

Mentoring: Ensuring a Stronger Organization

By IMPERIAL SIR GARY BERGENSKE

DO you remember a special person who made a difference in your life? The person who took time to ask your name, introduce you around or show you the ropes? If we're lucky, we have at least one person in our lives who truly took an interest and made a positive difference, personally or professionally.

That's what mentoring is all about, taking the time to help someone learn, gain knowledge and offer an opportunity to succeed. Just as mentoring can build confidence and character in individuals, it can also impact organizations by preparing the next generation of leaders and ensuring the transfer of knowledge.

So how does this apply to Shriners International? Many organizations have mentoring programs, including Fortune 500 companies, the federal government and school systems, to name a few. They do this to ensure they build an organization of quality people who love what they do, and do what they love. Some call it coaching or training, but mentoring of others goes back thousands of years. It builds and develops organizations' most valuable asset — its people — in our case our nobility.

Why is Shrine mentoring so important? Committed mentors can take Shriners International to the next level by educating, developing and exciting our members, and by attracting and retaining our future leaders. Having a successful mentoring program is an important component to accomplishing membership development and retention goals.

I always like to think of having our members become "career Shriners," where they enjoy their association with our organization and realize—personally and professionally—their full potential. If they are made to feel welcome and given the opportunity to get involved in our organization, they will be happy and we will have more members who never leave us. How do we guarantee this happens? Simple, we make a concerted effort to make sure every new member has a mentor for his first year to make sure he becomes involved and his expectations are met.

Through beashrinernow.com, we have created the foundation for a mentoring network. Here, virtual mentors work with interested candidates to learn more about Shriners International and Freemasonry. These mentors are active Shriners and Masons and they answer questions, provide guidance and introduce candidates and their families to local Lodges or temples. We call them virtual mentors because they first meet online. If the candidate wishes, they can meet in person, chat by phone, or continue communicating online.

We are looking for more dedicated Shriners to join our virtual mentors and their mission to help grow the fraternity and guide our future leaders. Go to www.shrinersvillage.com and sign up as a virtual mentor for your temple. We need your talents to assist us in communicating, motivating, counseling and exciting our new members to become "career Shriners." If we can do that, they will become involved forever. Let's do it! I BELIEVE we can.



The Charles River Valley Shrine Club is Back!!!

ON March 31, 2014, a meeting of the CRVSC was held at the Framingham Masonic building to renew friendships and reorganize our club. CRVSC President **David Newcomb** called the meeting to order with about 25 in attendance. The members and Ladies discussed a variety of subjects, including dinners, parade participation, canning for the Aleppo Shriners Children's Transportation Fund, collecting aluminum tabs and several other topics of interest. Refreshments were provided by Noble **Rob Havener** who is serving in numerous capacities. He is the club's Asst. Secretary/Treasurer and also the First Ceremonial Master at Aleppo Shrine.

SAVE THE DATE – Potentate's Reception October 26th
Next meeting: June 30th.

The CRVSC has been in existence since 1955. The hiatus over the last few years is over and the club members are charged with the responsibility of regaining its status as one of the premier clubs at Aleppo. For information on future activities of the CRVSC, contact the Secretary/Treasurer Noble **Peter Bloom** at pembloom@rcn.com and look for us in the *Aleppo News*.



History of the Emblem

JUST like Mercedes-Benz is known for its three-pointed-star symbol, the Shriners fraternity is known for its Crescent, or "Jewel of the Order." Carrying on the Near East theme, the emblem is composed of the claws of a tiger, united in the middle with the head of a sphinx. On the back of the emblem are a pyramid, urn and star. Additionally, the emblem bears the motto "Robur et Furor," which means "Strength and Fury." The Crescent hangs from a scimitar, while a five-pointed star dangles from the sphinx.



Just as Mercedes' star represents something - domination of land, sea and air - so does the Shriners' emblem. The scimitar stands for the backbone of the fraternity, its members. The two claws are for the Shriners fraternity and its philanthropy, Shriners Hospitals for Children. The sphinx is representative of the governing body of the Shriners, while the star hanging beneath it represents the thousands of children helped by the philanthropy every year.

2014 Shrine Club and Uniform Units Divan Liaison List

NAME	UNIFORM UNIT	SHRINE CLUB	CHAIRMAN
Richard A. Doherty <i>Potentate</i> 188 Green Street Reading, MA 01876 781-944-5348	Lighting Unit Mounted Patrol Minutemen	Newburyport	St. Patty's Day Dance Heritage Fund
David J. Raymond <i>Chief Rabban</i> 14 Smith Road Saugus, MA 01906 781-231-1329	Director's Staff Clowns Provost Guard Swing Band	Cape Ann Hillbillies	PM Degree Team
Theodore Polonsky <i>Assistant Rabban</i> 45 Nancy Ave. Peabody, MA 01960 978-314-4019	Legion of Honor Arab Patrol Mini-Haulers Medical Staff	Gardner Fitchburg/Leominster HONS	Widow's Luncheon New Year's Eve Party DeMolay
Frank J. Mason <i>High Priest & Prophet</i> 75 Skating Rink Rd. Hyannis, MA 02601 508-771-8482	Cape Cod Fire Brigade Pipe Band Rag Tops Stewards	Cape Cod Weary Travelers King Philip	Plaque Program New Year's Eve – Asst.
Harlan Woods <i>Oriental Guide</i> 12 Chapman Road Wakefield, MA 01880 781-245-8048	Ritualistic Degree Team Oriental Band Brass Band	Yacht Club Neponset Valley Southeastern MA	Masonic Relations Degree Team – Asst.
Robert E. Havener <i>1st Ceremonial Master</i> 18 Pinehurst Ave. Natick, MA 01760 508-651-3117	Motor Patrol Transportation Cycles Krazy Karts	Charles River Metro West Worcester County	Football Hockey
Gary D. Bartlett <i>2nd Ceremonial Master</i> 134 Lafayette St. Marblehead, MA 01945 781-548-9099	Fire Brigade Chanters Temple Guard Activities	North Shore South Shore	Widows – Asst. Transportation Fund

Greenberg's
TRAIN AND TOY SHOW

NOVEMBER 22ND & 23RD
10:00 AM 'TIL 4:00 PM

