

AL KALY AL KALY DUST

February / March 2026 ▲ Volume 73, Issue 1 ▲ Southern Colorado



~ Installation 2026 ~



Our Website: www.alkalyshrine.org

Our Email: alkalyrecorder@gmail.com

FROM THE POTENTATE

Scott Rhea
Potentate

As you can see from the pictures on the front page of this issue, we had a grand time at the Installation of Officers on January 3rd. What a marvelous way to kick off the theme for this year: Play It Forward!

As Shriners, we enjoy our social events – our club and unit dinners, the Potentate’s Ball, Official Visits, or just meeting together for lunch at a local restaurant or a Friday afternoon cold frosty adult beverage establishment. We have fun at parades and picnics, competing or watching competitions at Central States, and participating in other special gatherings. But in all of our activities, we must always keep in the front of our minds the reason we get together – the patients of Shriners Childrens.

So by all means, Play. But at the same time, Play It Forward. It’s the same message that is encoded in my pin, which is a representation of Lottery Scratch Ticket. If you look at it closely, you will discover that it shows two winning triad symbols – three fezzes and three shrine bears. Being a Shriner, we win twice: once when we Play, and once when we Give.

So go to a Shrine club dinner and spend \$15 to \$20 bucks for a \$30



meal (not forgetting tax and tip) and consider setting aside the difference. Forego your \$8 double-espresso vanilla caramel mocha latte with whip cream and 1 Splenda made by your favorite barista just one morning each month. Pass along some of your Shrine luck from a 50-50 drawing. Play It Forward – to Al Kaly, the Salt Lake City Shrine Hospital, your Club or Unit, a \$19 per month gift to Shriners Childrens to receive a blanket – or even to your Masonic Lodge.

Speaking of your Masonic Lodge, I am in full agreement with our Junior Past Potentate. If you are not attending Blue Lodge as a Shriner, you’re wrong. I am making a pledge this year to visit every Lodge in Southern Colorado, so I will be looking forward to seeing each Noble at a Stated Communication. Remember from whence our membership comes: the harvest cannot be gathered if the farmer never returns to the field to plant a seed.

I am humbled and honored to be the Potentate of a great Temple and your representative to Shriners International. I am excited at the prospects of Al Kaly Shrine’s Divan, membership, and activities, and, to borrow Lady Karen’s slogan, Turtlely Hopeful for a successful, fun, and fruitful 2026.



OFFICIAL CALL OF THE POTENTATE
Notice is hereby given that the 2nd Quarter Stated Meeting and Ceremonial will be held June 13, 2026, at the Colorado Springs Shrine Club.

Ceremonial 11 a.m.
Lunch/Ladies Activity Noon
Stated Meeting 1 p.m.

Scott Rhea
Potentate

Attest: Gary Sears, P.P.
Recorder

SUSPENSE DATES FOR SUBMITTING ARTICLES FOR THE DUST ARE AS FOLLOWS:

Article Due Dates / Issue
1 January / Feb - Mar
1 March / Apr - May
1 May / Jun - Jul
1 July / Aug - Sep
1 September / Oct - Nov
1 November / Dec - Jan

AL KALY

UPCOMING EVENTS

FEBRUARY

7 DON High Tea
15 Past Masters OV
19 Amaranth Grand Court

MARCH

3 Pueblo Shrine Club OV
6-7 CSSA Business
15 Little Ts, Potes Escort, Flivvers, KalyKlown OV
18 Colorado Springs Shrine Club OV
28 DON Installation
29 Palm Sunday

APRIL

2 Maundy Thursday
5 Easter Sunday
16 Mule Train OV
18 Dinner and Cigars
22-23 Harlem Wizards Basketball
26 Bowl-A-Thon and LOH Spaghetti Dinner

DUST

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AL KALY SHRINE

635 W. Corona Ave. #120 ▲ Pueblo, CO 81004
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AL KALY DIVAN

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Chief Rabban Mark Giffin
Assistant Rabban.....Abe England
High Priest & Prophet.....Mack Word
Oriental Guide.....John Montoya
Recorder.....Gary Sears, PP
TreasurerDavid Stevens, PP/PPCOSA

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1st Ceremonial Master Blake Simmons
2nd Ceremonial Master.....Howard Magan
Parade MarshallAbe England
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Chaplain.....Ralph "Doc" Hathaway
Captain of the Guard.....Ray Lingley
Outer Guard Nathan Rolofson

Imperial Council Representatives
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Mark Giffin

