

THE NUGGET



February, March & April 2023



2023 will be **Sharp!**

Let's welcome Potentate Scott and Lady Diane.

Note from the Potentate

First of all, I would like to introduce you all to my lady, Diane. Without her support, love and encouragement we could not have undertaken this 10-year commitment on the Divan.

Second, I want to thank the nobility for electing me as Naja Shrine's Potentate for 2023. It is a humbling honor and privilege.

Third, I would like to thank the members of the Divan for their support. These men, and their ladies, are really a great group. I am very excited for the future of Naja.

My goal in 2023 is to have more fun with the nobility and look for more fun events at the Rapid City Shrine Center this year. We have a wonderful facility, and I think we should use it more.

I was raised a Master Mason in September 1994. Soon thereafter became a Scottish Rite Mason, then a Shriner, and an active member of the Rapid City Shrine clown unit. My two sons, Chris and CJ are both Shriners, as well as my son-in-law Blake. Our newest son-in-law has turned in a petition for the Masonic degrees with the intention of becoming a Shriner. I had the honor to have been Worshipful Master of Mount Rushmore #220 on three separate occasions; 1997, 2005 and 2006. I have been the Rapid City Circus Chairman since 2014.

My mother's twin sister was a Shrine patient in the mid-1940's. She had polio and stayed at the Shriners Hospital in Minneapolis for seven years. The hospital improved her life greatly; however, she was wheelchair bound all of her life. This was a determining factor in my choice to become a Shriner. I would like to encourage all of Naja Shrine nobility to work on bringing new members into our fraternity.

Being a Shriner is a life choice. We strive to have fun, stand for integrity and uphold our Masonic tenets, and be in service to others! Commitment to your brothers, to fun, and our philanthropy, is central to lifelong fellowship as a Shriner.

I feel truly blessed that I have met life-long friends in this organization, friends that I may never have met otherwise.

Yours in the faith,



Scott Sharp
Potentate 2023

A quick word from Lady Diane

Thank you for your dedication to Naja and for your support and the kindness you have shown to Scott and I throughout our time in this wonderful organization. I truly feel like Naja is my extended family. What a great group of people!

This year I am selling my butterfly charms with the proceeds to go towards purchasing items that may help children when they are transported to hospitals, or when they attend one of our screening clinics. The butterfly became a symbol to me when my mom was sick. If you want to hear the story behind it, just ask sometime when you see me. The charms are \$15. If you would like to purchase one, let me know. I will try to bring them to every function.

Membership is definitely something that Scott and I want to focus on in 2023. Sadly, like many fraternal, civic, and religious organizations, our numbers continue to decrease. I ask each of you to promote Naja to individuals in our communities. Shriners Children's is indeed the greatest philanthropy, and without Shriners, there would be no Shriners Children's. I know my life has been enriched by the friendships I have made and the experiences I've had through this organization. Please help me reach out to others who may also benefit.

I believe that the more fun we have, the more people will want to get involved. I encourage you to invite friends to attend events with you. There are many great events planned for 2023 and we encourage units to come up with more. Let's have a lot of fun this year!

Lady Diane



*Past Potentate and Ladies dinner on January 27th 2023,
honoring their service to Naja Shriners.*

Catered by Cheyenne crossing. A great time had by all who braved the snowy weather.



CHRISTMAS AT THE CAPITOL



This year the Shriners of South Dakota were honored to decorate the 30-foot blue spruce in the Capitol rotunda for Christmas on the Capitol's 41st anniversary. With the Shrine celebrating 150 years of our fraternity, and the 100th anniversary of our health care system, the tree's theme focused on the history of the Shrine and healthcare, along with the State's theme of a Merry Prairie Christmas. All three temples from South Dakota, Naja, El Riad, and Yelduz, supplied fezzes that were carefully hung from the tree, including the late governor Mickelson's El Riad Fez. Each temple placed a parade vehicle under the tree to celebrate our long history of community parades, and of course, Fezzy the Bear was hanging in and around the tree.

Naja initially applied to decorate a smaller tree to celebrate our year; however, after a call from the governor's office, Naja and the other temples decided to collaborate and decorate the main State Christmas Tree. The tree was designed by Lady Diana Holloway, and decorated with the help of Ladies Kristi Wagner, Judy Evans, Sherri Fischer, Chris Cole, Julie Evans, Melodee Nelson, and Katie Washnok.

