

Potentate Party!

August 18, 2002

By Ralph Hall

On the 18th of August the Potentate of Aleppo Shrine came down from Wilmington Massachusetts with seventeen of his officers and their ladies to visit with the membership of the Shrine Club of Southeastern Massachusetts. The event was held at Thad's in New Bedford. The meeting was opened by the Club President Ernest Torres and the large attendance enjoyed the dinner that followed.

After a round of introductions of the local officers and those from Aleppo Shrine, Potentate Johnson had high praise for the work done locally and for the Shrine Hospitals by the club. The local club is unique as the membership is made up of members from both Aleppo Shrine in Massachusetts and Palestine in Rhode Island.

The honored guest was the Federal Judge for the State of Rhode Island Ernest Torres, accompanied by his wife. He was introduced by his proud father, President Torres of the local club. Judge Torres spoke of the problems controlling the attorneys and the press in using the press for their points of view in a recent trial.

In keeping with tradition, with New Bedford having a whaling background, the Potentate was presented a set of bookends "Whales Over The Waves" along with a check for \$5,000. This check will go to the Travel Fund and used for special, speedy transportation of children to Shrine Hospitals from all over the world. The Shrine is a wonderful organization providing the best medical care for children while never sending a bill to the parents. Shrine Hospitals are the best and known all over the world.