our installing officer for the evening. He was not able to make it

out in 2023 to install me but he kept a promise and installed me for 2025, thank you David ! Thanks also go out to Chief Rabban Mike Long and Potentate Marco Zuniga for attending the party.

A few highlights for 2024 were, SDA in San Antonio, a first place win for new stunt and presidents pick which meant Alzafar brought home two very nice plaques. Six shrines competed and we came out on top. We had a great circus and fez sales went very well this year. Thank you to those who braved the heat to sale this year. The unit with the ladies made the trek down to Mexico city and toured the hospital and donated one thousand dollars which was greatly appreciated. We raised this money through donations yearly at our meetings. Lastly the Fire Truck and Ford both received major overhauls and are now ready for a 2025 parade season. Thank you to those nobles who turned wrenches to get them both going.

Lastly I want to thank the ladies for all you have done and supported us over the many many years. I know if it wasn't for June half the things I set out to accomplish wouldn't get done! I have taken on many offices or assignments and she has been standing next to me ready to work. Just like every lady at Alzafar. Thank you for allowing us to do what we do.

So as 2025 starts I want to wish the newly elected divan great success and a prosperous year. That's all for me right now, if you have any info you would like to pass on , get with me so I can get it into the article. If your looking to join us we meet on the 2nd Tuesday for dinner at 6:30 and meeting to follow at 7pm.



December REWIND ◀



JANUARY

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
			1 New Year Day	2 Band Drum Corps Ladies Oriental Shrine Seniors	3	4
5	6 Divan/ Finance Honor Guard NEMNUF Shotgun Unit	7 Directors Staff Golf Unit Mini-Wheels Red Roadsters Hill Country SC	8 Hot Sands BBQ Burning Sun Highlanders Band Oriental Band	9 Stated Meeting Daughters of the Nile	10 N.O.T.V.L. Achbar Article Due	11 Life Happens (CPR-Paul Zuniga)
12	13 Motor Patrol Guadalupe Valley	14 Hospital Corps Motor Club	15 Desert Knights Highlanders Band Oriental Band	16 Band Drum Corps	17	18
19 Ruffians	20 Patrol Inauguration & MLK Day	21	22 Brews Brothers Highlanders Band Oriental Band	23 Band Drum Corps Canyon Lake	24 Rodeo BBQ Cook-off RV Rally	25 Rodeo BBQ Cook-off RV Rally
26 RV Rally	27	28	29 Highlanders Band Oriental Band	30 Band Drum Corps EAST WEST SHRINE BOWL	31	

● Events
 ● National Holidays
 ● Club/Unit Meeting
 ● Stated Meeting
 ● Achbar Article Due

EVENTS TO LOOK OUT FOR

FEBRUARY

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
						1 Polar Plunge
2 Groundhog Day	3 Honor Guard	4 Red Roadsters	5 Highlanders Band Oriental Band Povost Guard	6 TSA MIDWINTER Band Drum Corps L.O.S. Seniors	7 TSA MIDWINTER	8 Potentates Ball
9	10 Divan/ Finance NEMNUF Shotgun Unit Achbar Article Due	11 Directors Staff Golf Unit Mini-Wheels	12 Hot Sands BBQ Burning Sun Highlanders Band Oriental Band Hill Country SC	13 Stated Meeting Nile	14 N.O.T.V.L. Valentines Day	15
16 Ruffians	17 Motor Patrol Guadalupe Valley	18 Hospital Corps Motor Club	19 Desert Knights Highlanders Band Oriental Band	20 Band Drum Corps	21	22 Loredo Washington Parade
23	24 Patrol	25	26 Brews Brothers Highlanders Band Oriental Band	27 Band Drum Corps Canyon Lake	28	



FORE Alzafar Golf Unit

by Noble Tee-Bone Tommy



"We sent you THREE warning lightning bolts to get off the course, but you kept playing! We finally just got fed up and nailed you."

We have a new year and a new Golf Unit president. Please welcome Gary Callison.

When I asked Gary what was happening in the unit, he quickly said the unit played golf in November at Riverside with the following winners of the chicken dinner:

Ramon was the 1st place winner. Gomeyac came in 2nd place. Perez came in 3rd place, and Gutierrez brought up 4th place. In December, the unit played golf at the Alsatian Golf Course and celebrated an early Christmas dinner at the famous Julianna's Restaurant located at the Golf Course. The Alsatian might be the best-hidden gem in golf.

Life lessons from Tee-Bone Tommy: A lot of women say their husbands never listen to them. I am proud to say I have never heard my wife say that.



