



BEN HUR Shriners

The Chariot



JULY 2026

VOL. 94, NO 7



Saturday, July 18, 2026

Hosted by
Ruh Neb Temple No. 64
Daughters of the Nile
Royal Dancers

Each \$25 ticket includes:

- Heavy Snacks
- Door prize tickets
- Three rounds of Bunco

Schedule:

- 1:30 PM: Door Open
- 2 PM: Tournament Begins

Friends and family welcome!
Event includes tournament prizes!

Held at Ben Hur Shrine
7811 Rockwood Lane
Austin, TX 78757!

Name _____ Phone _____
Email _____ Food allergies? _____

PLEASE NOTE: WE ARE UNABLE TO TAKE PAYMENT BY CC OR DEBIT CARDS FOR THIS EVENT

- ☐ Check payable to **Ruh Neb No. 64** Check Number: _____
☐ Cash or check at door

Registration due
Monday, July 13th

Janet Heineman
460 Middle Crk
Buda, TX 78610
jjheineman@yahoo.com
713.828.6389



Proceeds benefit

Ruh Neb Temple No. 64,
Daughters of the Nile

*Our sole philanthropy
is supporting Shriners
Children's.*

7811 Rockwood Lane
Austin, Texas 78757

Articles due NLT 15th of the month

512-480-0812
www.benhurshrine.org

BEN HUR SHRINE

CHARTED AUGUST 16, 1892

7811 Rockwood Lane

Austin, Texas 78757

Phone 512-480-0812

www.benhurshrine.org

secretary@benhurshrine.org

recorder@benhurshrine.org

BEN HUR OFFICE HOURS

Mon - Fri 9:30am to 2:30pm

Closed on Major Holidays

ILLUSTRIOUS SIR**CHARLES MADDOX****2026 POTENTATE**

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CHARIOT EDITOR Sam Stimson, PhD**Webmaster/Designer..... Diane Reid****APPOINTED DIVAN****Temple Director - Chris Garner****Captain of the Guard - Robert Eschenburg****Outer Guard - Dave Harnden****1st Ceremonial Master—Russell Jones****2nd Ceremonial Master - Ted Robertson****Marshal - Raul Scully****APPOINTED STAFF****Colonel of Units**

Danny Adrian

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Ronald Speaks, High Priest and Prophet

Master of Ceremonies

Mike Sanders

Fund Raising Chairman

Jonathan Felger

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Office Manager

Aliya Spivey

Building & Grounds Manager

James Heineman PP

Chaplain

Ryan Divincenzo

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Chef Ernest Owney, Jim Kinley, Debbie Kinley,
 Russell Hur, Russell Jones, Brenda Willis Scholin
 Lana Stone, Dave Harnden, Mike Sanders, Michele
 Sanders, Jeff Schlieve, Cristal Schlieve

Insurance Chairman

Gerald "Jerry" Carruth

Insurance Committee

Ill Sir Charles Maddox, Potentate, Charles
 Farnham, PP, Andy Barclay
 Sam Stimson, PhD, Recorder

Legal Counsel

Gerald C. "Jerry" Carruth

Masonic Relations

Christian Moore

\$100 Million Dollar Club

Ricki Pierce

Parade Marshal

Ricki Pierce

Parliamentarian

Gerald C. "Jerry" Carruth

Photographer

James Heineman PP

Public Relations

Andy Murray

Sickness & Distress

Nobility

Transportation Chairman

Vance Brown

Social Media

Andy Murray

Membership Committee

Ricky Hayes, Asst. Rabban Chairman

Chuck Jones PP

Andy Murray

Christian Moore

Jeff Schlieve

STATED MEETING

Ben Hur Shrine meets on the 3rd Thursday of the
 month. The next stated meeting will be Sept 17
 2026. **CURRENT DUES CARD IS REQUIRED!**

POTENTATE - charlesemaddox@gmail.com

Ben Hur, thank you for your hard work, dedication, and hospitality from the Texas Shrine Ceremonial. For the first time in 26 years, Ben Hur hosted the Ceremonial Session, and the compliments continue to pour in. Every Noble, Lady, and guest enjoyed themselves and came away with spirited feelings. You can all be proud of our Temple.



Special recognition needs to go to the Director General, Ill. Charlie Farnham, for his coordination and facilitation of the Ceremonial. When I expressed interest in running for the Divan, knowing that if elected the duty to host the Mid-Winter and Ceremonial would fall on Ben Hur and myself, Ill. Farnham volunteered to be our Director General, and he certainly brought his usual professional game to this venture.