The official lighting was held on November 22nd, and Imperial Sirs Matt Sturlaugson and Tim Forbis, with their Ladies, came for the festivities. The El Riad Chanters provided Christmas music during the lighting, and Governor Kristi Noem spoke to those who attended. Governor Noem noted, "The Shriners are the perfect sponsor for the tree, celebrating 100 years of helping so many children throughout South Dakota."

CHRISTMAS AT THE CAPITOL

The Governor also gave 14-year-old Gavin Bennet, a Shrine Patient from Kennebec, the honor of throwing the switch for the grand lighting ceremony. Gavin survived a bacterial meningitis infection at the age of six with amazing care from Shriners Children's Twin-Cities and Cincinnati. He spoke to the crowd thanking his family and all the Shriners who were present for the lighting. Following the lighting ceremony, Nobles and Ladies from all around South Dakota gathered for a South Dakota Shrine Christmas Party. Many commented how the three Shrine Temples in South Dakota need to spend more time collaborating on projects, socializing with each other, and partnering to promote Shrine throughout the state. Take some time and check out the social media posts for Christmas at the Capitol. Many South Dakotans were able to enjoy what Governor Noem described as the most beautiful State Christmas Tree she had ever seen.

by Diana Holloway



NAJA SHRINERS KIDS CHRISTMAS CARNIVAL 2022

When Santa and Mrs. Claus stop in, your party is always a hit! That is just what happened at the Naja Kids, Family and Friends Christmas Carnival held at the Shrine Center on December 3rd. This year the carnival was bigger than ever! We added some new games, including skee ball, basketball, and a duck pond! Of course there were the usual popular games like the fishing pond and the ring toss (winning a soda pop)! The best of all is always the cake walk, with prizes of cupcakes, cookies, and various other goodies.

There was a great turnout of Naja members and their ladies that helped run all the games and keep the chaos to a minimum. You are all appreciated! For the first time, lunch was delivered to us by a wonderful young man from Marco's Pizza! Pepperoni for everyone (with a few Hawaiian ones in there too!) Just when it couldn't get any better, Santa and Mrs. Claus stopped in and gave goodie bags to all the kiddos. Thank you to our North Pole celebrities! (Howard and Sally Mehringer- shhhh don't tell)

Next December please join us for this great celebration for kids and adults alike. If you stay off the naughty list, you may get a goodie bag too.



NAJA SHRINERS CELEBRATE CHRISTMAS

The Nobility of Naja celebrated a Shrine Christmas in Deadwood, SD, on December 10th at the First Gold Casino. A dinner of prime rib, crab legs, and a Bloody Mary bar made for a great evening with friends and Shrine family. For the third year in a row, Nobles and Ladies exchanged “white elephant gifts” with everyone having fun.

The next weekend, Nobles gathered at the Shrine Center for a Christmas Potluck and tour of the Christmas lights at Storybook Island. The cold weather and snow on the ground made for a quick, but beautiful, walk looking at the lights.

by P.P. Rick Holloway



NAJA SHRINERS ROAST THE POTE NEW YEARS EVE PARTY

Naja Nobles and Ladies celebrated the end of a fun 2022 and the beginning of an exciting 2023 at the Naja Shrine New Years Party. The party was held at The Rushmore in downtown Rapid City. It was also a good time to roast the outgoing Naja Potentate, Rick Holloway. Several took their turns commenting on Rick's affinity for fine, craft beer. It took quite a while to note all the beer Rick appreciates, leaving little time to roast him about anything else.