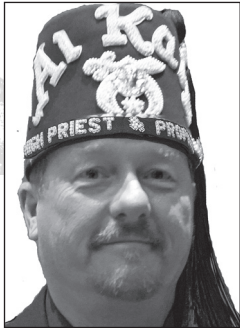
C.S.S.A. Representatives
J. Scott Rhea
Mark Giffin
Abe England

Int'l Shrine Horse Patrol Past Presidents
Allan Ake, PP

FROM THE HIGH PRIEST AND PROPHET

Mack Word
High Priest and Prophet

Greetings Nobles and welcome to a great start to what can be a promising new year. As your Membership Chairman for 2026, I would like to share some numbers with you. Please don't stop reading - the future of the Temple is at stake. Membership ending December 2024 was 357. Today it's 340. This is not an unusual or recent membership trend....so let's do something about it.



As I commented during our stated meeting, I don't know about you, but I am tired of hearing how our numbers are declining. Yes, we all know that, but personally, I'm tired of hearing about it. If I took a wild guess, I would be willing to bet that you are tired of hearing about it too. So, what are we going to do about it? Are we going to keep talking about, are we going to talk about the old days when we had hundreds of members, are we going to talk about how "this is how we used to do it"? Or are we going to do something about it today? Times have changed and we MUST change along with them if we are to survive.

As long as we continue to voice the negative and talk about how things

used to be, then we might as well be ready to endure the decline. BUT, if we want something to change directions, we must change the way we see it and look for what works, what we need to do, and how we need to approach the change. So, with that said...here is my challenge to you.

I challenge each Noble of the A.A.O.N.M.S., and member of Al Kaly Temple to:

- 1) Not discuss or mention the decline of membership (what we speak, manifests);
- 2) Commit to talking to your brothers in Masonry about what the Shrine does (yes this is something we can talk about);
- 3) Carry Shrine membership applications in your pocket;
- 4) Most importantly - build a relationship with a Mason. Get to know him;
- 5) Obtain 1 petition for membership this year and turn it into the Recorder (or me). Just 1. If you get two, give it to another Noble and let him turn it in.

Brothers and Nobles, this is absolutely an attainable goal. Seeds planted today will be watered, whether by you or someone else, and those seeds will grow and then their fruits will need to be harvested. When that fruit is ready to be harvested, have a petition ready to hand out.

Join me, my brother Nobles, in making 2026 a year in which we see the largest growth in Al Kaly membership in the history of the Temple. Say it with me "IF IT IS TO BE, IT IS UP TO ME". Now, say it again and again.

Membership	
As Of: January 2026	
Beginning January 1, 2025	338
Losses:	12
Gains:	30
Total January 1, 2026:	308
Associates:	18
Grand Total	326

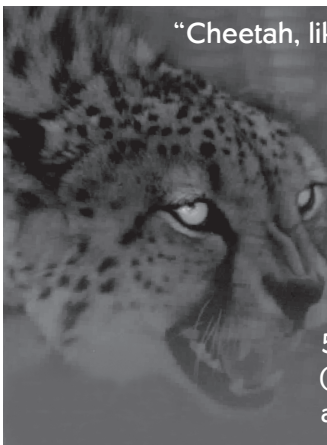
ENTERING THE 21ST CENTURY

Printing and Mailing costs continue to increase, and the Al Kaly Treasurer is always looking for ways to trim the expense side of the budget.

Since The Dust is already available in electronic format (see the Al Kaly website www.alkalyshrine.org), it becomes a simple administrative task to create an email list and send out an issue in lieu of using "snail mail".

Therefore, if you would like to Opt-In for electronic delivery of The Dust, go "Green", and help control rising expenses, please email the office at alkalyshriners@gmail.com and tell us you want to enter the 21st century and make use of the stylus on the Potentate's pen. Every little bit helps,
2026 Al Kaly Divan





"Cheetah, like the cat"

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MULE TRAIN CHRISTMAS PARTY



With the sun shining and it feeling more like Florida than Colorado, the Mule Train held its annual Christmas Party in the Tack Room. President Noble Ray Lingley led the festivities, including a delicious prime rib dinner with all the fixings. Noble Dan Brooks served drinks, and Noble Orlando Maes and Lady Marie distributed gifts.

A great time was enjoyed by all, especially the guest families who received early Christmas presents. The afternoon concluded with a gift exchange among all participants, with much stealing in good humor of coveted white elephants. This is a fun annual Mule Train event, so be sure to watch the Nuts and Bolts and attend in 2026!



