



The Gizeh Gazette

BC & Yukon Shriners



It has been a busy and fast-paced summer for the Divan and the Gizeh Office, with plenty happening both in our communities and within the Shrine. Following Grand Lodge of BC and Yukon, we participated in several Canada Day parades. The parades were well attended, and it was great to see our Nobles, Ladies and Clubs/Units out in the community. These events are an excellent opportunity to raise Gizeh's profile and remind people about who we are and, more importantly, what we do for children.



Ill. Sir Peter Boddy

At the beginning of July, Gizeh was invited by Nile Temple to join them at T-Mobile Stadium in Seattle to watch the Blue Jays take on the Mariners. Unfortunately, it seems the Jays didn't get the memo that they were supposed to show up and put on a little more of a performance! While the game may not have gone quite as hoped, everyone had a great time, and we sincerely thank Nile Temple for including us. Hopefully, one of these days our Canadian sports teams will give us something to celebrate and restore our bragging rights!

In mid-July, our Chief Rabban Noble Holley, Assistant Rabban Noble Hunter and I attended the Imperial Session in Tampa, Florida. We were joined by Noble Norm Atha and his crew of Marshals from Gizeh as well as his son Noble Gabriel, who was fezzed by the Imperial Potentate. Ill Sir Bruce Barker and Noble Tony Mulder were in also in attendance along with Supreme Queen Kathy Rafter and her Aides. For those who have not had the pleasure of visiting Tampa in the summer, let's just say it is hot and humid! Despite the weather, Tampa is a great city and we enjoyed our time there as it is a great city to visit!

One of the highlights of the Session was when Ill. Sir Bruce Barker presented the Gizeh Child Services Society (CSS) with a \$425,000 cheque from an estate donation. This generous gift will help provide transportation for many BC and Yukon children travelling for treatment through the Shriners Children's network. It is an incredible gift and a wonderful example of how the generosity of one person can make a lasting difference in the lives of children and their families. Since mid-May, the Divan and the appointed Nobles of the Gizeh Temple Building Society (GTBS) have been working hard on the purchase of a seventeen acre property at 2473-240 Street in Langley, which will be available for use by the Shriners and the Masonic Family.

The purchase was completed on August 19, with possession scheduled for September 23. The property includes a residence and an equestrian centre, both of which will be leased. There is still work to be done as the committee develops plans for the property and determines how it can best serve Gizeh and the broader Masonic Family. More information will be shared with the Nobles as plans develop. We anticipate holding an open house once we take possession, giving everyone an opportunity to see the property and begin imagining its possibilities. As always, your ideas and input are welcome!

Message from Potentate (contd. on next page)



AUGUST 2026

Message from the Potentate (continued from front page).

Recently, a Shriner watching the CTV evening news noticed a story about a 16-year-old youth who was experiencing difficulties obtaining much needed back surgery. The Shriner reached out to the child's mother and provided information about the Shriners' programs. Unfortunately, the family was not aware of who the Shriners are or how we might be able to help. After speaking with Joy from our Child Services Society the following morning, she was able to connect the family with both Tampa and Shriners Children's Canada. The youth will now be assessed and hopefully, receive the treatment needed in the very near future. What made this story even more rewarding was hearing from several other Shriners and Daughters of the Nile who had also seen the story and contacted us to see how they could help. This is exactly what being a Shriner is all about—seeing a need, reaching out, and making a difference.

September is just around the corner, which means children will soon be heading back to school. Please slow down, watch for children and take a little extra care around school zones and neighbourhoods.

It has been a busy summer, but it has also been a very rewarding one. Thank you to all the Nobles, Ladies, Clubs, Units and volunteers who continue to get involved and help make Gizeh visible and active in our communities. Keep smiling, keep having fun, and most importantly, keep being Shriners!

*Yours in the faith,
Ill Sir Peter Boddy
Potentate*



**Here are Diana and Joy, the
other end of the phone at the
Gizeh Temple.**





A Summer of Friendship, Service & Growth at Zarah Temple No.72

It has certainly been a busy and memorable summer at Zarah Temple No. 72 in Vancouver! Although our regular Sessions take a summer break, our Ladies have continued to come together in friendship, fellowship and service. Our Games Day gave everyone a chance to relax, enjoy one another's company and, most importantly, laugh! We also travelled across the border to Hatasu Temple No. 1 at the Nile Shrine Temple, where we joined members from other Temples for a picnic followed by a very entertaining evening of Music Bingo hosted by Queen Kim Newman of Hatasu Temple No. 1.

One of the greatest highlights of my summer was travelling to Shriners Children's Canada in Montreal, where I had the incredible honour of representing Zarah Temple No. 72 as Queen for the unveiling of the eighth, one million dollar plaque recognizing the contributions of the Canadian Daughters of the Nile.



