

# **El Zaribah Shriners – Elected Divan 2010**

## **Phil Houghton – Potentate**



Phil began his Masonic journey in June, 2002, joining Apache 69 lodge in Mesa. During his time at the lodge he has served on the board of trustees, the building committee, assisted in various fund raising activities and received the lodge's Mason of the Year Award in 2005. After joining the Shrine in December, 2002, Phil has served as an officer in several units and clubs, insurance committee chairman and other positions.

Phil was born and raised in Gallatin, Missouri, coming from a family of three generations of Sheriffs in Daviess County. He is married to Ronda and has two children that reside and work in the Kansas City, Missouri area, and a granddaughter that is the apple of their eyes. Their journeys have taken them from St. Joseph, Missouri to Kansas City to Bloomington, Illinois and finally to Gilbert, Arizona for the last 10 years.

Phil is employed as a District Underwriter with Country Financial out of Bloomington, Illinois. He has been with Country since 1985 serving in a variety of positions, including managing or supervising 4 different departments and enjoys the field position in Arizona. He recently received the Country Service Award for his volunteerism with the Shriners and work with fundraising for the hospital program. He currently serves on the Executive Board for the Arizona Insurance Council, filling the position of treasurer after spending five years as president of the Council.

Phil was very active in his children's activities, as they were growing up. He started coaching his children's baseball and soccer teams and eventually wound up coaching several traveling soccer teams in the Illinois area. This led to service as a board member of the Central Illinois Youth Soccer League, Officer of the local soccer referee's association and President of the Bloomington Normal Soccer Club. He loves to work with the children and his work with the Shrine is the same way. He gives all he can to help the Shrine care for Children and make their lives better. He enjoys the challenges that are presented on a daily basis and looks forward to serving the Nobility of the Shrine.