

Introducing the Rameses Whipsters

Noble M. "Chachi" Gerald
President

Rameses Shrine Whipsters

The Rameses Shrine Whipsters is a newly formed Rameses Unit with the needs of younger members in mind. Although any Shriner is welcome to join our merry band of Whipsters, voting and holding office is restricted to members under the age of 40.

The idea behind the Rameses Shrine Whipsters is a comradely Unit where members under the age of 40 can bond and build lasting relationships, preparing ourselves to lead Rameses and the Shrine in general into the future.

Making us unique is that every newly initiated member of Rameses, who is under the age of 40, automatically becomes a member of the Whipsters, free of charge, for the first year.

We hold a mere 2 business meetings per year within 30 days of each Ceremonial for the purpose of welcoming new Shriners into this great fraternity.

We also use these meetings to discuss events that are age appropriate. We are currently planning to rent a coach and get away to Montreal for the first weekend in April to visit the hospital and take in the night life, we also hope to meet regularly for impromptu social get-togethers such as concerts or Lodge visits. We will keep the events rotating so that we could include as much of the Rameses jurisdiction as possible.



The newly formed Rameses Shrine Whipsters Unit keeps the needs of younger members in mind.

On each member's 40th birthday, they become Alumni Members. They only lose their right to vote or hold office but are always welcome at our events.

This policy is to ensure that in the years to come, it is the needs of a Unit for this age group are being met and not those of the old guard.

Another of our primary objectives is to encourage membership in Local Shrine Clubs and Club Units and our membership being spread over most of the jurisdiction; we are in an excellent position to escort new Shriners to Shrine Clubs in their area.

We are careful, however, not to push these new Nobles into any one Club or Unit but rather try to make them feel comfortable, informed and not pressured to rush into a decision!

Positioning ourselves as more of a comradely Unit we will have very little of our own fundraising initiatives. We instead, will offer support to existing

initiatives offered by existing member's Clubs and Units. For example, if a member of ours announced an event hosted by the Oshawa or Scarborough Shrine Club, our membership would bring word of that event to their respective Clubs and Units and help sell tickets.

We are also working towards a providing a service to Rameses Shriners in general. The scope of that service is still undecided but before long, I'm sure, the new Unit will be working towards doing our part in making Rameses Shriners an even better Temple than it already is. A tall order we know, but with every day that passes we're one step closer to helping our children while having fun and enjoying the company of like-minded men.

Again, ANYONE is welcome to participate in our events so if you feel you'd enjoy spending time with us feel free to contact me at 416-619-5437 or chachi@chachi.org.

Boy oh boy! Oshawa Shriners really do love our winter

By Noble Vic Phillips - OSHAWA SHRINE CLUB

Winter allows us the opportunity to put on the long underwear and head out to the Santa parades in Oshawa, Whitby, Bobcaygeon, Pickering and other far flung locales. We are often invited to local homes or Legion buildings where we are given the chance to "warm up" after the parades. Of course we take off our longjohns when we all troop off to the Rameses Carol service, or the Temples Western Night, or the annual December Ladies Night, or the New Year's Eve Dance at the Club building on Simcoe Street in Oshawa. Boy oh boy! Do we ever like to have fun! We had another great Christmas Shrine Fantasy with dozens of red Fezzes surrounding Santa alias Don Sloman and his helpers.

The Club also organized a food drive for needy families with Shriners donating food and cash to those who can use help. As individuals, many of us also donate to the Salvation Army who perform tremendous work across the country.

Our Club has one of the largest memberships in Shrinedom and we continue to attract new members. Though the members and our ladies work hard all year, there is always time to party, and we do have a blast at our numerous Unit events and dances. After all, we have five Units who often get involved in the friendly competition of "who parties the mostest and the bestest."

You are invited to call the Club at 905-436-1762 if you are interested in joining. Many of our members are scattered throughout the GTA, the Peterborough area, and many towns along the 401 east.