



THE ARABIAN

June 25, 2025 Houston, TX



Nobles, Ladies and Friends,

What a fantastic showing we had at the Texas Shrine Association (TSA) Convention earlier this month! I could not be more proud of Arabia Shrine and the spirit, energy, and excellence each of you brought to this year's gathering. From our competitive teams to our parade participants, Arabia truly made its presence known across the state of Texas.

A highlight of the event was seeing our Hot Rods back in action for the first time in nearly a decade! These Nobles roared back onto the competition scene and turned heads with their high-octane performance, representing Arabia with pride and enthusiasm.

Our Oriental Band was another standout, showing what commitment and growth can accomplish. Just last year, they competed as a small band, and this year, they nearly crossed into the large band category. That kind of growth doesn't happen by accident — it's the result of hard work, recruitment, and a strong brotherhood.

Of course, the Sportsmen once again set the gold standard, dominating their competition and claiming the President's Cup by an incredible margin of over 70 clays! This group continues to showcase not just skill, but unwavering dedication to excellence.

The Legion of Honor made us proud by performing exceptionally well in the in-line inspection and taking home first place in the Posting of the Colors competition. Their precision and reverence for duty are a shining example of Shriner honor.

And let's not forget our creative and hard-working Alchemists, who turned in strong performances across all categories of their TSA competitions. Their consistency and team spirit continue to build a lasting legacy for Arabia Shrine.

To every Noble who showed up — whether to compete, to march, or to support your fellow Shriners — thank you. Your presence matters. Your energy and enthusiasm are what continue to make Arabia shine at TSA and beyond. I am honored to serve as your Potentate and even more honored to stand beside you as a Noble of this great temple. I strongly encourage all of our units and clubs to start planning now to attend and compete at next year's TSA in Austin — let's keep building on this momentum and show Texas what Arabia is all about!

Yours in the Faith,
Ben LaBlanc, Potentate

Upcoming Events

**June 28 - July 3: Imperial Shrine Session
(Atlanta)**

July 4: Roman Forest Parade

**July 13: Arabia's 110 Year Anniversary Party
(Arabia)**

July 25: Tomball Christmas in July (Galveston)

Save the Date

September 13: Tri-Temple
Ceremonial at Arabia! Come
out and experience a
ceremonial and bring a
candidate or two!

Please submit all articles and pictures to newsletter@shriners-houston.org



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The Arabia Legion of Honor won first place in both In-line Inspection and Presentation of the Colors!



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The Arabia Hot Rods made their return to competition pad! It has been almost a decade since their last competition, and they brought the excitement with them! Arabia received many comments welcoming them back and excited to have them compete. Though they didn't win, they're going at it again in Atlanta! Good luck Hot Rods!



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The Oriental Band had **17 Nobles** compete this year! This is the biggest band Arabia has had in many years! They fell short of first place but they made their presence known and brought the fun to the room! Looking forward to them competing at Imperial!



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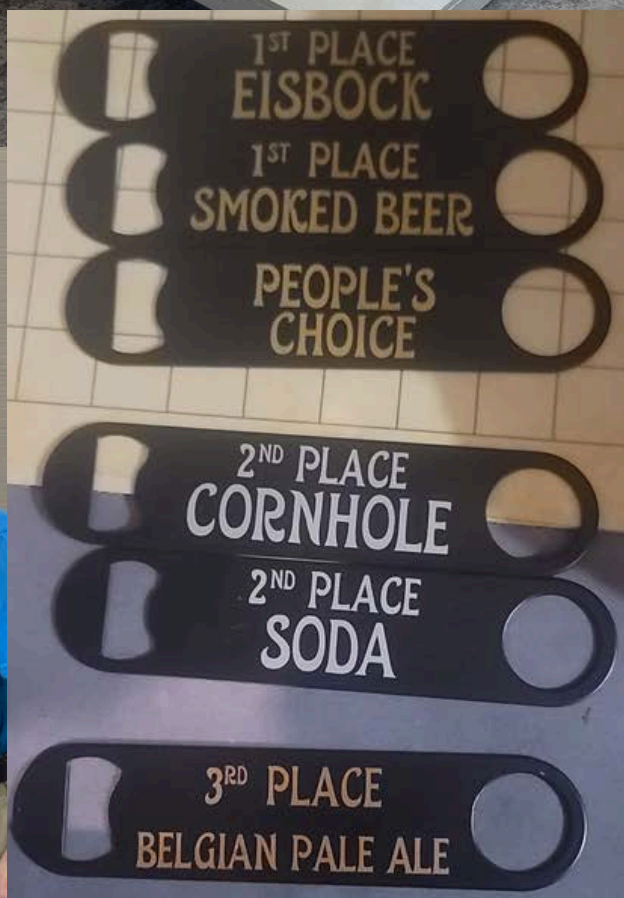


