

DAUGHTERS OF THE
NILE FOUNDATION

SPECIAL
POINTS OF
INTEREST:

Second Gold Plaques
dedicated in Erie and
Cincinnati

Raindrops give
generously

Meet Joey: An inspiring
tale of success

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Working Together for the Children

VOLUME 7 ISSUE 3

AUTUMN 2014

Gold Plaques Help Children

Since July 2014, the Daughters of the Nile Foundation has placed two Gold Plaques on the philanthropic walls of

Shriners Hospitals for Children®. Each plaque represents another million dollars given to the wonderful network of 22 pedi-

atric specialty hospitals supported by Daughters of the Nile.

Shriners Hospitals for Children®-Erie

On August 4, Foundation President Vickie Hill and Supreme Queen Marsha Sowers placed a second gold plaque at Shriners Hospitals for Children®-Erie. Many guests, hospital dignitaries and members of Daughters of the Nile were on

hand for the celebration, along with members from

Selket Temple No. 140. Shriners Hospitals for Children®-Erie Ambulatory Surgery Center and Outpatient Specialty Care Center provides state-of-the-art care for children with orthopedic and neuromusculoskeletal disorders and diseases.



Shriners Hospitals for Children®-Cincinnati

September 23 was the date Foundation President Vickie Hill and Supreme Queen Marsha Sowers placed a second gold plaque in Cincinnati. Members of Ishtar Temple No. 54, visiting guests, and friends of the Foundation were on hand for a wonderful celebration. This plaque brings the total number of million dollar plaques placed by Daughters

of the Nile to 40. Shriners Hospitals for Children®-Cincinnati is one of only four freestanding hospitals in the country dedicated to the treatment of

pediatric burns and specializing in plastic and reconstructive surgery.

Former patient and Patient Ambassador Colleen Helander was on hand to

present white roses to both the Foundation President and Supreme Queen on behalf of all the children treated by Shriners. The Foundation thanks Ann Triplett and her committee for the plaque celebrations.



*Members of
Raindrop
Assembly No. 12
donated over
\$600 to the
Daughters of the
Nile Foundation*

Raindrops send love to children

Twelve young guests were invited into the session room just prior to the September Stated Session of Isis Temple No. 41 in Evansville, Indiana. These girls, aged 6 to 11 are pledges of Raindrop Assembly 12, and they asked to visit to present the money they had raised for one of their service projects to the Daughters of the Nile Foundation.

The girls had learned about the Daughters of the Nile Foundation and its mission of supporting the special patients of Shriners Hospitals for Children®. They had been collecting coins for just over six months with the goal of raising \$100. Each Raindrop decorated

a jar to place their money from allowances, from doing special chores and from asking friends and neighbors to contribute.

Their parents also joined in the project by taking labeled jars to their places of business and other locations.

In September, each girl stepped forward and emptied her jar of coins into a large container placed at the foot of the throne. She then executed a perfect Rainbow bow and stepped back. When all the coins were placed in the container, a

total of \$602.11 had been presented for the Foundation!

Raindrops meet twice a month and learn the



basic ideals of sisterhood. During their stated meetings, they are exposed to a basic ritual, learn how to do floor work and altar work. They learn how to conduct meetings, make motions and amend them, and take minutes. They appoint committees and make reports. Each term (which lasts for six months), the girls discuss and select one service project. In the past, they have collected books for the Masonic Home in Indiana and assisted the Scottish Rite in their annual food drive.

At age 11, Raindrops petition the local Rainbow Girls Assembly for membership.



Silent Auction: Lots of fun; Lots of generosity!

Thanks to all the Subordinate Temples, individuals and groups who donated baskets for the Silent Auction at Supreme Session in Omaha. The 2014 auction was a great success with 48 baskets bringing in \$8,105 for the Convalescent Endowment Fund. This pro-

ject brings lots of fun to Supreme Session, and all money raised during this week-long event goes to help the special children of Shriners Hospitals for Children®. Start planning now to donate a basket for the 2015 Auction to be held during Supreme Session in

Albuquerque. Baskets may be donated by individuals, units, clubs, Temples or groups of Temples. Or, you may want to contact a business in your area for a donation. The idea is to have fun and raise money for the Convalescent Endowment Fund.