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A HEARTY AL KALY

February

Robert J Peloso
Mark Lipsky
George L Pederson
Steven R Stanek
David Shipley
Brent J Wood
Michael L Thacker
Nicholas B Forgit
Thomas S Eagle
Larry C Ward
Alvin K Burk
Paul R Nigro
Jarod K Waters
Mike Barnett
Karl Shanstrom
Terry K Lingle
Lawrence E Mullins
Wyatt Stecklein
Dennis F Lauer
Norman L Bryant
Andres Ortiz
Jon D Bower



Congratulations to the following nobles that will be celebrating birthdays during February and March

Willard F Elmore
Steven P Stiasny
Jason A Bednarek
Ronald G Book
Laurance V Sanchez

Benjamin J Hathaway
Gennaro F Occhiuzzo
Robert A Fredregill
Michael K Wick
Phillip A Johnson 33*
Kurt D Adelbush
Ricardo E Griffin
Kevin G Nunn
Jordan K Kemp

Jared L Maddox
Brett M Axton
Harvey L Gillis
Gerald E Bates
William R Heintzen
Raymond H Dunn
Mark A Newby
Robert A Torgler
Richard Martin

Lenard Rieth
J Scott Rhea
Steven C Zerger
Joseph D Dooley
Harold L Tatman
Fred J Garcia
Robert W McAllister
John J Montoya
Charles H Whiteman
Charles R Shiverdecker
Wayne E Sell
Robert M Colgrove
Don L Taylor
Jack C Swisher
Walter C Iiams
Jerry D Newby
Leonard A Beasley
Dennis J Feister
Verlynn Hume
Terry R Gumlich
Timothy B Sheets
Clifford D Lane
Richard D Lincoln

March

Raul S Morales

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JUST ONE



Who do you know
that would make a
good Shrine Mason?

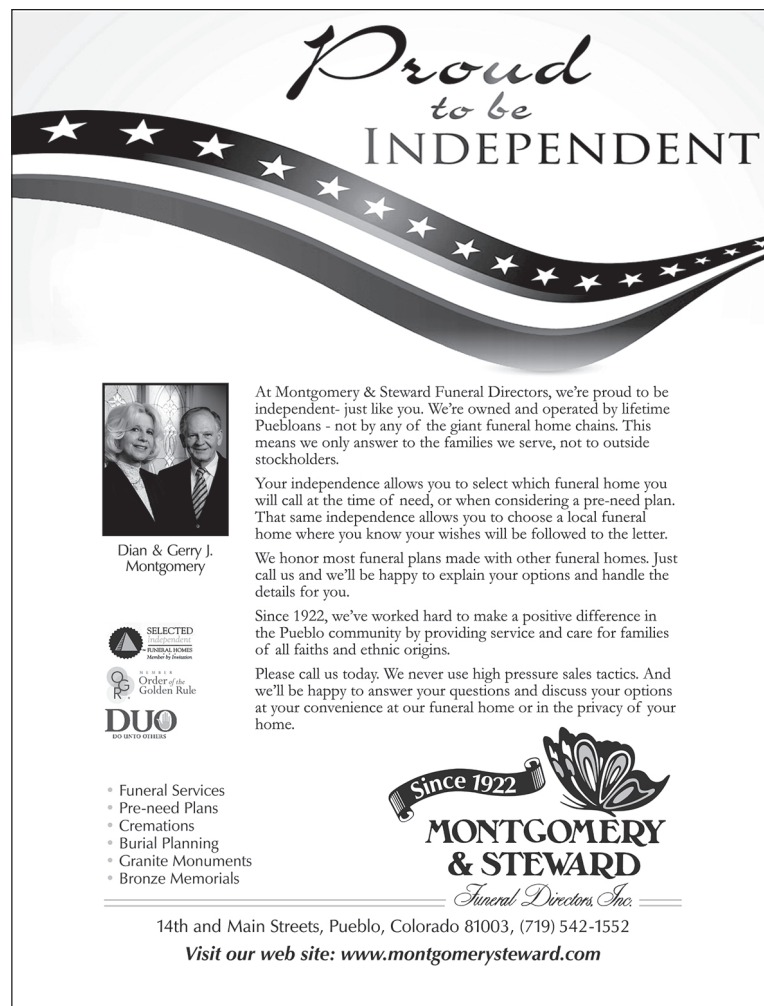



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FEATURED SHRINER JOHN MONTOYA

by Billie Nigro

John was Born in Trinidad, CO, to John and Florence Montoya. He attended Holy Trinity Catholic School. He graduated from Trinidad High School in 1974. His first jobs were with the 7-11 convenient stores from 1974 -1978, then Loaf n Jug Stores from 1978-1989. He worked for J.R.'s, a Colorado convenience store chain, starting in 1989 and retired in 2023 as Vice President of the company after 35 years of service. In 1989, John also started Colorado Inventory Analysts and closed the business down in 2024.