The band Drive by Night cranked out great music all night long, with Noble Jed Kammerer singing and playing guitar. Most everyone stayed the night at The Rushmore and had a fun and safe evening. Several commented they could not think of a better way to bring in the New Year than with their friends and family of Naja Shrine.



by P.P. Rick Holloway



PRESENTATION OF CHECKS

At the December Stated Meeting, the members of the West River Shrine Unit presented Potentate Rick Holloway with a **\$10,000** check for Naja Shrine Operations. The funds came from holding two very successful circuses this past summer in Lemmon, SD, and Buffalo, SD. The West River Shrine Unit works hard with local communities in Northwest South Dakota and Southwest North Dakota each year to hold summer circuses. They also meet monthly in those communities for some great food, fun and fellowship. Check the next issue of the SNAP to see when and where they are meeting next and make plans to join them. Another check for \$250 was also presented at Imperial from Steve Leaf for the Twin Cities Hospital. His dad was a Shriner in Northern MN, he contributes to the Shriners in remembrance of his father.

by P.P. Rick Holloway



Installation of Officers

January 14th 2023

*Congratulations to the 2023 Divan and our new
Potentate Scott Sharp!*



POTENTATE TRIP 2022 DOMINICAN REPUBLIC



This year's Potentate's Trip took over 30 Nobles and Ladies to Punta Cana, Dominican Republic in November. The group, while flying on several different flights at different times, all met in Punta Cana and were welcomed by warm tropical breezes and friendly people.

Everyone stayed at the Majestic Mirage, a 5-star, all-inclusive resort located on the beach with swim-up pools for many rooms. There was amazing food, drinks, and fun for all during the week. Many played golf at least once, if not more, and others went to the spa or on excursions to sail, snorkel, 4-wheel, and tour the area. The people of the Dominican Republic and staff at the Majestic made the trip extra-special, making sure everyone was well taken care of.

The one-week trip went by so fast, that many stated they would be returning soon. Rick and Diana want to thank all who attended and especially ABS Travel and Noble Stuart Hall who made sure that everyone got on their flights, were transported back and forth to the airport, and had all their needs met.

by P.P. Rick Holloway



Future Events



THE 17TH ANNUAL
NEMO



www.nemo500.com



SUPPORT THE NAJA SHRINE KIDS HOSPITAL TRANSPORTATION FUND

OUTHOUSE RACES

& CHILI COOK-OFF CONTEST
NEMO, SD. AT THE NEMO QUEST RANCH

February 25, 2023
A FREE & FUN EVENT FOR THE ENTIRE FAMILY

RACES:
THREE DIVISIONS
CHECK IN AT 10 A.M.
RACE STARTS AT 1 P.M.
RESTAURANT OPEN FOR
FOOD, WINE & BEER
ENTRY FORMS & RULES
AVAILABLE AT NEMO500.COM

THE COOK-OFF 3 GALLON CHILI
1st: \$150 MINIMUM
2nd: \$100
3rd: \$50
10 A.M. - 1 P.M.
Cook off Information
Contact Don Stover
605-593-2403



2 PRIZE DRAWINGS \$500.00 EACH
KIDS, BRING YOUR SCOOP SHOVELS FOR THE
"SCOOP SHOVELS RACES"
CALL NEMO QUEST RANCH 605-578-2708 OR JOEL
STEPHENS 605-209-2556 FOR DETAILS
NO COOLERS ALLOWED!



Black Hills Sports Show & Outdoor Expo

February 10th -12 th 2023 @ Civic Center

Do you want to help?
Contact Mike Stirling
605-390-2801

We need help on all days.
The Show has been an
important fundraiser for
the Travel fund!



Future Events



NAJA SHRINERS 

Easter PARTY

Saturday, April 8th 2023

11 A.M. - 1 P.M.

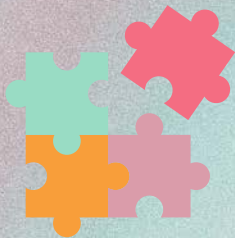
Naja Shrine Center
4091 Sturgis Rd
Rapid City 57702

RSVP: 605-342-3402
by April 5th 2023



Entertainment by Phil Baker
Easter Egg Hunt

Lunch will be served.



Pizza, Pitchers & Puzzles
April 1st, 2023 @ Shrine Center
4:00 P.M.



Get your team of four entered by March 30st
for a ton of fun!

Each team competes to eat a large pizza, drink two
pitchers of beverage and put together a 300 piece
before the other teams!

\$20 per person to enter.

Prizes for the winning teams.

