



THE ARABIAN

May 25, 2025 Houston, TX



As we move through the heart of spring, I'm proud to share a few key moments from the past month that reflect the continued strength and dedication of our great fraternity. In April, we had the distinct honor of presenting to the Joint Boards of Shriners International and Shriners Children's at their meeting in Charleston. It was a meaningful opportunity to represent Arabia Shriners on a national stage and share the impact of our efforts here at home. The momentum we're building together is palpable, and I thank each of you for your dedication.

Looking ahead, we're gearing up for two major gatherings that are central to our fraternal calendar. In June, the Texas Shrine Association Summer Ceremonial will take place in Tyler, Texas. This is always a fantastic opportunity to come together with fellow Texas Nobles for fraternal bonding, competitions, and conducting the business for our beloved brotherhood here in Texas. Then, from June 29 to July 3, the 151st Imperial Session will be held in Atlanta, Georgia. The event promises to be both inspiring and energizing, with critical business sessions that help guide the future of our fraternity.

We're also thrilled to announce a very special milestone—Arabia Shriners' 110th Anniversary Celebration, to be held on Sunday, July 13 at Arabia Temple. This will be an unforgettable afternoon honoring over a century of fellowship, philanthropy, and fraternal leadership. All Nobles, families, and friends are encouraged to attend as we celebrate our storied legacy and look ahead to a vibrant future.

As we continue our journey, let's carry forward the enthusiasm and dedication that define the Arabia Shriners. Your participation and commitment are the pillars of our success. I look forward to seeing many of you at the upcoming events. And always remember your "Why"!

Yours in the Faith,
Ben LaBlanc, Potentate

Upcoming Events

- June 7: Casino Bus Trip (postponed)**
- June 12-14: Texas Shrine Association (Tyler)**
- June 21: Circus Appreciation Party (Arabia)**
- June 28 - July 3: Imperial Shrine Session (Atlanta)**
- July 13: Arabia's 110 Year Anniversary Party (Arabia)**
- September 13: Tri-temple Ceremonial**

Save the Date

Night at the Ballpark- May 27

Join us for a grand slam evening of fellowship, fun, and Shrine pride at Arabia Shriners Night at the Ballpark on Monday, May 27th, as the Houston Astros take on the A's at Daikin Park!

This special night will shine a spotlight on our fraternity as the Arabia Shriners proudly present the colors during the pregame ceremony. It's a moment of honor and visibility you won't want to miss.

Bring your family, wear your Fez, and represent Arabia with pride!

Get your tickets now here: [PURCHASE TICKETS](#)

Let's fill the stands with Nobles and show the city what Shriner spirit is all about!

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



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New Masons Strengthen Houston Area Lodges

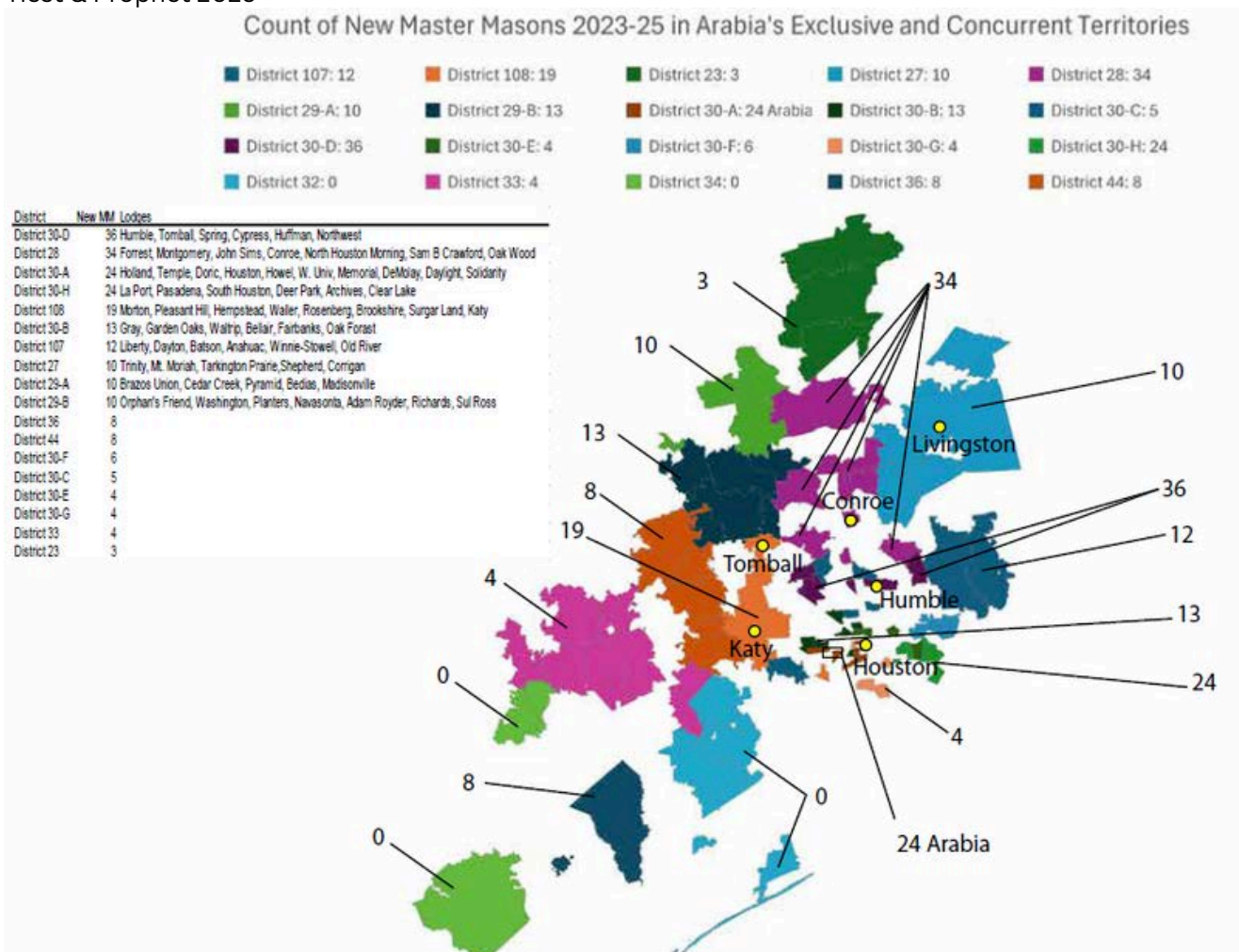
The Houston region is experiencing a strong wave of growth in its Masonic community as new Master Masons are distributed across the area's lodges for 2023–2025. According to the latest data, Northeast, Northcentral, and Northwest Houston districts including District 30-D leads the way with an impressive 36 new Master Masons joining lodges in Humble, Tomball, Spring, Cypress, Huffman, and Northwest. Close behind, District 28 welcomed 34 new members across lodges in Conroe, Montgomery, and North Houston.

