

THE NUGGET



February, March & April 2024



Meet Naja's Potentate for 2024!

Joel Stephens aka Katchup the Clown

Joel was born and raised in South Dakota. He worked as a lineman for West River Electric Coop for 31 years before retiring a couple of years ago. Joel and his lady Lesa raised 4 children in Wall, SD. Jason, who now lives in Texas, Nichalus, living in Washington state, Devin, who is still in Rapid and Madison, living in Alaska. Their four grandchildren are in Washington and Alaska.

Joel has been a Shriner for 15 years. He became a Mason/Shriner in gratitude to the Shriners. The Shriners took care of his son when it was found that he had Idiopathic Scoliosis as a teen.

In becoming a Mason and a Shriner he discovered a calling to be a clown, and Katchup was created. He is always trying to "catch up with kids". Kids recognize him at functions because he is the clown with lime green hair that will play with them at their level.

As Potentate, Joel would like to see membership grow. He encourages Units to reach out to the newer nobles and involve them in their activities. It would be great to see more of our nobility at the functions throughout the year.

There will be a variety of things happening in the coming year, everyone should be able to find something to be involved with. He hopes to see you all participating in Fun and Fellowship!

The Shriners are an organization that touches hearts and changes lives.

Now as the Potentate for Naja Shriners in 2024 his train of thought is,

"Think out of the box for kids!" and "Lets do more in 2024".

Notes from Lady Lesa

First of all A BIG THANK YOU to everyone for their support!
Your gifts were awesome !!

As some of you heard, I don't have a ladies project where I would sell something to raise money. My focus will be on getting the patients and their families familiar with the noble's faces, and the nobles need to know who the patients are by sight. All of our nobles, especially the new ones need to meet the kids. Many join the Shriners for the social element but there are also many who join for the charitable actions . Meeting the patients makes it mean more. If anyone has an idea on how to facilitate this, let me know and we will work on it.

One thought is to encourage the patients that feel like they are too old for a "Kiddie party" to come and assist us in running the event.

I will be working on that.

Looking forward to a great year with everyone!



2024 Potentate Trip The Branson Experience

We are planning a trip like no other!
But we need you to sign up if you are interested in going!

The Details:

Aug 28th we leave Rapid - Sept 5th return to Rapid
\$3500 per COUPLE includes:

- Bus travel there and back
- A room as we travel there and back (2 nights)
- 6 nights lodging in a vacation home which has:
 - Pool, hot tub, private bathrooms, king beds, game room,
 - theatre room, laundry, double kitchen,
 - food stocked in kitchen, some meals prepared on site
- Tickets for Silver Dollar City and one other show
- Rental car access

This is a trip where we can just hang out at the houses or go into Branson to shop, play golf or mini golf, visit the aquarium, see the shows, attractions and museums.

No sitting on the edge of a motel room bed to visit and no expensive bars or restaurants unless you choose to. Relax at one of the pools and take in the scenery off the decks. Walk down to the waters edge
or rent a boat.

The Catch - We need to rent these houses before they are gone. The trip is limited to 28 couples max. A deposit of \$950 per couple will be needed by Mid April to show your commitment. The balance will be due by August 20th.



For more information call Joel or
Lesa Stephens at 605-279-2945 or
605-209-2556

Email us at
katchupthec clown@yahoo.com
stephensspecialties@gmail.com

Installation 2024

Elected Divan and their Ladies



Potentate: Joel Stephens (Lesa)

Chief Rabban: Jeffrey VanCuren (Pamela)

Assistant Rabban: Eric Fischer (Sherri)

High Priest & Prophet: Mitch Kammerer (DeAnna)

Oriental Guide: Bryan Fischer (Lisa)

Treasurer: Jeffrey Schroeder (Krista)

Recorder: Scott Sharp (Diane)

1st Ceremonial Master: Brian Cole (Christina)

2nd Ceremonial Master: Thomas Doyle (Laurie)

Marshal: Kacee Spaulding (Carla)

Captain of the Guard: Brandon Caneva (Laura)

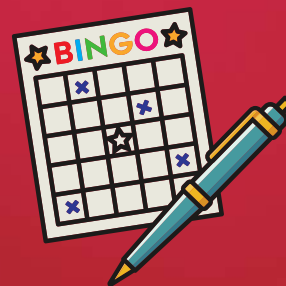
Outer Guard: William Kinder (Kari)



Belle Fourche Clown Patrol Christmas Party

The Belle Fourche Clown Patrol had their Christmas Party at the Branding Iron in Belle Fourche. Party Guests had a choice of a Ribeye steak or Chicken Breast for dinner and played bingo afterwards. Perfect way to end another fantastic year with NAJA Shrine!!

by Bryan Fischer





Belle Fourche Clown Patrol presenting a certificate of appreciation for the Runnings in Belle Fourche , letting us use their store for fundraising opportunities throughout the year. They are so great to us!!!

Thank you Brandon Freed.
by Bryan Fischer



150th Imperial Session Reno Nevada

June 30th-July 4th

Room Rates— at Circus Circus

Sunday-Wednesday \$121.04 per night

Thursday—Saturday \$206.00 per night

Any noble wanting to go to Imperial session contact the office to get on the list.