**For more information call Lisa
Fischer**

**605-431-3610 or
Lesia Stephens 605-279-2945**



Future Events

Next Sip 'N Shop Dates:

March 4th 2023 Shop over 35 Vendors!
April 22nd 2023 Mimosas & Bloody Mary's
9 A.M. — 3 P.M

First 50 People through the door at 9 A.M. will get a mystery gift card to spend with any vendor at the event!

Naja Shrine Center
4091 Sturgis Rd.
Rapid City



The White Elephant Sale

at the Shrine Center

March 11th 2023



A white elephant sale is a type of sale similar to a garage sale or yard sale in which used items are sold by a non-professional group. Such sales are often fundraisers for non-profit groups, and members of the community can donate items for sale at the white elephant sale.

Gather up those extra items that you have accumulated from downsizing, moving, or general clean out of clutter, Bring them to the Shrine Center between March 8th - 10th. All Proceeds from donated items will go to the Rapid City Clown Unit and the Haunted House. *The items do not have to come from only Shriners, anyone can donate their things.*

D.A.D.S. Meeting

Dads Are Dedicated Shriners
April 24th @ Shrine Center

*6:00 PM Dinner
Program to follow*

Come connect with other D.A.D.S. and get more information's about driving our Patients to their appointments.

**For more Info you can
call Sally Mehringer 605-
787-3474 or Lesa
Stephens 605-279-2945.**



February

2023

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1	2 East West Shriners Party Las Vegas Rapid City Clowns Mtg Fall River Mtg	3	4
5 Old McDonald's Brigade Mtg	6 Rapid City Clowns Mtg Blast & Cast T's Mtg	7 Air Patrol Mtg Motorcycle Corp Mtg	8	9	10 Outdoor Expo	11 Outdoor Expo
12 Outdoor Expo Super Bowl Party	13	14 <i>Valentine's Day</i>	15 Finance/ Divan Mtg	16 Naja Clown Patrol Mtg	17	18 Cowboys Mtg
19	20 Provost Mtg <i>President's Day</i>	21	22 BH Shrine Club Mtg	23 MSA Winter Session	24 MSA Winter Session West River Shrine Mtg	25 MSA Winter Session Outhouse Races
26	27	28				

March

2023

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1	2 Fall River Shrine Patrol Mtg	3	4 Sip n Shop
5 Old McDonald's Brigade Mtg	6 Rapid City Clowns Mtg Blast & Cast T's Mtg	7 Air Patrol Mtg Motorcycle Corp Mtg	8 Finance/ Divan Mtg	9	10	11 White Elephant Sale
12 <i>Daylight Saving Time</i>	13	14	15 BH Shrine Club Mtg	16 Naja Clown Patrol Mtg	17 <i>St. Patrick's Day</i>	18 Cowboys Mtg
19	20 Provost Mtg	21 Hillbilly Clan Mtg	22	23	24 West River Shrine Unit Mtg	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

April

2023

SUN

MON

TUE

WED

THU

FRI

SAT

			1	2	3	1 Pizza, Pitchers and Puzzles/Egg Stuffing
2 Old McDonald's Brigade Mtg <i>Palm Sunday</i>	3 Rapid City Clowns Mtg Blast & Cast T's Mtg	4 Air Patrol Mtg Motorcycle Corp Mtg	5 Screening Clinic Naja Shrine Center	6 Fall River Shrine Patrol Mtg	7 <i>Good Friday</i>	8 Easter Egg Hunt
9 <i>Easter</i>	10	11	12 Finance/ Stated/Divan Mtg	13	14	15 Cowboys Mtg
16	17 Provost Mtg	18	19 BH Shrine Club Mtg	20 Naja Clown Patrol Mtg	21	22 Sip n Shop
23	24	25	26 D.A.D.S. Mtg	27	28 West River Shrine Unit Mtg	29
30						

Dad's Are Dedicated Shriners!



Help get him to his
appointment.
Become a Driver **now!**

Join the Naja Shriners DADS
Group and you get to drive THIS:



... and take some very special
passengers to Minnesota!

