

19 Units gather for Clown Capers once again

Rameses Shrine Clowns are once again presenting a learning session on all aspects of clowning. Called "Clown Capers 07", Nobles from some 19 Clown Units attached to Rameses Shrine Clubs will gather at our headquarters on March 23 and 24.

This year an invitation has also been extended to clowns from Temples in London, Ottawa and Buffalo, N.Y. Also, the welcome to join in has been sent to clowns from Clowns Canada's three Ontario groups. It is hoped that any Nobles who may be interested in clowning and would like the opportunity to witness first-hand just how it all happens, will be more than welcome to join the party.

With the extension of this year's session to two days, many more seminars are being presented. Leading guest speaker will be Steve "Peachey Keene" Long from Beallsville, PA. Steve has been a performing clown for over 20 years and has given seminars across North America. His skills have extended to manufacturing props for Warner Bros and Universal Studios. Joining "Peachey" will be a great group of Joeys including Mark "Winkles" Paine, winner of the "Best of Best" for Auguste clowns in competitions held during the 2006 Imperial Sessions and Dave "Pickles" Ansell, winner of many Tramp clown competitions, including "First" during recent International Shrine clown competitions.

Come join us for Clown Capers of '07, we look forward to seeing you.

Operation Blue Coat - Red Fez presented to First Nations Chiefs of Police

Nobles, on the 11th of June 2006, while most of Rameses Shriners were in attendance at the Belleville Ceremonial and preparing to travel home, I had the privilege of presenting "Operation Blue Coat - Red Fez", to the First Nations Chiefs of Police Association in Halifax, Nova Scotia. This Association is comprised of Chiefs of Police, delegates, RCMP Officers and government officials from First Nations all across Canada at this, their Annual General Meeting.

For those that are unaware of what "Operation Blue Coat - Red Fez" is, it is the presentation of our Shriners Business Card (which bares the 1-800 number of our Montreal Hospital) to parents and guardians of children who could benefit from Shriners care by members of police services, fire departments and paramedic services.

As several of our First Nations Territories are usually remote, the thought was that those First Nation children who have crippling diseases and burns may not be receiving the level of care which they so richly deserve.

I was asked by the Vice President of the FNCPA and Chief of Police of Six Nations Police, Glen Lickers, to attend the Association's Annual

General Meeting in Halifax, Nova Scotia after he had attended another presentation I gave to the Ontario First Nations Chiefs of Police in Orillia.

The presentation, which included a PowerPoint video, was said to have touched many in the audience after which I was bombarded with questions and even a request to have the PowerPoint presentation sent to members of the RCMP, "H" Division, Aboriginal & Diversity Policing Services.

The purpose of this trip was to get our word out that Shriners do not discriminate with regard to race, colour, sex or creed and that as first responders and members of tightly knit communities police officers are traditionally aware of those children who are in need and can benefit from Shriners assistance.

I am pleased to say that the presentation was an overwhelming success.

I would personally like to thank our Illustrious Potentate Fred Clarke and members of the Divan for having the faith in me to represent not only Rameses Shriners but our great Philanthropy, in this endeavour. Special thanks as well to our High Priest and Prophet, Ray Causton for asking me to spearhead this project for Rameses Shriners.

If any Club or Unit would like to see the presentation of "Operation Blue Coat - Red Fez", you may contact Noble Shawn Hewlett, who would be more than happy to attend one of your dinner meetings.

Noble Shawn Hewlett
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