Honor Guard

by Noble Mike Jagger

What happened to 2024? We were just doing parades, flag retirement ceremonies, Ocktober Fest, collecting and then taking coloring books and Spanish books to the Mexico City and the Galveston hospitals, doing the annual memorial ceremony, doing a Missing Man table ceremony, honoring various Nobles at their celebration of life ceremonies, supporting the First lady's project,

presenting colors at various Blue Lodges as requested, plus our normal meetings both unit and Shrine. Now we are getting ready to start all over!

Congratulations to the newly elected Divan along with the various units' new leadership. The Honor Guard wishes all a very successful and meaningful year. The 2025 lineup of officers for the Honor Guard is, Socrates Garza as President, Ruben Galvan as Vice President, Leo Bravo as Secretary/Treasurer, Mike Jaeger as Drill Commander. Please go to any of these officers if you would like the Honor Guard to do something for your events.

The Honor Guard would like to thank all the Divan and Shrine Nobles who supported and continue to support the Honor Guard of Alzafar. For those who might not know, Alzafar has the only Honor Guard in the State of Texas. We will continue to do new events and undertakings to keep all of us involved and actively engaged in our great philanthropy. In case you have not noticed Since Russel Ross of the Highlanders joined the Honor Guard we have been having a piper at most of our activities, this joining of two units is one of the ways we will continue to be in the forefront.

Alzafar Hospital Corp

When we say “We are Driving Kids to a Better Life” we really mean it!

by Noble Tee-Bone Tommy



Welcome to 2025.

After a busy November, the Hospital Corps got to take off the month of December. Only two patients had transportation needs. The first patient who needed transportation on the 11th only was a return trip, and public transportation was the logical answer. The second transportation need was on the 18th, and we felt like it was too close to the Christmas holidays.

As a recent Past Commander of the unit, I would like to personally thank Irma Alvarez and Bob Ashley for all their help in coordinating the logistics of moving our Shrine patients. As drivers, we sometimes think we are asked to leave on our trips too early, but we must take the appointment times that our Shrine clients and hospitals have available for the kids. My first trip with the unit was with the GOAT (Greatest of All Time), and he told me to meet him at the Shrine at 3:30 in the morning to leave on our trip to Houston.

Welcome to our 2025 Commander of the Hospital Corps, Patrick Scoles. I will continue as Secretary/Treasurer of the unit. Many thanks to our former Secretary/Treasurer Bob Ashley, who held the position for over 20 years. Enjoy traveling with your beautiful wife, Becky. Personally, I think Bob will be back at some point when he finds that Becky's honey-do list starts growing!

We invite everyone to come to our next meeting, which is always held on the 3rd Tuesday of the month at 7 pm. Call Patrick Scoles at 210-862-5533 or myself, Tom Leverett, at 210-617-8977 for more information.

Come join the greatest group of nobles and help move the kids.

Mini Wheels

By Noble David Hernandez, Treasurer

Hello all. January is here and I can't believe we are already in another year. We hope everyone had a Blessed Merry Christmas and may the New Year bring you peace, joy, and happiness.

By the time everyone gets to read the Achbar, we should be planning or packing to go to Laredo to participate in the George Washington Parade. That parade is always a great way to kick off our parades for the year.

All the members want to thank everybody for supporting the Mini Wheels club last year and we are asking for your support for the upcoming year.

If you are interested in learning about our unit, meeting like-minded Shriners and feel the AHOOGA in you, we meet the 2nd Tuesday of every month at 7:00, you are invited to join us for a meal at 6:30 before the meeting at Alzafar Shrine Room # 10.



May the new year be even better than the old one!

Provost Guard

by Noble Tom Hirte, Secretary/Treasurer



Nobles and Ladies,

The Provost Guard Unit did not have a stated meeting in December, but instead met for fun and fellowship with our nobles and ladies to celebrate the holiday season on December 6th and our 2025 officers were installed. Happy New Year to one and all. The unit is looking forward to more fun and competition in 2025. Anyone interested in learning about our unit, bullseye pistol shooting and meeting like-minded Shriner's from around the Greatest State in the Union, come see us. We meet the 1st Wednesday of the month in the Director's Staff/Provost Guard room out back. Our meetings begin with a social time at 6:00pm, dinner at 6:30 pm and our meeting starting at 7:00 pm. Your Lady is ALWAYS welcome to attend.

Alzafar Seniors

by Noble Daniel Coburn, Secretary

The Alzafar Senior's monthly meeting was held at noon in the Roustabouts room on Thursday, December 5th with thirteen members and guests attending. Ralph McLeod provided a delicious selection of sandwiches for lunch and Nelson Dunn provided cake and cookies for dessert.