**Supreme Queen Kathy Rafter's poster
at Shrine International.**

Since the inception of the Canadian Trust in April 1997, our ten Canadian Temples have donated an incredible \$8,288,653 to Shriners Children's Canada. Behind that number are approximately 1,400 women across Canada working tirelessly for our children and their families. Every fund raiser, tea, bazaar, raffle, ticket sold, donation received and hour volunteered has helped us reach this remarkable milestone. Being at the hospital was both humbling and heartwarming. We were given a full tour, met some of the patients and saw firsthand the extraordinary work being done there every day.

One of my sweetest memories, however, had nothing to do with plaques or dollar amounts. I let a couple of the children wear my crown, and watching their faces light up was something I will never forget. For a few moments, they got to be the Queen, and those smiles were priceless.

It was a beautiful reminder of the reason behind everything we do: *It's all for the kids.* I left Montreal incredibly proud to be a Daughter of the Nile, proud of what our Canadian Temples have accomplished together and especially proud to represent Zarah Temple No. 72.

Our summer is not quite over, and we may have saved some of our biggest excitement for last! Our wonderful Oasis Club No.15 in Penticton will host Zarah Temple's Out of Town Ceremonial, where we are thrilled to welcome seven new Princesses from communities throughout BC into our beautiful Order. Two Princesses who previously joined through an Obligation Only ceremony (think Cold Sands) will also participate in the Ceremonial, bringing us to an incredible nine Ladies participating! Welcoming seven new members at one Ceremonial is certainly something to celebrate.

(contd. on next page)



(Zarah Temple continued from previous page).

They bring new friendships, new ideas and new energy, and we cannot wait to welcome them into our Zarah family. Making the weekend even more special will be the support of our extended Masonic Family, with guests travelling from near and far to celebrate with us. We are especially fortunate to have Illustrious Sir Peter Boddy, who has supported Zarah Temple unquestioningly since joining the Divan Line. We are also honoured to have representation from the Grand Lodge of British Columbia and Yukon, the Order of the Eastern Star Grand Line, and a Job's Daughters International Grand Line Officer.

We may belong to different organizations, wear different titles and follow different traditions but we share the same values of friendship, fellowship and service to others. From laughter and friendship, to seeing firsthand why our work for Shriners Children's matters, to welcoming seven new Princesses, this summer has reminded us just how much we can accomplish when we come together.

\$8.28 million and counting. Seven new Princesses. Ten Canadian Temples. Approximately 1,400 Canadian Daughters of the Nile. And one very big Masonic Family.

Queen Jeanette Colwell, Zarah Temple No. 72 Jcolwellno.72@gmail.com



**Supreme Princess Chaplain
Sherry Bohnenkamp, Queen
Jeanette Colwell and Supreme
Attendant Carol Young.**



L to R: Noble Tony Mulder, Ill Sir Peter Boddy, Colton (from Kansas) Macie (from Tampa) Nobles Rick Hunter and Andre Holley. Colton and Macie are 2026-2027 Imperial Child Ambassadors.



**Queen Jeanette Colwell at
the Taswasssen Parade.**





2026 Summer PNSA — Kimberley

This year, we did not know whether the PNSA would even take place. The entire town of Kimberley was on evacuation alert because of nearby wildfires. The alert was lifted only one day before the event. Gizeh had six Nobles in attendance, including Noble Sean Martin, Lady Taleah and their three children. Total attendance for the event was about one hundred. Ill Sir Larry Tipton welcomed everyone and emphasized that the PNSA's direction for the summer event is to make it a family event, with entertainment and activities designed to include children as well as Nobles and Ladies.



On Thursday, there was a clown school, with at least four Nobles taking the training. The new clowns were inducted into the PNSA Clown Unit on Saturday by Imperial Sir Tim Forbis. I also saw Imperial Sir Dale Vrsalovich with his hand raised. After the counterpart dinner on Friday, there was karaoke. The town of Kimberley was invited to join in, a few locals attended along with visitors from Trickle Creek Lodge. A seven-year-old girl was a showstopper, singing two great songs. Unfortunately, we were shut down at 10:00 pm, even though the evening could have gone on for at least another hour.



Saturday was a busy day, beginning with a train ride through the Kimberley Underground Railway. This was a fantastic tour, led by a former miner who explained how the mine and equipment worked. I recommend this tour to anyone visiting Kimberley. The afternoon was spent playing games at the PNSA competition. This was a team event with three contestants on each team, and each team member had a different task. The team's total time to complete all the tasks became its score. The first contestant had to put on a clown outfit: pants, shirt, jacket, and tie. The next team member had to put one bean bag through the corn hole board. The final team member had to ride a tricycle for about 100 metres. Gizeh was in the lead until another team got the bean bag in on the first throw. The day ended with the President's Banquet, where Imperial Sir Tim Forbis gave special recognition to the Nobles who brought their families. The food was exceptional, and so was the service provided by the Kimberley Convention Centre.