John and Debra met at Centennial High school and were married in Pueblo in 1977. They were married for 47 years until she passed away in 2022. He met Lady Shirley Gonzales in July of 2025, also a widow, on a dating app!



John was attracted to the Masons by the brotherhood and all they do. He became a Mason in 1983 and was Master of his lodge three different years. He was the Grand Tiler for the Grand Lodge of Colorado when MWB Ralph Newby was the Grand Master. He is also a member of York Rite and Scottish Rite bodies. He is currently the District Lecturer for Trinidad and the southeastern rural lodges in Colorado.

He became a Shriner in 1984 and was President of the Kaly Klowns. He is now an Associate member of the Mule Train! A funny story is when Gary Sears came into the Shrine, John named him Panhandle the Clown and

John was Buttons the Clown. They traveled promoting all aspects of Masonry!

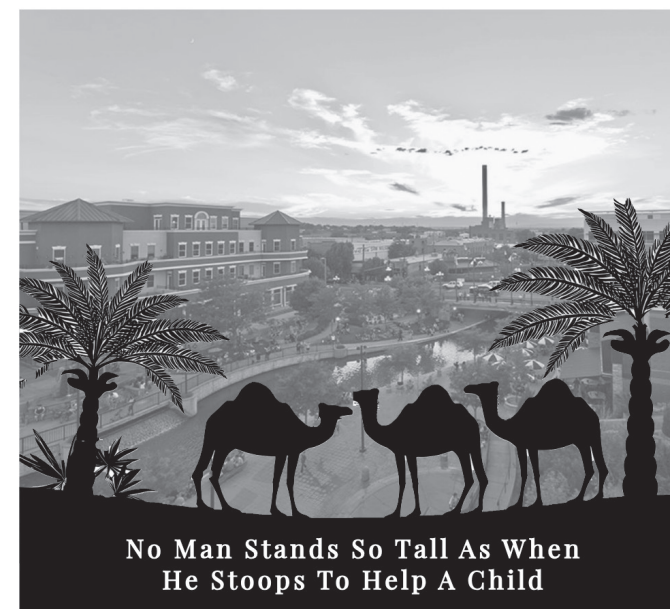
John's hobbies include training horses, golf, and traveling with Lady Shirley Gonzales. They are looking forward to the Potentate's Trip to Scotland in May.

He has served in many positions in each of the Masonic organizations and is currently on the Scholarship committee for the Grand Lodge. He looks forward to serving the Divan and is very excited to represent Al Kaly as Oriental Guide.

This year, John is taking over the fourth annual Festival of Trees, a unique fundraiser where the public has a chance to win a fully decorated Christmas tree and all the gifts under it for just a dollar. All the Shriners and their Ladies who volunteer at the event bring so much camaraderie, it really kicks off the Yuletide season. He asks all Shriners to scout out all business-owners you know to sponsor a tree so that this great fundraiser may continue to grow. Ask him for more information!



Pueblo Shrine Club



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AL KALY AWARDS

The following Nobles received or were eligible to receive the following awards at the December Stated Meeting:



Gold Stars

Dennis Shepherd – 5
J.D. Potter
James Hinojosa
Terry Kershaw

Dave Bills
James Burger

Silver Stars

Mark Lipsky

The Al Kaly Shrine General and Transportation Fund are in need of a financial boost.

The increasing cost of operating Al Kaly Temple and transporting kids to the hospital combined with decreasing membership has put a strain on the General Fund and Transportation Fund. Please remember both of these funds when donating.

Send your donation to:

Al Kaly Shrine, P.O. Box 193, Pueblo, Colorado 81002

DONATIONS

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Jim Johnson
Adjutant



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Shriners Children's specializes in treating orthopedic conditions, burns, spinal cord injuries, and cleft lip and palate.



Shriners
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In Memoriam

As of: December 27, 2025

“Do not stand at my grave and weep,
I am not there, I do not sleep.
I am in a thousand winds that blow,
I am the softly falling snow.
I am the gentle showers of rain,
I am the fields of ripening grain.
I am in the morning hush,
I am in the graceful rush.
Of beautiful birds in circling flight,
I am the starshine of the night.
I am in the flowers that bloom,
I am in a quiet room.
I am in the birds that sing,
I am in each lovely thing.
Do not stand at my grave and cry,
I am not there. I do not die.