15 Room available—**first come first serve**



This event took place last November at the Box event center in Box Elder. In previous years it has been held at Black Hills Harley Davidson, but we grew too large for them and had to find a new location. The Box was a donated venue for the event. We also changed the date this year to a week later than normal and it conflicted with other events in the area. Support for the Meat Fest continues to be strong even though we changed the location and had to compete with other events, there was still a large crowd. With the remaining product the committee is planning to hold another Meat Fest in the spring at a different community in Western South Dakota.

by Lesa Stephens



Christmas Party Fun

We had 14 patients with their families attend the Christmas Party this year! One of our patients has even grown to the point of assisting instead of just attending! Everyone went home with plenty of gifts! Our new Santa was a hit and everyone enjoyed a meal of 'make your own taco'. Thank you everyone for the help to make this a success!

by Joel Stephens



Early Christmas surprise for one of Naja Shrine Patients. In a partnership with Strider Bike, the Kids Camp Program was able to deliver this fun pink Sportster bike to Jordyn.

We know this will help her with her balance and have fun at the same time. The Kids Camp Program will bring more Strider bikes through this partnership to more Shrine Patients in 2024!

By Diana Holloway



February 2024.

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				1 Fall River Shrine Patrol Mtg.	2	3 Past Potentate Dinner
4 Old McDonald's Brigade Mtg.	5 Rapid City Clowns Mtg Blast & Cast T's Mtg.	6 Air Patrol Mtg. Motorcycle Corp Mtg.	7	8	9 Outdoor Expo	10 Outdoor Expo
11 Outdoor Expo Superbowl Party	12	13	14 Finance/Divan Mtg., Rapid City Valentines day	15 Naja Clown Patrol Mtg.	16	17 Cowboys Mtg.
18 Indoor Ice Fishing	19 Provost Mtg. Hillbilly Mtg.	20	21 BH Shrine Club Mtg.	22 Diemensions Mtg.	23 West River Shrine Unit Mtg.	24 Nemo Outhouse Races
25	26	27 Brewers Mtg.	28	29 Start Winter MSA		

March 2024

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					1	2 End Winter MSA
3 Old McDonald's Brigade Mtg.	4 Rapid City Clowns Mtg. Blast & Cast T's Mtg.	5 Air Patrol Mtg. Motorcycle Corp Mtg.	6	7 Fall River Shrine Patrol Mtg.	8	9
10	11	12	13 Finance/ Divan Mtg., Rapid City	14	15	16 Sip 'n' Shop St. Patrick's Day Party Cowboys Mtg.
17 St. Patrick's Day	18 Provost Mtg. Hillbilly Mtg.	19	20 BH Shrine Club Mtg.	21 Naja Clown Patrol Mtg.	22 West River Shrine Unit Mtg.	23 Pizza, Pitchers & Puzzles
24	25	26 Brewers Mtg.	27	28 Diemensions Mtg.	29 Good Friday	30 Easter Egg Hunt
31 Easter Sunday						

April 2024

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1 Rapid City Clowns Mtg. Blast & Cast T's Mtg. Easter Monday	2 Air Patrol Mtg. Motorcycle Corp Mtg.	3	4 Fall River Shrine Patrol Mtg.	5	6 Daddy/ Daughter Dance
7 Old McDonald's Brigade Mtg.	8	9	10 Finance/ Divan/Stated Mtg., DWD	11	12	13 Sip 'n' Shop
14	15 Provost Mtg. Hillbilly Mtg.	16	17 BH Shrine Club Mtg.	18 Naja Clown Patrol Mtg.	19	20 Honored Ladies Lunch T.B.D. Cowboys Mtg.
21	22	23 Brewers Mtg.	24 D.A.D.S Dinner	25 Diemensions Mtg.	26 West River Shrine Unit Mtg.	27
28	29	30				

18th Annual Nemo Outhouse Races and Chili Cook

It is almost here and will be just as fun as before. A few things to think about when getting ready to attend the Nemo 500; wear warm clothes and snow boots and adjust as needed when it gets closer to the date. Please note that the Chili cookoff starts at 10 A.M. Get your team together or just come out and enjoy some great chili. Remember to get there as early as possible, to get a green cup and a good parking space. The auction will be held again this year with some nice items. There will be a few bonfires to help keep you warm. We have lime green cups this year with a new sponsor, which is G&G Sanitation. They will also bring lime green Porta Potties. Hope you can come out and show your support!

by Joel Stephens



18th Annual
NEMO 500

Support THE NAJA SHRINE KIDS TRANSPORTATION FUND

OUTHOUSE RACES

& Chili Cook-off Contest

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 24TH, 2024
AT NEMO GUEST RANCH IN NEMO, SD

Entry Form and Rules available at
www.nemo500.com

Teams must arrive by 10 am and race starts at 1pm.
Call (605)578-2708 Danielle to register Race Teams



The Chili Cook Off
Tasting starts at 10 am -
until the pots are empty

Winners:

- 1st Place - \$150
- 2nd Place - \$100
- 3rd Place - \$50



For Cook Off Info
Call Camden Sawvell
605-441-4624

This a family friendly event. Free to watch
There will be; vendors, live auctions, and drawings
Kids can participate in the shovel races!