Andre Holley, Chief Rabban



El Kamino Shrine Club #57, located in Gibson was granted their Charter by Ill. Sir Doug Franklin, Potentate on April 25, 2025. Ill. Sir Boddy (green shirt) presented Noble King, Ill. Sir Wally Lee and Noble Ted Ball with the Charter at a recent function



Shrine Imperial Session Tampa 2026

Shrine Imperial 2026 was held in Tampa during mid-July with over 800 Nobles attending. Gizeh was represented by the Iowa Reps Chief Rabban, Assistant Rabban and Potentate and several Colorado Reps. Supreme Kathy Rafter attended to represent the Daughters of the Nile. Several important matters were addressed during the four day session.

Elections: The newly elected members joining Iowa are Illustrious Sir Richard Loomes from Tunis (Ottawa) as the Imperial Outer Guard; Imperial Sir Richard Burke as Imperial Recorder; while Imperial Sir Larry Lieb was elected as Imperial Potentate. All the other Imperial Divan members advanced one position. For the Colorado Corp Elections, two Trustees and Board Chairman, Doctor Leslie Stewart were re-elected for another three-year term.



Ill. Sir Bruce Barker presenting a \$425,000 cheque to Gizeh Temple.

Legislation: There were thirty-one legislative proposals to amend the Shrine International and Colorado Corp bylaws. The bylaw changes require two-thirds majority to pass. Below is a summary of the more important bylaw legislation. Imperial Sir Marty Bartlett update. A notice has been sent from the Imperial Potentate stating that Imperial Sir Marty Bartlett had been suspended from the Shrine until after this Imperial Session. After both sides presented their positions, Marty Bartlett was reinstated by a vote of the Nobility from the floor and was elected Imperial High Priest and Prophet for the ensuing year.

Tampa (continued on next page).



Back row, l to r: Noble Andre Holley, Noble David Chamberlain, Ill Sir Peter Boddy, Noble Tony Mulder, Ill Sir Bruce Barker, Ill Sir Wally Lee, **Middle row:** Ill Sir Harold Wallace, Nobles Rick Hunter, Norm Atha, Gabriel Atha (Gizeh's newest Noble) **Front row:** Supreme Princess Tirzah Heather Herridge, Supreme Marshall Amber McGill, Lady Jacqui Atha and Supreme Queen Kathy Rafter.



It is with profound sorrow that we inform you of the passing of Past First Lady Shirley Smith, beloved wife of P.I.P (Past Imperial Potentate 2001-2002) Kenneth W. Smith. Past First Lady Shirley passed away on August 25, 2026. First Lady Shirley continued to be very involved at Gizeh Temple events and with the Daughters of the Nile. She had a profound influence on many and will missed.

Please keep the family in your thoughts and prayers during this difficult time.

Further information regarding a celebration of life, will be shared with the Nobility as soon as it becomes available.



Tampa (continued from previous page).

Noteworthy Iowa Corp financial legislative motions

Spouse Travel Allowance: Motion Failed. Spouses will continue to receive travel reimbursement expenses to Imperial Sessions. This could get expensive as several new Temples such as Australia and the Ivory Coast have been added. This legislation received a majority vote, but not the 2/3 required to pass.

Per Diem: Passed. Eliminates a \$20 per diem, per day for voting delegates.

Dues Increase: (Iowa) Passed. Automatic annual increase measured by the sum of the percentage increase in CPI plus the percentage decrease in membership not to exceed \$5 U.S. per year.

Imperial Suspensions: Passed. Shrine Temples will be notified if any Imperial Officers or member of the board of trustees is suspended.

The Imperial Session in 2027 will be in Philadelphia, Pittsburgh in 2028 and Oklahoma in 2029.



III. Sir Bruce Barker and Noble Tony Mulder at the Egypt Temple in Tampa.





*To purchase a Challenge Coin,
contact Noble Andre Holley
aholley@bcshriners.com*

From the Recorder...

It's been a busy summer with parades and barbecues. August began with three back-to-back parades. The first being White Rock Night Parade, followed by Squamish, concluding in Tsawwassen. All three parades were well attended and well represented by Shriners. Our floats, cars and scooters are always a big hit with the kids. They especially enjoy the swash buckling pirates and the sound of the cannon being fired.

Since my last communication I had the honor of attending and assisting in The Daughters of the Niles "Mad Hatters Tea" fundraiser in Abbotsford. It was great day and a lot of fun for everyone. The effort, the planning and the hard work that Queen Jeanette and her team put into making these events a success is truly amazing. Sept 5, 2026 is the date for her "Out of Town Ceremonial Banquet" in Penticton. Let's give her our support. Hope to see you there.

Ronn Martin
Recorder Gizeh Temple

Upcoming events for 2026

Sept 26	Gizeh Stated Meeting
Oct 17	Reverse Draw and Cold Sands
Dec 12	Gizeh Stated Meeting and Elections



**Noble Norm Atha and his son Gabriel
in the Tsawwassen Parade.**



Camel's new trailer.