During our December meeting, our officers for 2025 were installed. They are Steve Fisk President, Ralph McLeod Vice President, Joe Estlack Treasurer, Daniel Coburn Secretary, and John Lorch Chaplain.

The speaker this month was Marilyn Lopez of Alzafar Shrine who talked about her work as an Office Assistant, helping to manage the insurance and contracts at Camp Alzafar, tracking Shrine membership, and helping families of deceased Masons track down their Masonic records. Marilyn described an effort underway at the Shrine to develop a Shine Ladies email contact list so that the Shrine can work to keep the Shrine Ladies up to date about events and news at the Shrine. Any Shrine Ladies not already on the Ladies' email list can join by calling the Shrine office.

The Senior's Unit meets at noon on the first Thursday of every month in the Shrine Roustabouts Room, but we will be dark on January 2nd due to the New Year holiday. All Senior Shriners and their Ladies are welcome to join us for lunch, dessert, and stimulating conversation. Lunch is \$10.00. Shriners younger than fifty-five can become honorary members and those one hundred or older eat for free. Dues are \$5.00 for the year, or forty-two cents per month for those on a budget who would like to take advantage of our special Senior's only deferred payment plan.

Our next meeting will be on February 6th. Please RSVP to join us. Until then we wish everyone safe travels.

For more information, or to RSVP, contact Senior's Secretary Daniel Coburn at 830-832-5513 or at

dycoburn@gmail.com.

Smokin' Clays

Alzafar Shotgun Unit

by Noble Bill Willis, Secretary

Wishing everyone a happy, safe, and prosperous New Year! I hope 2025 brings as much success to the Shotgun Unit as we saw in 2024. We gained several new members throughout the year, had awesome turnouts at our monthly fun shoots, and had great success at our competitions bringing home a record number of individual and team trophies. We ended the year on a high note with our annual Christmas Party and Officer Installation at the Saltgrass Steakhouse with over 50 Nobles, Ladies, and family members in attendance. The meal was excellent and many of us went home with some very nice door prizes. One of us even went home with a shotgun. A special thanks to our Potentate, Illustrious Sir Marco Zuniga, his Lady Lori, and other Divan members and Ladies for supporting our event and for their continued support of the unit throughout the year. And to Past Potentate (Abou Saad), Illustrious Sir Terry Zittle, for officiating the officer installation. But we couldn't have had the success during the past year without the leadership and vision of our 2024 President, Noble Chip Myre, and his Lady Karen. Thanks for your dedication and for the fun you brought to the unit. The dove hunt and BBQ, glow-in-the-dark night shoot, Rossville Turkey Shoot, and many other events will have lasting memories for all. And to our 2025 President, Tom Hirte, his Lady Julie, and the other newly elected officers, we look forward to another great year for the Smokin' Clays. We'll start out the new year honing our shooting skills in preparation for our first major competition of the year, the TSSSA Mid-Winter Shoot, held in Tyler, Texas on Saturday, March 15th. As a reminder, everyone is welcome to join us at our fun shoots, usually held on the 4th Saturday morning of the month, and at our stated meetings held on the second Monday of the month at 7:00 p.m., You'll want to arrive early as our Chief Chef Noble David Hadley will be serving up a fine meal starting at 6:30. And bring your Lady along. We always have a great turnout. Until next month, keep your powder dry remember to lead your targets.



Black Camel Notices

May Our Dearly Departed Rest in Peace

Noble:

Samuel W. Callahan

DOD 10/3/2024

Arturo Loera

DOD 11/19/2024

Leonard Neeper, Sr.

DOD 11/26/2024

Forest L. Little

DOD 11/29/2024

Henry R. Griffith

DOD 12/5/2024



We are Nekodah Strong



Daughters of The Nile; Nekodah Temple No. 44

by Queen Brandy Reyes

On behalf of Nekodah No 44, I would like to wish everyone a Happy New Year 2025! I pray that everyone had a wonderful holiday and rang in the New Year with friends and family.

We had an awesome Christmas party filled with games, laughter, and good times. Daughters of the Nile Nekodah No 44 gears up for more fundraisers and events to benefit Shriners Hospitals through the Daughters of the Nile Foundation.

We have a Mardi Gras party and gumbo competition coming up as well as an initiation for new members in February. It's hard to believe that my year as Queen is

almost up. As I navigate these next couple of months, I will cherish the memories made, and the efforts of all of our members to do what we do to support this beautiful philanthropy. Stay tuned for more events and activities to come in the next couple of months!

