

Potentate's Message

Time flies when you're having fun!!! It seems like only yesterday when I was appointed to the Divan in 2002 with the Illustrious Ron Gagnon by my side. I am sure that Illustrious Ed Os, even though he is no longer with us, would be extremely proud of the job Ron Gagnon and Lady Sally performed in 2009. I hope to continue to perform for Melha and the Hospital with the same sense of pride and work ethic in 2010.



In these changing times, I realize 2010 will be a bit different from the past — being the 100th Potentate of the Melha Shrine Center as well as one of the first elected Potentates to be single. This only means that I will work that much harder. I feel extremely blessed with all the well wishes and support I have received from the Nobility throughout the last few months of 2009. I am extremely fortunate to have Joanne Garvey by my side representing Melha as the First Lady for 2010. All that Joanne does for Melha will never be forgotten and will continue in loving memory of her husband Jim, who would have been my Chief Rabban in 2010.

I am reaching out to the entire Nobility to ask everyone to recruit at least one new member so that all our problems and issues could be resolved. I do understand how difficult this can be but, remember we have nothing to lose just by asking. More candidates equal more members which means more achieved with a little less work for all. How great would that be? Please remember to support our Melha events and all our Units events. Then, I am sure you will realize how great it is to be a Shriner!!!

After reviewing the calendar both Joanne and I will be attending several events together as well as alone. Just to mention a few: the Clown Installation, the Leadership Training



*Let's Ride Again in 2010,
Supporting Our Hospitals Once Again*

Seminars, the Unit Installations, The Melha Comedy Show and so many other events scheduled for almost every night during the upcoming weeks. Let's not forget the Game Night Supper, which is one of our best attended events. Many Nobles work tirelessly on this venue along with their wives. Every year, without fail, the Forget-Me-Nots are also there helping to make this event a great success.

As I have always said Melha is not just a fraternity it is just a great team. We truly are a family and by working together we will be successful and have fun accomplishing our goals. I would also like to extend a sincere thanks to all the past unit heads for all they have done for Melha as well as welcoming the new ones.

Keep an eye on the calendar because we have a pretty exciting February. The Pote's weekend should prove to be great starting with a dinner by Adelphia and the Ray of Elvis Show on Friday night. Saturday we will be at Chez Josef with many members of the Northeast Shrine Association in attendance. Dancing will be to the music of the Floyd Patterson Band.

On a final note let's not forget my slogan "Let's Ride Again in 2010, Supporting Our Hospitals Once Again." This means more than just riding, it means moving forward as a group whether we are walking, marching, driving, clowning, etc. It is my wish that we move forward as an entire team with a common goal supporting the best cause in the world: KIDS!!!

At this time I would like to express my appreciation for the trust and confidence you have placed in me.

Thank you for all you have done and for all you will do.

Jeffrey S. Goodless
Jeffrey S. Goodless, Potentate