Our units represented Ben Hur well and nearly all came away with trophies. Below are the results for Ben Hur from the competitions at the 2026 Texas Shrine Ceremonial:

Motorized

1st Place – Class 5

Provost Guard

3rd Place – A-Team

Legion of Honor

1st Place – Color Guard

2nd Place – Inspection

Homebrew

1st Place – Double IPA

1st Place – People's Choice

2nd Place – Weizenbach

2nd Place – Mix

2nd Place – Dry Red

2nd Place – Mead

2nd Place – Cherry Soda

3rd Place – British Brown Ale

3rd Place – Cornhole

Overall winners

As my term as Texas Shrine Association President concludes, I want to thank Emily and Alexandra for putting up with me and their moral support. In Emily's case, she was, and continues to be, a sounding board of ideas. She always knows how to keep me grounded yet also keep stoking the spirit of service. She is my confidant and my guiding star. My achievements are nothing without her. When I expressed interest in making myself available for the Divan, I warned her this duty would befall us, and she encouraged me to accept the responsibility. For Alexandra, she inspires me to always be the best man I can be. And I hope the volunteerism is an inspiration for her.

As we traverse the 2026 Temple year, please note that our Temple will hold a Ceremonial on Saturday, September 12, 2026. Any Master Masons you know who will enjoy Ben Hur Shrine and/or want to contribute their time and energy to our philanthropy need a petition. A called meeting of Ben Hur will be held at 8:00am on Saturday, September 12, for the expressed purpose of voting on petitions for membership.

Thank you all again for your help, more especially for representing Ben Hur with pride during the Ceremonial Session!

Fraternally,
Charles E. Maddox

CHIEF RABBAN - farnhamcf@outlook.com

The Texas Shrine Association Ceremonial Session, held June 11–14, 2026, was a tremendous success and reflected the dedication and commitment of the volunteers and leadership of Ben Hur Shrine. Words cannot express my deep appreciation for those who took time out of their busy schedules to help plan this multi-day event in Austin, as well as those who executed the plan and worked tirelessly to serve the needs of our attendees.

I would like to recognize several individuals whose efforts made a significant difference. Special thanks go to Chris Brizell for identifying and working with TSSSA to secure a location for the Shotgun Competition; Carl Winters for securing the golf courses for the TSGA competition rounds; and Chuck Jones for helping secure the TSPGA pistol shooting venue while working alongside Nick Jones, Russell Jones, Mac Cutler, Jim Leigh, David Hoke, and Gerry Garcia to prepare and set up the range for the shooters. I also extend my appreciation to Jeff Schlieve and Mike Sanders for assisting with the selection of COTA for the TSMMPA competition and for directing vendors in preparing Lot F with the facilities necessary for the motorized competition.

Thank you to Sam Stimson for handling registrations and payments, a task that continued well beyond the May 15 registration deadline. I also want to thank Cristal Schlieve, Karen Sanders, Barbara George, Donna Pierce, and Vicki Smith for preparing registration packets and staffing the registration desk to ensure that attendees received a warm welcome and all necessary credentials.

My gratitude extends to Janet Heineman and Pam Jones for assisting with decorations for the Counterparts Dinner and for working alongside Cristal Schlieve and Karen Sanders in coordinating the Ladies Program. Thank you as well to Chris Garner for coordinating with vendors, assisting with the Marketplace setup, and always being available to help wherever needed.

The Imperial Officers and our out-of-state guests greatly appreciated the efforts of David Hoke, Ricky Hayes, Chuck Jones, and Christian Moore, who provided transportation services throughout the session. The attendees also enjoyed the Ben Hur Hospitality Room. Special thanks go to Dann Allard for managing the Hospitality Room and working with Ricki Pierce and Mike Preece to ensure that proper provisions were always available for our guests.

I would also like to recognize John Cooper, Vaughn Smith, Chris Moyseas, Andy Murray, Dan Pagliarello, Andrew Moyseas, and others whose names I may have inadvertently omitted for serving refreshments in what was often a crowded Hospitality Room. Hospitable people are what truly make a Hospitality Room successful.

Thank you to Angie Shaffer, Ricky Hayes, Ricki Pierce, Donna Pierce, Mike Preece, Barbara George, Jeannette Stimson, Sam Stimson, and James Heineman for spending time in the Hospitality Room and helping to make our guests feel welcome. I am also grateful to the many others who answered my calls for assistance and stepped in whenever help was needed.

(next page)



Finally, I want to express my deepest appreciation to my Lady, Betty Farnham, for the countless hours she devoted to guiding me through the planning process and helping make the 2026 Texas Shrine Association Ceremonial Session the outstanding success it became.