Willie's North Bar (Cash only)
Brandin' Iron Restaurant
(No Outside Drinks)

Sponsorship/Donation Bryan Fischer 605-645-4077 or
Brian Cole 907-306-9400
Christina Cole for Vendor Spots 605-545-6682

Thursday May 16th, Deadwood

Twin Cities Board of Governors Town Hall Meeting

Come and learn first hand from members of the Board what is new and exciting at Shriner's Children's Twin Cities.

Shriners, Ladies and friends are all invited.

Please watch the SNAP and Nugget for further details!

Call Kip with questions 605-206-0393

Easter Egg Stuffing for the Kids Easter Party

Please consider helping to stuff eggs for the Kids Easter Party at:

The Shrine Center
4091 Sturgis Rd.
Rapid City
1:00 pm

For additional information or other ways to help please contact any of these ladies:

Lesia Stevens: 605-430-5141
Julie Hanson: 605-206-0367
Diana Holloway: 605-390-7917



Pizza, Pitchers & Puzzles
March 23, 2024 @ Shrine Center
4:00 P.M.

Get your team of four entered by March 21st for a ton of fun!

Each team competes to eat a large pizza, drink two pitchers of beverage and put together a 300 piece puzzle 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



Music by Phil Baker
Lunch
Easter Egg Hunt
& Lots of FUN!

You're Invited

Easter Party

March 30TH

Join Us at the Naja Shrine Center from 11:00 am to 1:00 pm

CELEBRATE WITH US!

RSVP Please:
NajaShriners.org/easter-rsvp-form
or Text Us:
(605) 309-3900

Future Events

Next Sip 'N Shop Dates:

Shop over 35
Vendors!
Mimosas & Bloody
Mary's

March 16th 2024

April 13th 2024

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



D.A.D.S. Meeting

Dads Are Dedicated Shriners

April 24th @ Shrine Center

6:00 P.M. Dinner

Program to follow

Come connect with other D.A.D.S. and get more information, about driving our patients to their appointments.

Contact Holly to RSVP

605-343-4279



February 9 - 11

The not-for-profit Black Hills Sports Show & Outdoor Expo showcases over 100 dealers & vendors and is an event for the whole family. All proceeds raised by this Show benefit three local charities, South Dakota Youth Hunting Adventures, Rapid City Cosmopolitan Club and The Naja Shriners Transportation Fund.

If you are interested in helping contact

Mike Stirling

605-390-2801



Come enjoy an evening of Mediterranean Cuisine by Chef Judy Evans and the historical (or is that hysterical) history of Cleopatra presented by the Daughters of the Nile including some of our Noble gentlemen of NAJA.

February 3, 2024 at 6 P.M.

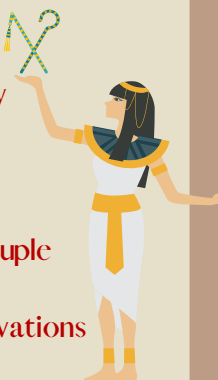
**The Shrine Center,
4091 Sturgis Rd., Rapid City**

Feast and Entertainment

\$20 per person or \$40 per couple

Contact Nina Nachtigall for reservations

307-324-2730



Please confirm your reservation by January 30, 2024

RESERVATIONS REQUIRED – LIMITED SEATING.



Dad's Are Dedicated Shriners!



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

Join the Naja Shriners D.A.D.S
Group and you get to drive THIS:



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

Memorial Gifts and Donations

Donations:

Tony Groves
David Porth

Craig & Phyllis Jacobson

Gerry & Karen Henriksen

Robert & Kimberly Horsley

Rhonda Van Patten

Mary Hague

Grand Lodge BPO Does Drove #33

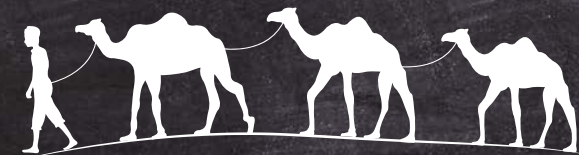
Memorials:

Catherine Rayes in
Memory of Leroy Fischer

Jeannine & Meda Harner Family in
Memory of Keith Harner

Terry & Jean Downing and Suzanne Gabrielson
in Memory of Donald Hague

Brothers who have departed to the Sands of the Eternal East



“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
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605-389-3344

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

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

Sean Holloway
Broker Associate
 sean.h.sh@gmail.com | 605-593-3718
 hollowayrealestatepro.com
 909 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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don@herrmannagencies.com
605-718-2200

Scott Peterson Sales
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Ken Nelson
 Sales
 605-641-6466
ken.nelson6590@gmail.com
<https://www.scottpetersonsales.com/>

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Chris Roberts
 406 Main St - Deadwood, SD - 57732
 (605) 578-3456
chris.roberts@hubinternational.com

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Rapid City, SD
57701

please deliver respectfully to:

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Shriners and their Ladies

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