Memorial Gifts and Donations

Donations:

John Boylan

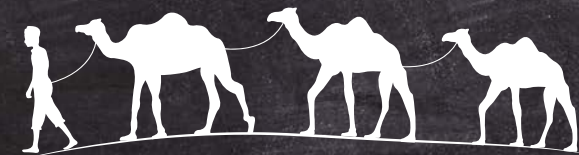
Dakota Star Federal Credit Union

Alejandro + Eleanor Velarde

Kari Arnold

Brothers who have departed to the Sands of the Eternal East

Past Potentate Dwayne L. Walliser
Kent W. Baumberger



“To live in hearts we leave
behind is not to die.”

– Thomas Campbell



Social Media
Networking Naja
Advertising
Promotion

Have a meeting or an event coming up?
Let us know what is going on with your unit or
club so we can get the word out with our
SNAPSHOT E-Mails.

Contact us at: **NajaSnapUnit@gmail.com**

Follow us on Social Media as well!



<https://www.facebook.com/najashrine/>



<https://www.instagram.com/najashriners/>

Donate your United Airlines Miles



Do you have unused miles with United Airlines? Did you know that United Airlines has partnered with Shriners so you can donate them to the Shriners through United Airlines Mileage Plus Charity Miles Program? Your donation will help us provide air travel to our patients going to the Shrine hospitals in Chicago and Cincinnati.

You can donate a minimum of 1000 miles to Shriners by visiting their website at <https://donate.mileageplus.com/charity/profile/shriners-hospital> or you can call 1-800-421-4655.



thank you!

To these businesses who give to Naja Shriners.
Please stop by and show your appreciation and
use their services.



Best of the Black Hills



Best Laundromat Dew Drop Laundromat

The Dew Drop Laundromat is a family owned business. Our goal is to provide a clean and inviting place for your laundry needs. We strive to give our customers the best quality service at the lowest prices. We would like to thank all our valued customers and the community for your continued support. We are truly blessed.

Thank you
from all of us at the Dew Drop!

Dew Drop Laundromat
3618 Canyon Lake Dr., Rapid City, SD
605-343-0900
dewdroplaundromat@hotmail.com



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Shop with Shriners

There are over 500 Nobles that are part of Naja Shriners. The following Nobles either own or work for a business that provides services and/or products. When you're in the market, please look them up first! If you would like to have your business or workplace listed in this section of the Nugget in the next issue please contact the Shrine Office at office@najashriners.org.

5TH & MAIN
FURNITURE
 (605)342-3822 *by Freed's*
Glenn Elson-Horstman
glenn@sdfreeds.com

 **abstravel**
group
 (605) 791-2520
www.ABSTravelGroup.com

Sean Holloway
Broker Associate
 sean.h.sh@gmail.com | 605-593-2718
 hollowayrealestatepro.com
 1019 Saint Joseph St Floor 7 Rapid City, SD 57701
 

Stephens
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 Lesa Stephens
 605-279-2945 stephensspecialties@gmail.com

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DONALD R. HERRMANN
Owner/Broker
Charging Ahead with Solid Products & Services
don@herrmannagencies.com
605-718-2200

Butte County Equipment
 Ken Nelson
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 11363 US Hwy 212 * Belle Fourche, SD 57717
 605.892.2230 (o) | 605.641.6466 (c)
ken.nelson@buttecountyequipment.com
www.buttecountyequipment.com

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 Jeremy Schad



Next Issue: May 2023

You want to write for the
Nugget or have ideas for
improvement?

Call us!

605-342-3402



**Don't forget to add the
Rapid Circus to your
Calendars!
May 5th - 7th**



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Free Screening Clinic

for Children with Bone, Muscle, or Joint Problems



Wednesday, April 5th
9:00 am – 3:30 pm
Naja Shrine Center
4091 Sturgis Road
Rapid City, SD 57702

For
appointment
please call:
605-343-4279



Toeing In



Bowlegs



Knock-Knees



Flat Feet



Toewalking

Come and learn about Shriners Children's and see if we can help your child with their orthopaedic condition.

Are you wondering if your child would benefit from seeing a pediatric orthopaedic specialist?

Look for these signs:

- In-toeing, toe walking, flat feet
- Bowed legs or knocked knees
- Sore, painful, or stiff joints
- Limb deficiency
- Limb length discrepancy
- Curved spine indicating possible scoliosis
- Club feet and congenital deformities of lower extremities
- Hip disorders
- Cerebral palsy

