A
other year is almost over and as we reflect on
the year gone by and recall both the happy and
sad times it brought us, I cannot help but think
about the many good friends that were taken into God's
care in recent months and I can't help wondering if they
are watching over every move, even as I write.

Do you ever get the feeling that you're not alone
even though you're sitting by yourself, perhaps reading
or watching TV? I think most of us have experienced
that feeling and just maybe that's a clue to the life
hereafter. A gentle hint that you are not alone and the
best is yet to come. Why question it, it doesn't hurt to
have happy thoughts and the memory of time well spent
with family and good friends is what life is all about.

By now, most of the Elections will be over and I trust
that every Unit and Club has put in office a leader who
knows the real value of fun and good fellowship and
that your group will prosper from your decision. You, the
Nobles must show support for your executive and
compliment them when they do a good job. Remember
this, people work for a living but what they live for is the
thanks and appreciation of friends and associates, so let's
not be skimpy with that praise. Give it freely when
deserved. It will pay dividends in the future and you can
bet on that.

It has been my pleasure to serve on your Divan this
year and I thank you for giving me the opportunity to
serve Rameses and the Divan you selected for 2006. Our
Illustrious Potentate Fred G. Clarke has served you well
and never once have I heard him complain about the
thousands of kilometres he has driven in order to
represent the mighty Rameses. It cannot be easy living in
Campbellford and driving to a function in the Niagara
Peninsula on a Monday night, going home, and then
going way north the next day. Yes, I know he put his
name up for the job but at times it must have been
tough. In any event we will miss his happy face. Oh, and
by the way, Lady Pam has without a doubt been his
strongest supporter and we will miss her as well.

Rameses Temple Elections will be held on Saturday,
January 6th, 2007, starting at 12:30 p.m. sharp at 3100
Keele Street. I hope we will have the pleasure of your
company on this occasion. This is your opportunity to
elect your Divan for 2007. It is the most important
Shrine day of the year and you err when you fail to
exercise your shrine duty. Nobles, you possess the
instrument of change. You cannot stay home assuming
that you're in good hands. This day is just too important
to miss. Seven or more Nobles will offer their time and
talent in order to serve you and you should be part of
that decision-making group and I know your Divan
would be thrilled to meet and greet every one of you.

Please don't forget to be with us on December 17th,
2006 for our annual Carol Service. This is an uplifting
time. It sets us up for Christmas and it's clearly a positive
time and experience for all of us. It may be just me but I
do believe that people in general are friendlier to each
other and the exchange of a smile and a firm handshake
are a joy to both give and receive. Don't you just wish
that this Christmas spirit could last all year long?

There is a group of people that I wish to thank for
their service to Rameses and without a doubt they make
my job easier. I refer of course to the five ladies in our
office, our night manager and of course Gino our
building superintendent. These
seven loyal, hardworking,
honest people go way beyond
what one could reasonably
expect from employees. Nothing
is ever a bother to any of them
and yes, Rameses is indeed
lucky to have such a team at
head office and I want them to
know that I do very much
appreciate the effort they put in
for all Shriners. “No” we’re not
perfect and “yes” some times
we make mistakes but I do
know they love their work and
to a person they share our
calling to help those less
fortunate than ourselves. My
thanks to all seven of them.

2006 was a good year for
almost everything except our
membership drive. Regrettably
this was not our best year in this
department and we must do
much better if we are able to survive the future. Enough
said, just let's do it.

I wish every Noble and his family a very Merry
Christmas and a Happy New Year. May it be your
happiest year ever and full of good fortune and
kindness. My thoughts are with you if you are in poor
health and I pray you will all be back to good health in
the very near future. Thank you Nobles for all that you
do for Rameses. It is appreciated and yes I do know how
lucky we are to have Nobles of the strength and
character you project. My thanks to all of you for being
Shriners.

Recorder’s
Message
BY BOB MCGREGOR, P.P.
Recorder