

Shrine Club of Southeastern Massachusetts

THE Shrine Club of Southeastern Massachusetts participated in two parades over the summer. The first was the Cape Verdean Parade in July and the second was the Portuguese Feast Parade in August.

The club put together a float advertising the Shriner Hospitals. It was a large two-sided sign on a trailer pulled by a truck. The response was terrific as you couldn't miss it follow the Shrine parade units. In the July parade both the Aleppo clowns and the Cape Cod fire brigade were in attendance. The August parade had only the Fire Brigade. In both cases they were followed by this large sign identifying them with the hospital. Large crowds were at each parade.

The club did not meet in July or August, but will begin the fall season with the Presidents Picnic in September. They are also looking forward to the Potentate's visit in November. It is also mentioned that they have been actively busy with paper drives since the Spring and the results are rewarding. Their tab collection is reaching the bursting point with over 100 banana boxes filled waiting for the price to go higher.



Daughters of the Nile Visitation



THE SUPREME QUEEN recently visited the Daughters of the Nile. From left to right are: Mrs. Holly Randall; R.W. Peter Randall, Senior Grand Warden of Grand Lodge of Masons In Massachusetts representing the Grand Master; Mrs. Lori Arnold; Noble Jeffrey Arnold, Chief Rabban Aleppo Shriners; Her Majesty Vesta Marshall Supreme Queen Daughters of the Nile; Mrs. Anna Craig, Queen of Oppela Temple Daughters of the Nile; and Noble Thomas D'Esmond, Administrator, Shriners Hospitals for Children-Boston.

Fitchburg/Leominster Shrine Club

By OSCAR DERDERIAN, SR.

THE Fitchburg/Leominster Shrine Club held their Annual Clambake and Potentate Night on Wednesday, August 19, 2009, at the Wilder Lodge in Leominster, MA.

First Vice President **John Bataitis** greeted all the Nobles and guests to this event. Illustrious **Dean Benedict** gave the opening Invocation. Dinner followed.

VP Bataitis thanked the following Committee

Chairmen: **J. Johannson, J. Bataitis, W. Setzco** and **J. Bowdoin**. *Food Committee:* **C. Whitney** and **Mrs. A. Whitney, K. Curry** and **Mrs. J. Curry**. *Gift Committee:* **Oscar Derderian, Jr., Robert Reinschild** and **Oscar Derderian, Sr.** He also thanked Nobles **Bill Johannson**, and **R. Irvine** for their assistance. Vice President Bataitis presented a gift to the Illustrious Potentate **Robert F. Smith** for the Aleppo Shriners Children's

Transportation Fund.

First VP Bataitis introduced Ill. Smith who in turn introduced the Aleppo Divan Officers. Ill. Smith thanked the Club for their support and explained his program for the balance of the year.

VP Bataitis thanked everyone for making this event a success.

Illustrious Dean Benedict gave the closing prayer and wished everyone a safe journey home.

Shriners Hospitals for Children-Boston Patient Story

WITH a long sleeve shirt and a baseball cap, you would never know **Keinell** was injured. His laugh and infectious smile distract you from any injuries you might possibly see – injuries he sustained when he was only two months old.

Born in Trinidad 15 years ago, Keinell doesn't remember anything about the accident. He only knows what his mother, **Denise**, tells him.

"Keinell was only two months old and taking a nap in his crib," says Denise. "When I went to check on him in his room, I forgot to blow out the candle that was on a shelf above his bed. When I shut the bedroom door, the wind from the open window blew the candle off the shelf and caught the crib on fire."

Keinell was rushed to a local hospital in Trinidad. He sustained 3rd degree burns on 40% of his body, mostly on his right side. The doctors told Denise that he only had three days to live.

But Keinell defied the odds. For more than four months, Keinell was in the hospital in Trinidad. His mom stayed with him every day, praying that her son would recover from his injuries. Their lives had been changed forever by the accident, but what Denise didn't know, was that their lives would soon begin to change for the better.

"A man came up to me in the hospital and asked me if my son had been burned," said Denise. "I told him yes, and he pulled a business card out of his

pocket, wrote down a name and phone number, and told me to call as soon as possible. He told me that there was someone that could help my son. I called the phone number the next day and was connected to a Shriner from New York. I told him what happened to Keinell and he began making arrangements for us to travel to Shriners Hospital in Boston."

In 1995, when Keinell was a little more than 1 year old, he and his mother traveled to Boston, where he was admitted to Shriners Hospital. Keinell's first stay at Shriners lasted a year, during which time he had multiple surgeries. His mother stayed by his side, thankful that he was in a place that specialized in burn treatment.

"In my country, they don't have a place that specializes in burns," Denise said. "The night I met that man in the hospital, I was just in the right place at the right time. I never saw him again, but I believe that he was my earth angel."

Over the next 14 years, Keinell and his mother traveled between Boston and Trinidad nine more times, mostly during the summer months so that Keinell wouldn't miss school. During those nine visits, he has had a total of 18 surgeries on his right arm and leg.

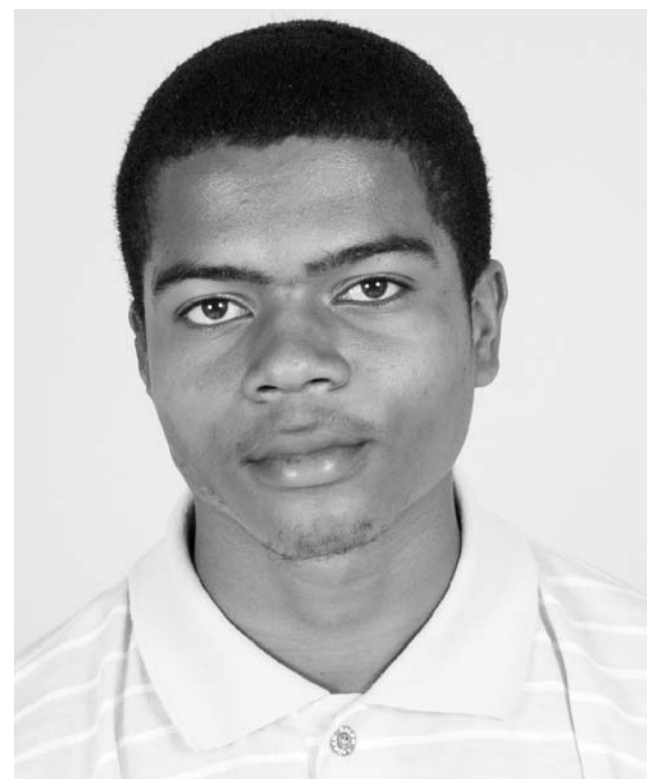
Now 15 years old, Keinell loves to write poems and is into hip-hop music. He realizes how fortunate he was to come to Shriners to receive treatment.

"This hospital feels like a home away from home," Keinell said. "The whole experience of being here – the nurses, child life, therapists, all of the staff are extra nice. They are like my extended family. I always look forward to coming back."

The majority of Keinell's surgeries are complete and he won't be coming back to Shriners until he is

done with high school. But the next time he comes back to Boston, he says he's here to stay.

"When I come back to Boston when I am 18, I am going to live here and go to college to study music," says Keinell. "I love it in Boston, and it's because of the Shriners organization that I want to come back. I want to be a role model for other kids who come to Shriners for treatment. The hospital has done so much for me and I would like to somehow give back."



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