With TSA in the rear-view mirror, we can focus on two fraternal fundraising projects that I will be leading for Ben Hur. First is the Ben Hur Rodeo which has been rescheduled for Saturday, October 24, 2026, and the second is the Dine and Draw being held on December 19, 2026. Working together we can make each of these events a success for the betterment of our Temple. If you would also like to volunteer your time and talents to help with either of these fundraisers, please let me know.

As part of the planning process for 2027, we will be continuing with the 2027 planning meetings. The next meeting will take place at Norton Moses Masonic Lodge in Leander on Tuesday, September 29, 2026. We are also in the process of scheduling additional planning meetings so stay tuned for more information on how you can help guide the future of Ben Hur Shrine.

Ben Hur will continue to be “Dark” during the months of July and August. Being “Dark” does not mean we will be without any activities. Follow the news in the Chariot and email blasts to stay up to date with scheduled events.

The strength of Ben Hur has always been found in the dedication of its Nobles and Ladies. As we look ahead to the remainder of 2026 and beyond, I encourage each of you to find a way to become involved.

ASSISTANT RABBAN - hayesre1@yahoo.com

Ill Sirs, Nobles, and Ladies,

Summer has arrived here in Central Texas and the heat is on! Lady Angie and I hope everyone is staying healthy, cool, and hydrated!

TSA 2026 was quite a success and we would like to thank the many volunteers from Ben Hur who worked tirelessly to make it happen! Ben Hur Shriner's proved again we know how to have a good time! With amazing fellowship and friendly competitions, the Oasis really showed up and showed out! It was great to see so many friends from around the state and we were honored to host members of the Imperial Line. Thanks to all who attended and helped to make it a great time!

Although the stated meetings are paused for summer, we hope to see everyone at the upcoming parades, parties, and fundraisers that will take place over the next few months as they will continue to keep us connected to each other and our Temple.

Fraternally,

Noble Ricky hayes

Assistant Rabban



ORIENTAL GUIDE - s.m.preece1954@gmail.com

Let me introduce myself to those of you who don't know me. My name is Mike Preece. I have been a member of Ben Hur since 1984. I've had the privilege to serve in several capacities for Ben Hur Temple and plan to continue to serve in the future. I've attended most functions when within the length of my cable tow.

Thank you for attending the May meeting and Special Election. A new High Priest and Prophet, Ricki Pierce, was elected. Thank you for electing me as your new Oriental Guide. To see our membership grow and strengthen our fraternity is my primary goal.

If you weren't able to attend TSA in June, you missed a great convention. It was well-attended and very successful.

Fraternally,

Mike Preece



PROVOST GUARD

Ben Hur Provost Guard hosted the TSA shoot at Austin Rifle Club in Manor, Tx We shot 3 relays in two days with about 100 shooters. It was hot and humid and we went through about six cases of water. Everyone had a great time. I would like to thank Nobles David Hoke, Gerry Garcia, Jim Leigh, Russell Jones, Nick Jones and Mac Cutler for their help in this event, also the TSPGA offices and Rex with Sharon Shrine. It was a great event with a bunch of fun and fellowship. The oldest shooter was 93 years old. Ben Hur Provost Guard was awarded third place A team. Thanks to all.

Chuck Jones—Ben Hur Provost Marshal



TSA MEMORIES



July 2026

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1 LOH RENTAL	2	3 BHST Closed	4 Motley Brue "The 4th"
5 RENTAL	6 Texana 123 Nile Dancers	7 RENTAL	8 Motorized Units Parsons Meeting	9 HLSC	10	11 Hill City Celebration
12 LOS	13 GOLF	14 RENTAL Mini-Bs	15 NILE Parsons	16	17	18 BUNCO
19	20	21 Directors Staff Provost RENTAL	22	23	24	25 PPP Event GROTTO
26	27	28 RENTAL	29	30	31	

**BE SURE AND CHECK WWW.BENHURSHRINE.ORG FOR
LATEST DATES AND TIMES. CALENDARS CAN CHANGE.**

August 2026

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
						1 Motley Brue
2 RENTAL	3 Texana 123	4 RENTAL	5 LOH RENTAL	6	7	8
9	10	11 RENTAL Mini-Bs	12 Parsons Motorized	13 HLSC	14	15
16 LOS	17	18 Directors Staff Provost RENTAL	19 NILE Parsons	20	21	22 WM Appreciation dinner
23	24	25 RENTAL	26	27	28 Rental	29 Rental
30	31					

**BE SURE AND CHECK WWW.BENHURSHRINE.ORG FOR
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SHAKESPEARE
TEXAS STYLE



A GOOD OL' MURDER MYSTERY

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 11TH, 2026

DOORS OPEN 6:30 PM - SHOOTIN' STARTS 7 PM

BEN HUR SHRINE
7811 ROCKWOOD LANE
AUSTIN, TX 78757

SUPPER AND SPECTACLE
\$40 PER PERSON



RSVP BY SEPTEMBER 4TH
All profits benefit Shriners Children's,
a fully qualified 501(c)(3) organization.