Mary Elizabeth Frye

Noble James Hauck

Born: 5/7/1938
Created: 9/11/2009
Died: 12/2/2025



Al Kaly Mule Train Join Us

"We ride so children can walk"

Ray Lingley, President (719-505-5546; Raymond.lingley@yahoo.com)
Orlando Maez, Vice President (719) 671-9597, orlandomaez@yahoo.com)
Jim Johnson, Secretary (719-201-5829; mahatma@freemasonic.org)
Torry Krutzke, Treasurer (719-546-0888; torryk@mindspring.com)

AL KALY SHRINERS



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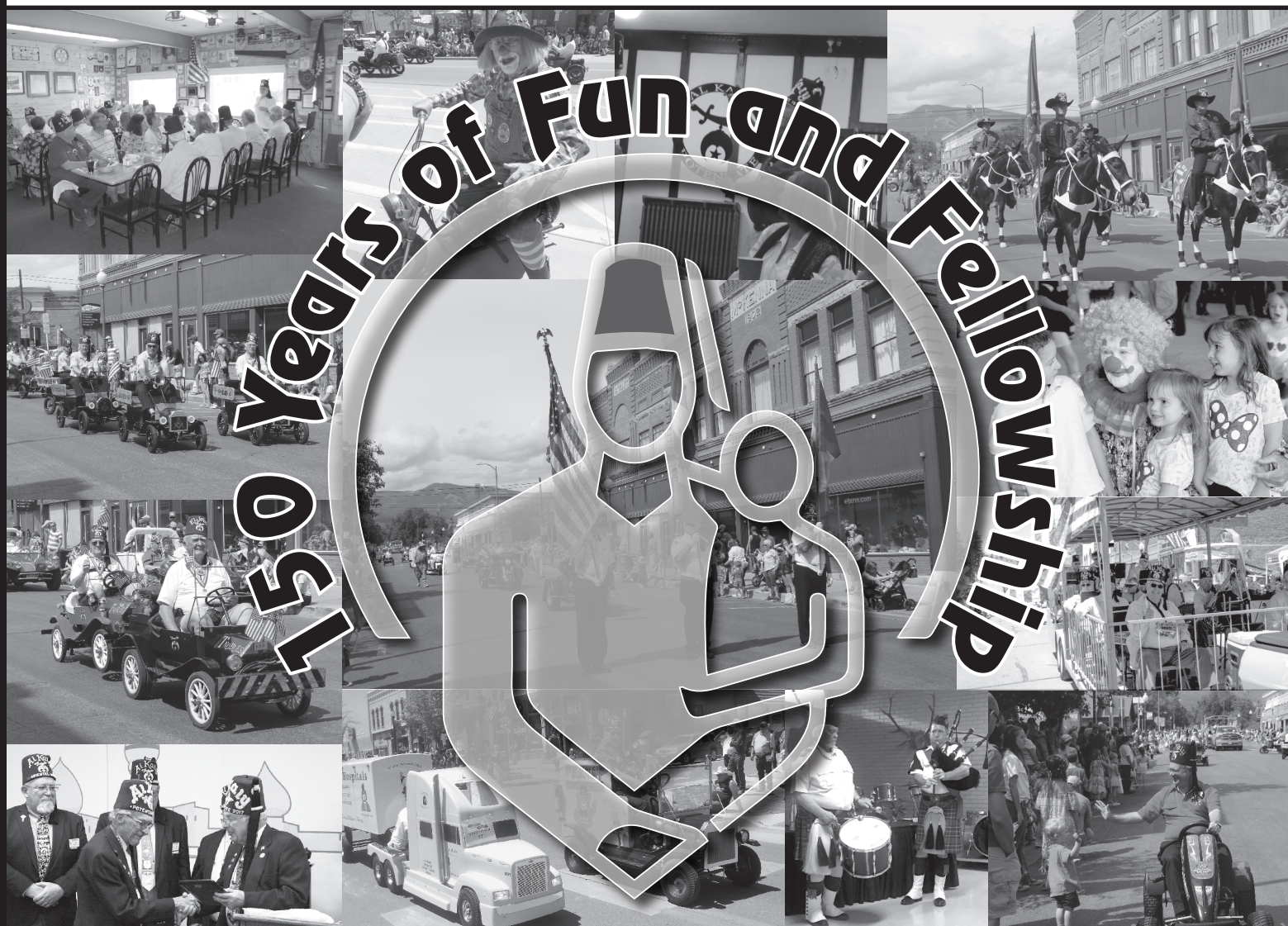
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