In Nile Love,
Brandy Reyes

Friendly Reminder, if you haven't paid your 2023-2024 (\$52) dues you may send them to Pr Recorder Diana Thomas, her contact information is in the Roster.

Help us keep the household roster up to date. If you have new contact information such as mailing or email address or phone you may send it to the Nekodah group account: nekodahtempleno44@gmail.com.

If you or someone you know would like to become a member of the Daughters of the Nile, Nekodah Temple No. 44, please contact any of our members or the Membership Team: PQ Carol Carpenter, PQ. Margie Flores, PQ. Peggy Songer, PQ. Barbara Wells, Pr. Cindy Garza.

We meet the 2nd Thursday of each month at 7:00 pm in the Alzafar Shrine Center Parlors except June, July, and December.

Ladies Oriental Shrine of North America

by Lady DeeDee Kintight, High Priestess, PHP

Happy New Year Altrui Court. I am hoping everyone had the best Christmas and New Year. The Christmas Party was a great success, thank you to Lady Wendy Sanders, 2ndCL for organizing this wonderful party for our members. As a reminder, the court will be having a Ceremonial on Jan 18th at 10 am. For our members who can't join us on Thursday evenings, Jan 18th is a perfect time to come out for another ceremonial for the rest of our new ladies.

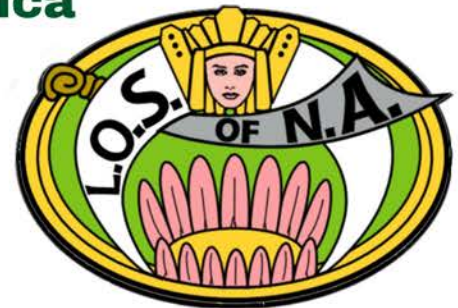
Upcoming Fundraisers:

- Bunco on Jan 26th in the Parlors from 1 – 3 pm. Entry fee is \$15.00 which includes hors d'oeuvres. Don't forget our quarters and dollar bills for playing Bunco. Hope to see everyone there.

Please help this wonderful organization raise money for their philanthropy.

If you have any updates to your contact information or you are not receiving your emails, please send the updates to our email address at Altrui.court@gmail.com.

We have a great court here in San Antonio and we raise money each year to donate to the Shriner's Hospitals and other Shrine groups, as well as our Ways and Means fund. It is all about the kids. If you or anyone you know would like to join us, please email us Altrui.Court@gmail.com and someone will contact you. For those ladies that have petitions to be submitted please do so as soon as possible.





Nobles, please help us keep our records updated!!

Call the Shrine office if you:

- Change mailing address
- Change phone number
- Change email address
- Have knowledge of a Noble passing

ALL UNITS AND CLUBS:

- If you are wanting your upcoming events flyer sent through webfez, we are asking that you please email the flyer in a .jpeg/photo format.
- **Reminder all Achbar articles need to be sent to the Achbar email, by the 10th of each month**

Office Phone # 210.496.1625

Webfez Contact Email: marilyn.lopez@alzafar.org

Achbar email: alzafarshrineachbar@gmail.com

DO YOU LIKE TO TAKE PICTURES OR WRITE?

The Alzafar Achbar is always looking for fresh ideas! If you like to take photos or write, give us a shout. Take part in Alzafar events and help document the fun and amazing things that the Nobility and their families do.

For over 100 years Alzafar has done so much and these things help to show the history of our journey. Be a part of Alzafar history by emailing: alzafarshrineachbar@gmail.com



CLASSIFIEDS

Alzafar Cabins for Sale
Must be an Alzafar Shrine member and current on your 2024 Alzafar and Blue Lodge dues.

#48 Suez @ Camp Alzafar

Listing Price: \$27,500

- Trailer section
- New 45' concrete pad
- New utilities run from both the water service and electrical pole.
- Lot has been elevated to be more level.
- Huge oak tree for shade
- Please contact the Office for any inquiry: (210)496-1625

YAMAHA 629 ELECTRIC GOLF CART
\$5,200

- 4 SEAT CART WITH LIGHTS
- ROY POW LITHIUM POWER BATTERY (New)
- 20 x 10 x 10 PREMIUM RIMS & TIRES (New)

Andy Libby (813) 477-1677

alibbycpa@verizon.net



#5 Moslah @ Camp Alzafar

ALL BIDS MAILED/EMAILED TO THE ADDRESS LISTED BELOW WILL BE CONSIDERED

- Bids should be mailed/emailed to:
 - Kim Jarutowicz
 - P.O. Box 609 Sutherland Springs, Texas 78161
 - Desij07@yahoo.com

If you have any questions, please contact Kim @ 210.289.7686

This is your chance to own a cabin in the exclusive, beautifully rustic Camp Alzafar community.