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The Arabia Alchemists submitted a variety of brews for the different categories and walked away with six awards- including People's Choice!



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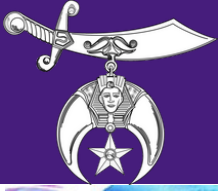


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Aloha!

JOIN US FOR

ARABIA'S 110 YEAR ANNIVERSARY PARTY

BBQ, BOUNCE HOUSES, LIVE
MUSIC, AND MORE!

JULY 13

START AT 12:00PM

ARABIA SHRINE CENTER
10510 HARWIN DR

DRESS: CASUAL HAWAIIAN
FAMILIES WELCOME



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It was a rainy day but the Sportsmen showed up and shot lights out! Each shooting at 150 targets and winning first place for both Teams A and B! They also brought home the president's cup for the 8th year in a row! Way to go Shooters!





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“Remember Your Why”

Chris Staudt, Treasurer

Every Shriner has a story. A reason. A moment that brought them here.

Maybe it was watching a child take their first steps after surgery.

Maybe it was your grandfather’s Fez on the mantle.

Maybe it was a friend who wouldn’t take no for an answer.

Whatever it was—it was your “why.”

But somewhere along the way... we forget. Life gets busy. Meetings pile up. Commitments compete for time. And that spark—the reason we joined—can start to fade.

So, what does “Remember Your Why” mean for you?

It’s more than a motto. It’s a call to reflection.

It’s an invitation to re-center your purpose in this fraternity.

For some, the “why” is the kids in our hospitals.

For others, it’s the camaraderie of brothers, the parades, the fundraisers, the feeling of doing good with good people.

And for others still—it’s legacy. Carrying forward a tradition bigger than any one man

Why it Matters

When we forget our why, we start showing up out of obligation. But when we remember it, we show up with passion. With pride. With purpose.

That difference? It’s everything.

It’s what drives a club to grow.

It’s what inspires a Noble to lead.

It’s what moves someone from “member” to “brother.”

Leadership Is Listening—and Leading

At Arabia, our current leadership is committed to living their “why” out loud. You’ve seen us launching initiatives like Leah’s Project, reviving clubs, building the museum, and creating new events—not because we have to, but because we believe in this mission.

We’re not just asking you to remember your why—we’re doing the same. Together.

Finding (or Re-Finding) Your Why

If your why feels a little fuzzy these days, don’t worry. It happens to the best of us.

But here’s the good news: it’s still there. And we can help you find it again.

- Attend a new unit meeting.
- Talk to a brother you haven’t seen in a while.
- Visit one of our hospitals.
- Bring a new Noble under your wing.
- Volunteer for something that makes you uncomfortable.

Because that moment—the one where your heart lights back up—that’s when your “why” returns.

And once you’ve found it again... you’ll never serve the same way.

So we ask you, Noble: What’s your why?

And how can we help you live it more fully?

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Shout Out to the TSA Competitors

Otto Akers
Travis Aldridge
David Ashley, P.P.
Daniel Checkman
Jim Clark
Kevin Clingan
PJ Demarie
A.J. DiCaro
Ronnie Ellis
Jimmy Fristoe
Henry Gohlke
Ian Goodwin
Ken Henderson
Bob Kirkwood
Ill. Sir Ben LaBlanc
Cam Lipe
John Olivarri, P.P.
David Prentice
Eddie Reed, P.P.
Marty Rodriguez
Leo Rowe
Don Savell
Jimmie Silvers
Chris Staudt
Rick Stephanow
Danny Szell
Chris Thorpe
Bubba Tullos
Edgar Valenzuela
Rick Villareal
Keith Ward
Phillip Webb
Ron Whitmore
Cary Williams
Carl Wunsche



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