



## Potentate's Message

Illustrious Sir Brian N. Davenport, Potentate

It will soon be a new day, a new year and a new beginning in the history of Rameses Shrine Centre. I thank each and every one of you for allowing me the opportunity to take an active role in the business of our beloved fraternity, (Rameses does hold a special place in my heart and in the heart of my Lady Johanna) and as The World's Greatest Philanthropy.

Let me retrogress for a few lines now. First I want to again thank Illustrious Sir Derek Fisher for nominating me for Oriental Guide back on January 3, 2004. (5 years and 1 week come election time in 2009). Time really flies when you enjoy what you do. (If my thoughts seem a bit scattered its because the cat keeps laying on the keyboard while I'm trying to write this.)

Rameses Drum Corps, in my opinion, is the number one Unit which has supported me from day one and if they allow me, I will be on parade with them again. Of course, there has been many BBQs, picnics, dances and lots and lots of social events to which Lady Johanna and I have been invited. We have been treated royally everywhere; believe me, we will never forget your hospitality! The Curling Bonspiels (thank goodness only one a year - not being a curler the only thing I like on ice is rye), yes ladies, there is a lot of curling done! The Golf Tournaments by so many Clubs are always a lot of fun and a great way to meet so many friends. I think my game did improve...but just a little bit.

Wearing the Red and Whites of Rameses on Parade is always a privilege. It is humbling to hear our Ladies and the crowd cheer. In the United States when we parade, you get a lump in your throat when they sing Oh, Canada or Happy Birthday Canada. It makes you puff out your chest - even my chest was out further than my stomach! If you have never experienced these emotions come out and "Join The Fun".

Special thanks to Noble Doug Morris my Director General, his committee and all the Nobility of the Peel, Mississauga and Credit Valley Shrine Clubs for all their dedication and hard work in organizing the Spring Ceremonial in Brampton in 2008, a job well done.

Everyone has hopes and dreams, sometimes we are lucky to fulfill them, sometimes we're not so lucky. I never intended to be Potentate for life, I knew the date when I was to turn over the leadership of Rameses. So, we move forward. We have lots of work to do. We are embarking on some new and exciting projects that will benefit our hospitals and our children.

As the Potentate in 2008 I am very proud to have started the ball rolling.

Lady Johanna and I want to thank all those on the Elected Divans and Appointed Divans over the past five years for all their dedication. I look forward to working with our future Divans, (back seat only).

I thank you again for the trust and confidence that you have placed in me. I promise you my continued dedication to the Shrine of North America, but more particularly to Rameses Shriners.

Lady Johanna and I wish everyone good health and happiness.

God bless you all.



## Join the Fun