



TRAVEL FOR KIDS



Potentate's Message

Illustrious Sir Robert S. "Bob" Whitmarsh, Potentate

I would like to congratulate Noble Brian Davenport for organizing the seminars this year. I was able to attend all but one and do agree that with expertise and help of the Elected Divan the format seems to be working. I thank everyone who attended for giving of their time to make the seminars happen.

Nobles, I have just received the 2006 facts and figures and thought you might be interested. Shriners Hospitals approved 38,984 new patient applications and cared for 128,578 patients.

In 2006 Shriners Hospitals for Children provided the following:

- 251,461 radiology procedures
- 296,859 outpatient, outreach and telemedicine visits
- 61,103 orthotic and prosthetic devices
- 24,609 surgical procedures
- 412,387 physical therapy treatments
- 181,174 occupational therapy treatments

Shriners Hospital budget for 2007 is \$721 million, of which \$655 million is designated for operating expenses (including \$37 million for research) and \$66 million is earmarked for building and equipment expenditures. It has cost approximately \$8.2 billion to operate Shriners Hospitals during its 85 year history.

Your Divan traveled to Sudbury April 11th to present a \$39,000 cheque to the Botox Clinic. Our Shrine Hospital in Montreal treats patients coming from this clinic. A special thanks to the Elected Divan and the 38 Nobles from the Sudbury Shrine Club who graciously gave their time to be at the cheque presentation. This was an excellent way to put our Fez in the public as the newspaper and television reporters were present. I will also be traveling to the Erie and Boston Hospitals the week of April 16th.

On behalf of Rameses Nobility I will be presenting a cheque for \$20,000 American to each of these hospitals.

Also, earlier in March you, the Nobility, donated a cheque for \$25,000 to the Emergency Transportation Fund. This fund aids the transportation of children from Shrine Centres having difficulties raising funds for such use.

Doreen and I wish all who are under the weather a speedy and successful recovery.

We look forward to seeing you as we "Travel for Kids" during the year.