Alzafar Shriners
 San Antonio Shrine Auditorium
 901 North Loop 1604 West
 San Antonio, Texas 78232-1040

Non-Profit
 Organization
 U.S Postage PAID
 San Antonio, Texas
 Permit No.480

**Where & When our Shrine Units,
 Clubs, Masonic Lodges Meet**

ALZAFAR UNIT MEETING SCHEDULE

<u>BAND</u>	Each Thursday	6:30 P.M	Room 7
<u>BREWS BROTHERS</u>	4th Wednesday	7:30 P.M	Room 5
<u>BURNING SUN</u>	2nd Wednesday	7:00 P.M	Room 5
<u>CABIRI</u>	Wed. 2nd Thru.	12:00 N	As Designated
<u>CAMP ALZAFAR</u>	Memorial Day, July 4th & Labor Day	12:00 N	Camp Pavilion
<u>DESERT KNIGHTS</u>	3rd Wednesday	7:00 PM	Directors Room
<u>DIRECTORS STAFF</u>	2nd Tuesday	7:00 P.M	Directors Room
<u>DRUM CORPS</u>	Each Thursday	7:30 P.M	Room 7
<u>FARIS</u>	As Called		Camp Alzafzar
<u>GOLF UNIT</u>	2nd Tuesday	7:00 P.M	Room 8
<u>HIGHLANDERS BAND</u>	Each Wednesday	6:30 P.M	Room 9
<u>HILLBILLY CLUB</u>	2nd Sun Feb., Apr., June, Aug., Oct., Dec.	5:00 P.M	Roustabout
<u>HONOR GUARD</u>	1st Monday	7:00P.M	Room 12
<u>HOSPITAL CORPS</u>	3rd Tuesday	7:00P.M	Room 6
<u>HOT SANDS BBQ</u>	Wed. before stated	7:00P.M	As Designated
<u>MINI-WHEELS</u>	2nd Tuesday	7:00P.M	Room 10
<u>MOTOR CLUB</u>	3rd Tuesday	7:00P.M	Room 9
<u>MOTOR PATROL</u>	3rd Monday	7:00P.M	Room 5
<u>NEMNUF</u>	2nd Monday	7:30P.M	Room 11
<u>N.O.T.V.L.</u>	2nd Friday	7:00P.M	As Designated
<u>ORIENTAL BAND</u>	Each Wednesday	7:00P.M	Room 7
<u>PATROL</u>	4th Monday	7:00P.M	Room 6
<u>PROVOST GUARD</u>	1st Wednesday	7:00P.M	Provost Room
<u>RED ROADSTERS</u>	1st Tuesday	7:00P.M	Room 10
<u>RUFFIANS</u>	3rd Sunday		Camp Alzafar
<u>RV CLUB</u>	As Called		As Designated
<u>SENIORS</u>	1st Thursday	12:00N	Roustabout
<u>SHOTGUN</u>	2nd Monday	7:00P.M	Directors Room

SHRINE CLUB MEETINGS

<u>CAYNON LAKE</u>	3rd Thursday	6:30 P.M	TBD
<u>GUADALUPE VALLEY</u>	3rd Monday	6:00 P.M	As Designated
<u>HILL COUNTRY</u>	2nd Wednesday	11:30 A.M	Inn of the Hills
<u>LAREDO SC</u>	1st Wednesday	7:00 P.M	As Designated

AFFILIATED ORGANIZATIONS MEETINGS

<u>ANCHOR MASONIC LODGE</u>	1st & 3rd Thursday	7:00 P.M	Alzafar Rear
<u>CIBOLO MASONIC LODGE</u>	4th Monday	7:00 P.M	Alzafar Rear
<u>PATTERSON MASONIC LODGE</u>	2nd & 4th Wed	7:00 P.M	Alzafar Rear
<u>VICTORY MASONIC LODGE</u>	2nd & 4th Tue	7:00 P.M	Alzafar Rear
<u>DE-MOLAY</u>	2nd Thursday	6:00 P.M	As Designated
<u>DAUGHTERS OF THE NILE</u>	2nd Thursday	7:30 P.M	Parlors Room
<u>LADIES ORIENTAL SHRINE</u>	1st Thursday	7:00 P.M	Parlors Room
<u>ORDER OF THE EASTERN STAR</u>	1st Monday	6:00 P.M	Alzafar Rear