The urban heart of the region, District 30-A—which includes key lodges in Houston, West University, and Memorial—has added 24 new Master Masons, matching the growth in District 30-H, which covers lodges in La Porte, Pasadena, and South Houston.

District 108, stretching into the suburban areas like Katy and Sugar Land, has strengthened its ranks with 19 new Masons. Smaller but steady gains were also seen in Districts 30-B, 107, 27, and 29, each adding between 10 and 13 new Master Masons.

This influx marks a healthy trend of engagement and expansion for Freemasonry in the greater Houston area, ensuring that the fraternal bonds and community service traditions continue to thrive across both urban centers and neighboring towns. The membership team continues to focus on hospital presentations at Blue Lodges, particularly in districts with high growth. If your lodge would like to have a hospital presentation or an update, please contact me or Carl Wunsche.

Fraternally Yours,
Henry
Arabia High Priest & Prophet 2025





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Leah's Project- Raising Awareness Nationwide

On April 28th, a powerful milestone was reached in the life of Leah's Project. We had the incredible honor of presenting this initiative to the Imperial Potentate, First Lady Judy Burke, and the Joint Boards of Shriners International in Charleston, South Carolina.

This project began with a simple but life-saving idea: **Home inspectors need to test and report water temperature to help prevent deadly scald burns—especially to children.**

We launched Leah's Project in memory of a young girl named Leah, who was the Grand Daughter of Imperial Sir Richard Burke, and First Lady Judy, who tragically lost her life due to water that was simply too hot. Her story moved me deeply, and it became clear that something had to change. I own a Home Inspection Firm here in Houston. The home inspection industry had never made water temperature testing a standard—but we're working to change that.

Thanks to the support of fellow Shriners, inspection professionals, and safety advocates, **Leah's Project is now becoming a national awareness and prevention movement.** Inspectors across the country are adopting simple tools and processes that can alert families to dangerous water temperatures during the inspection of buying a home. We are also leaving behind "Leah's Labels, a hang tag on faucets to educate sellers on the importance of testing water temperatures. We now have 250,000 homes inspected for water Temperature and we are just starting.

During our presentation in Charleston:

- Lady Amy Staudt shared the emotional origin of Leah's Project and how it started with a whisper at Judy's presentation last year at Imperial Session, "you need to do something about this".
- I gave an update on our national outreach, educational materials, and the wave of inspectors who are stepping up to make water temperature testing a new best practice.
- Illustrious Sir Ben LaBlanc spoke on the deeper meaning of this work—how it reflects the Shrine's century-old mission of protecting children, and "WHY" we are Shriners.
- First Lady Alyssa LaBlanc offered a heartfelt message from First Lady to First Lady, connecting the loss and love behind the project, to the impact it's having across Shrine families and leadership.

After the presentation, First Lady Judy Burke shared that "this is what I've always wanted for Leah—to spread awareness and ensure her name is never forgotten."

Richard and Judy asked that Leah's Project be presented again at the Texas Shrine Association (TSA), The Imperial First Ladies Luncheon, and the Imperial Session in Atlanta. This is a monumental step forward—not just for awareness, but for making this a lasting part of who we are as Shriners and what we stand for in our communities.