Parents are grateful for Shriners' care

Six year-old Joey Maher “has been a fun-spirited child, who takes the world at blazing speed,” says his mother, Corina Maher. “He loves to laugh, smile, run, and play.”

When Joey was born, during recovery, nurses congratulated Corina and her husband Jeff and then explained Joey had only nine toes. It didn't seem to be a concern to the doctors, so no testing was performed.

As his first year of life progressed, the parents began to realize that a missing toe might not be Joey's only physical challenge. His left leg was growing much faster than his right leg and it was very noticeable. After countless conversations with pediatricians, surgeons, and other specialists, they found themselves in the hands of a Genetic Doctor at Cedar Sinai in California. The doctor was helpful in explaining that Joey's condition was the result of a genetic disposition, and was more detailed than just a missing toe. Joey was born with a growth plate deficiency in his right hip, affecting the bones and growth in his entire leg. “His left leg is like a car going 60 mph and his right leg is like a car going 40 mph, and they're never going to be the same.” As a result, they were told that Joey may require multiple, painful surgeries to break and extend the bones in his legs. They were also told that insurance may not cover the majority of the costs because it wasn't life threatening.

The parents were scared, crushed, and didn't know how

they were going to help their little boy live a normal life. Until recently, Joey was never able to walk with a flat foot because the Achilles tendon in his right foot did not grow properly. To compensate for the difference in length between his two legs, the family pays more than \$300 for one pair of custom-made shoes for him.

Distraught and concerned about



their son's future, the Mahers went to see a new pediatrician in their then-hometown of Shreveport, Louisiana.

Corina said “The doctor looked at us kind of crazy, like it was just something logical, and she said, “Have you ever heard of the Shriners? Why aren't you part of the Shriner system?” She immediately started talking to us about Shriners Hospitals for Children®. To their delight, she explained the wonderful things that this organization does for children. Their prayers had been answered!

From the very first visit at Shriners, Joey referred to it as “the fun doctor.” The hospital was always fun and energetic, the staff always had a smile and willingness to help. They knew these amazing people were going to help give Joey the life every little boy looks forward to.

Fast forward another 3-½ years and Joey is running, walking, and playing with ease because of the care he has received. The family now lives in Helena, Montana where they were assisted by Shriners in the transfer of his care. Joey is now a patient of the Shriners Hospitals for Children®-Spokane and loves his visits there, just like Shreveport. As part of his care plan, he has received shoes with built up soles that help him stay balanced and a brace that helps him stretch his tendons and walk flat-footed.

Joey's growth deficiency has manifested into competing challenges, such as strength, leg length, balance and flexion issues. Because of the medical care and expertise within the Shriner's system, these issues are no longer a burden. The doctors and staff at Shriners have given Joey's parents the ability to worry about the normal parenting routines and lessons. They are able to focus on giving Joey the life he deserves, while having the comfort in knowing that the medical issues that they cannot control are being taken care of by the wonderful professionals at Shriners!

Joey, his Mom and Dad and sister Mackenzie were recent guests of Sapphira Temple No. 79 and Algeria Shriners in Helena as they celebrated the regional celebration of North West Daze.

Holidays around the corner: Start SHARING early

The leaves are changing colors and drifting to the ground; the temperatures are falling, which means the holidays will be upon us very soon. As Daughters of the Nile, we have the opportunity to help children whose holidays may not be as merry as ours.

Each year, the Daughters of the Nile Foundation accepts special gifts for the Convalescent Relief Account at the end of the year to provide additional support for

the special children of Shriners Hospitals for Children. Talk with your Charitable Giving Chairman about your Temple's Holiday Sharing Program. You



may give through your Temple or individually with the enclosed envelope.

The holidays are a special time for remembering families and friends. As members of Daughters of the Nile, we are blessed to also remember the special children we have pledged to support. Regardless of your holiday traditions, please make the Foundation Holiday Sharing Program a part of your annual celebration.

**APPLICATIONS ARE NOW BEING ACCEPTED FOR POSITIONS
ON THE FOUNDATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS
WWW.DONFDN.ORG/BOARD**