

MEMBERSHIP



THE GREATEST GIFT I HAVE EVER RECEIVED

This year I was given the opportunity of writing an article on membership for the Daughters of the Nile website. It is a task I have pondered many times since June, as I wanted to say something that had not been said a million times before. So, I decided to tell my own personal story on why I feel my membership was the greatest gift I have ever received.

I was initiated into the order in 1992 and have been involved in all aspects of the organization. I've attended meetings, headed committees, fundraised, became Queen of our Temple twice, initiated my daughters, as well as attended and served the Supreme Temple. It was not until 7 years ago when I really realized what a great gift my membership was.

It was at that time, that tragedy struck my family when my husband passed away very suddenly. Needless to say, we were lost. The following day I remember the phone ringing, and it was one of our members. I do not recall much of the conversation but do remember her saying "don't you worry about a thing. We will look after everything". About an hour later there was a knock at the door. It was a member of the Shriners. He sat down, we talked, and again I heard "don't worry about a thing. You tell me what you want and it will be done". A few months later, my children and I were sitting around the table talking and they expressed how they felt about these wonderful ladies and men, whom rallied together, to be there for us, taking a part of my load and bearing it for me. It was at this time I realized my membership was so much more than belonging to a women's organization. It is a gift; perhaps it is greatest gift my parents have ever given me.

When this event occurred, my daughters and daughter-in-law were already members of Daughters of the Nile; however in the years since, my son and son-in-law have become Shriners as well. I truly believe they joined as a result of witnessing such selflessness and kindness during this experience. I feel at peace knowing that if anything happened to me, my children would never be alone due to having a membership in Daughters of the Nile.

Membership is so much more than attending meetings, fundraising, and serving on committees. It is about the patience, joy, mercy, devotion, and love we show our fellow members not only in the time of need, but always.

I would love to hear what your membership means to you and why?

Submitted by:

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