[To learn more about Leah's Project and how you can support this nationwide mission, visit: https://donate.lovetotherescue.org/campaign/the-leah-project/c676754](https://donate.lovetotherescue.org/campaign/the-leah-project/c676754)

Together, we are changing the standard—and saving lives.
Chris Staudt





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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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Supporting Shriners Children's: How Your Club or Unit Can Make a Difference

Shriners Children's has been a beacon of hope, healing, and compassion for over a century. With a mission to provide the highest quality care to children with orthopedic conditions, burns, spinal cord injuries, and cleft lip and palate—regardless of the families' ability to pay—Shriners Children's relies heavily on the generous support of donors, volunteers, and fundraising efforts spearheaded by Shriners and their communities.

How Clubs and Units Can Get Involved

Every club or unit has the potential to play a vital role in supporting Shriners Children's. Fundraising doesn't have to be complicated or high-budget—it's about engaging your members, your community, and your networks in creative, meaningful ways.

1. Involve Your Talents
2. Leverage your club's unique talents. Clown units can host children's parties or parades, motor units can organize public showcases, and regional clubs can assist at community festivals. Each event can include a fundraising component—donation jars, silent auctions, or sponsorships.
3. Partner with Local Businesses
4. Seek sponsorships or donations from local businesses. Many businesses love to support causes that directly benefit children and families in their community.
5. Volunteer at Shriners Events
6. Beyond fundraising, your club can volunteer at Shriners Children's events, such as hospital tours, circuses, or galas. Showing up in person strengthens the bond between your unit and the hospital's mission.

Tell the Story

Fundraising is not just about raising money—it's about telling the story of the children who benefit from the care at Shriners Children's. Use photos, videos, patient stories, and testimonials at your events and on your social media to connect donors to the cause emotionally. Fundraising can raise awareness of our mission. No matter how large or small each Unit and Club of Arabia can do a fundraiser for the hospital system. We all became Shriners to help our community, especially the Children that we treat. I am always available to help with any effort to raise funds and awareness for our Hospitals; have a question or concern, call me at 936-443-3561. Let us always remember our "Why".

Fraternally yours,

Jim Clark

Assistant Rabban, Arabia Shriners





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ARABIA SHRINERS HOUSTON, TEXAS



EMBRACE YESTERDAY • EVOLVE TODAY •
EXCEL TOMORROW
110TH ANNIVERSARY EDITION

Make History Come Alive

The Arabia Shrine museum is all set up to house Arabia artifacts from around the building. We are asking units and clubs to loan or give items that have historical significance to Arabia and Shriners as a whole. Please contact me with any submissions.

Other items of significance are potentate pins, circus pins and benefit pins. If anyone has these pins to donate, it would be appreciated. We are looking to set up a chronological collection in a display case.

Additionally, we are trying to put together a historical section in our 2025 Yearbook. Histories of the various units and clubs are key to this section. Please contact me to discuss.

Fraternally,
Phillip "Flux" Webb
Arabia Shrine Historian
(281) 253-7703
pawebb68@gmail.com

Be a Part of History!

Arabia's 110th Anniversary Yearbook Presale Ends June 1st!

As we celebrate 110 years of fellowship, service, and tradition, we invite you to be a part of Arabia Shriners' legacy by securing your copy of the 110th Anniversary Yearbook.

This commemorative edition captures the people, moments, and milestones that define our great fraternity. From parade memories and hospital visits to unit spotlights and personal tributes—this is more than a book, it's a lasting record of who we are.

Presale ends June 1st.

Don't miss your chance to own this keepsake and preserve your place in Arabia's rich history.

Order today for only \$59.95.

Let's honor the past, celebrate the present, and preserve the legacy for generations to come.

Don Savell
Oriental Guide

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



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Thank You Circus Supporters

THANK YOU everyone that supported the 2025 Arabia Shrine Circus!

Thank you Committee Chairs, Sales volunteers, Roustabouts, kitchen volunteers, meal sponsors, finance and ticket distribution staff, computer operations team, leader and I-pad users.

Special Thank you to Chief Roustabout Illustrious Sir Jerry Parrish and to our National Anthem singers Mary Alice Owen, Bam Bam, and Flux.

All Shriners, Ladies, family members, students, Masonic Demolay are heros for 2025 Arabia Shrine Circus.

Fraternally and Sincerely,
Otto Akers
2025 Circus Chairman

Clownin' Around

The Clown Jewels did a great job during this year's circus. The camaraderie and team work were awesome! The skits went great and everyone got to participate, even the Potentate and Scruffy! The circus skits were well executed and everyone worked hard, and it showed. We were told several times by the circus people that we knocked it out of the park. With circus past us, the clowns are now focusing on TSA competition, ladies' appreciation dinner and other fun events.

The Arabia Clown Jewels meet every 3rd Tuesday in the unit room at 6:00 p.m. All are welcome to come and enjoy a meal and lively discussion.

Phillip "Flux" Webb
Secretary - Arabia Shrine Clown Jewels



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