

November 2011

My year as your president of our Lakehead Shrine Club is rapidly drawing to a close. We have seen many very positive occurrences over the past twelve months. We began in January with our annual Past Presidents Luncheon, however, prior to that was the Mini-Ceremonial where newly elected Khartum Potentate Illus. Sir Gary Saunders and several members of the Khartum divan performed the abbreviated Shrine initiation ceremony for twelve new Northwestern Ontario Nobles. The spring thaw saw our Nobles producing much welcomed revenue from our annual Vidalia onion sale under the leadership of Nobles Milan Thierry and Ed Carr. Prior to the 56th Annual Shrine Circus in Thunder Bay, our Potentate presided over a second Mini-Ceremonial where we initiated ten Masons into Shrinedom. This event took place the morning of the first day (May 13) of our annual Lakehead Shrine Club Circus. The 2011 Circus was outstanding by producing significant revenues under the very capable Chairmanship of Noble Bob Foley. Noble Bob served two years in that position. Summer 2011 was filled with five fundraising events which also produced tremendous capital for our LSC. The core of volunteers was relentless in their dedication and commitment and helped raise over \$13,000 for the Hospital Transportation Fund. That check was presented to the Potentate at the Khartum Fall Ceremonial and Potentate's Ball in October. Potentate Gary Saunders thanked the Lakehead Shrine Club for this contribution. With the arrival of the Christmas

Cakes, our annual sale has begun and I encourage all Nobles and their Ladies to contact their neighbors and acquaintances and help us quickly sell our newly acquired cakes.

Recently, I was contacted by Potentate Saunders informing of the resignation from the Khartum Appointed Divan position of Deputy Chief of Staff, Noble Al Werpny due to health reasons. The Potentate asked me if I would serve in that position, which Noble Al has so ably filled, and I replied I would be honored to serve in that capacity, representing the interests of our Lakehead Shrine Club.

So as the year 2011 winds down, I would like to thank all Nobles and their Ladies for their support and encouragement in my year as your President. In retrospect, I feel our collective accomplishments during this period are noteworthy; however, the impetus we have established needs to be carried on. I look forward to the continued growth and enthusiasm which is being demonstrated by our newly fezed Nobles and encourage them to stay active and continue the journey and above all **SUPPORT OUR KIDS!!**

Craig Wolverton, President
Lakehead Shrine Club