Ben Hur Rodeo

A New Legend is Bucking

Let the arena dust rise and the ground shake under the glowing rodeo lights while we hear the crowd roar with excitement.

Do not sit idly by—we need you to be part of building this legend!



New Date for Rodeo
October 24, 2026

MORE TSA



MORE TSA



If your unit was not represented in the photo's it is because the editor did not receive any pictures or comments from the leadership of your unit. This is a Ben Hur monthly publication and the place for each unit to brag or promote their activities and show the other nobles what they do. The units are not a secret organization. Let others know what you do. Who knows, there might be a Noble out there looking for your kind of fun.

CHARIOT BOOSTER CLUB

Brian & Carol Vance	12/36
Greg & Ann Murrow	04/35
Steve & Pat Koehn	03/35
Bobby Tiner	05/30
Greg & Vinna Rye PP	04/30
Aggie & George Auer PP	02/30
David & Juanell Yeager	02/30
In Memory of Joyce & Donna King	08/29
Betty & Charlie Farnham PP	05/29
John Eric Cooper	05/29
In memory of James McConnell PP	03/29
Ron & Debbie Speaks	03/29
Ron & Jamie Dewees	03/29
In memory of Gus Carlson	02/29
In memory of Loren Orme PP	05/28
Fred & Traci Maynard	01/28
Jerry & Bea Hohman	07/28
Gerald "Jerry" Carruth	09/27
In memory of Gail Carruth	09/27
In memory of Don Lee	07/27
Charles & Emily Maddox	07/27
Ricki Hayes & Angie Shaffer	04/27
Boyce and Jody Freitag	04/27
In memory of Byron Betncourt	04/27
Brenda W. Scholin, Realtor	03/27
In memory of Stan Anderson	03/27
Kay & Ron Harrison PP	02/27
Pat & Wanda McDavid	02/27
The Count, Lady Denghel And Girlfriend Margaret	09/26
Billy D & Alice Edmondson	08/26

NOTICE: Did YOUR name get dropped this edition? Remember to check the date following your name. **Next edition will drop all dates to 07/26!** Send in the form below TODAY with your \$25 to become/remain a loyal booster club member.

YES! I WANT TO BE A BOOSTER

Enclosed please find my check in the amount of \$_____

☐ ONE LINE (single name) - \$25 per year

☐ ONE LINE (Mr. & Mrs. or two names) - \$25 per year

☐ TWO LINES (Yours and your Lady's name on 2 lines - \$45 per year

NAME(S): _____

Mail to the Temple Secretary.

BROWN, LACALLADE & LANGE, P.C.

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Texana Masonic Lodge No. 123
Meets First Monday of Each Month
at the Ben Hur Shrine Center
Eat at 6:30 p.m.; Meeting at 7:30 p.m.

BLACK CAMEL REPORT



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If you wish to make a donation directly to our Shriners Childrens in Texas, here is the address. Make your check payable to Shriners Hospitals for Children—Texas

**Shriners Hospitals for Children
Donation Department
815 Market Street
Galveston, Texas 77550**

Ben Hur Shriners
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Austin, TX 78757
(512) 480-0812

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BEN HUR NOBLES WITH BIRTHDAYS IN JULY

7/1

Gordon D Irwin
George T Hepner
Adrian W Edmundson

7/3

Ronald C Harrison PP
Robert K Hogue
Mark E Besch
Wieslaw J Puchalski

7/5

Roger H Glick
Clint Popham

7/7

Joseph M Raffels

7/8

Jack A Poole Jr.

7/9

Ralph E Reasor Jr.
Dave P Hall
Robert A Culler Jr.
Clifton G Whitt

7/10

Larry J Moseley

7/12

James L Wier
Lester J Kinley Jr

7/14

Jonathan J Jones

7/15

Julius T Browder

7/16

Thomas R Schneider
Mitchel R Newstadt

7/18

James A Heineman PP

7/20

Alan L Karotkin
Robert W Price
Michael R Renck

7/21

Michael W Sanders

7/26

George H Cheney

7/28

Gene R Eaves

7/29

Jonathan F Krueger

7/30

Boyce K Freitag PP
Brew E Claes
John C Wood

7/31

Thomas A Chenault