



Shriners Hospitals
for Children®

The Pulse

Twin Cities
Pediatric Specialty Care
Orthopaedic

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In This Issue

Hospital Day 2011



Rainbow of Hope
Award Recipients



First Annual Prom



Hospital Day 2011

at

Shriners Hospitals for Children®-Twin Cities

A little rain didn't dampen the spirit of those who attended the annual Hospital Day event on May 20. Board of Governors Chairman Don Mattson and Imperial Sir Dale Stauss opened the day-long program with words of thanks and appreciation. Over 350 guests listened to several patients tell of their experiences at Shriners Hospitals for Children-Twin Cities.

The respective leaders of the Womens General Auxiliary and the Daughters of the Nile each gave annual reports on the wonderful support they provide to the Twin Cities hospital. Super volunteer and TV news anchor Megan Newquist presented Rainbow of Hope awards to three current or former patients in recognition of their positive influence and impact on the lives of others.

Snidely Whiplash moderated an intense battle between the Hospital's doctors and "Team TC", a select group of hospital staff members, in a game of "U R Smarter than a Dktor". The doctors bet all or nothing on one question – What is the name of the dot on a lower case "l"? After several minutes of intense debate, the response of "a dot" was ruled incorrect by the delighted Snidely. "The dot is called a Tittle," he twittered before awarding 1,000,000 points and the championship to the Hospital staff team.

Departmental programs in Radiology, Child Life, Orthotics/Prosthetics, and Rehabilitation offered glimpses into the behind-the-scenes work that supports unique patient services.

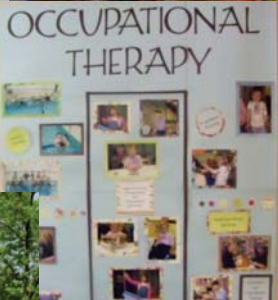
What a great way to start the summer season! Thanks to all those who attended and participated for making Hospital Day 2011 so special.

Hospital Day is held on the third Friday of May. Mark your calendars and plan to join us for the next Hospital Day on Friday, May 18, 2012.

Charles C. Lobeck
Administrator



Hospital Day 2011



2010 Rainbow of Hope Recipients



(l to r) Bethany, Lavanaia, Megan Newquist, Katya

The Rainbow of Hope Award is presented to three patients or former patients who best exemplify the meaning of role model within their community by having a positive influence and impact on the lives of others. Nominations are accepted from physicians, Shriners, staff and families. Recipients of the Rainbow of Hope Award receive a cash scholarship underwritten by the family of Emeritus Board of Governors Member, William F. Ash, deceased.

Bethany is a recent graduate of the University of Minnesota with a degree in Kinesiology. Bethany has continuously mentored others throughout her high school and college careers while at the same time remaining a dedicated Twin Cities hospital volunteer. She works exceptionally well with patients of all ages and hopes to become an occupational therapist.

Lavanaia has a neurologic disease that results in loss of muscular function in the feet and can also involve the hands. The disease leads to severe chronic foot pain. The onset for Lavanaia was sudden and severe and as a result she has undergone 10 surgeries between the ages of 13-19. This could have caused serious interruptions in a teenagers life. Lavanaia, however, was a bit of a rebel and it's exactly that spirit that drove her to continue her activities and lead a somewhat normal life. She went to prom and attended other dances as well. She was an honor student, taking all advanced placement classes while staying active in many clubs and groups. She is currently a student at the University of Wisconsin- River Falls where she hopes to fulfill her dream of becoming a veterinarian.

Katya Hawes was born in a poverty stricken area of Russia at 28 weeks gestation with double cord entanglement at the neck. At birth she weighed 2 lbs-2 ounces. At the age of 3 months, an overhead radiator pipe in Katya's hospital room burst due to high pressure and she received 3rd-degree burns to her face, right arm and the back side of both legs. Katya also had a hip problem identified as severe hip dysplasia. Since January 2010 Katya has had 9 separate procedures on her face and right arm. In March 2010, Dr. Mielke operated on Katya's hip which kept her in a spica cast until May. Dr. Skow continues to work miracles on Katya's scars. Katya's first grade teacher enlisted her students' help during Katya's long absence from and then her return to school. As a result of this, her class has grown into a kind and caring community. The kids don't see the scars, the cast, or the wheelchair. They just see their friend. They have truly learned a lesson of acceptance and overcoming adversity from Katya that will impact them for the rest of their lives.

If you want more information on the Rainbow of Hope Award or know of a deserving recipient, please contact Maureen Johnston, Director of Child Life at mjohnston@shrinenet.org.



Reach for the Stars
 At the First Annual
 Shriners Hospitals for Children®-Twin Cities
PROM



These feet were made for dancing & that's just what they did!

It was without a doubt the "event of the season"! Starting early in the afternoon, hair was done, nails polished and make-up applied—all donated by students from the Minnesota School of Cosmetology. One girl said she had "never felt so beautiful". Excitement was off the chart as the teens readied themselves for a magical evening. From the decorations and food to the music and smiles, this was an event where everyone left feeling energized. Take a minute to look at the pictures and most memorable moments from volunteer staff, prom-goers, and families that will speak for themselves. We owe a huge thanks to Rick Kessler and Reid Rejsa, professional photographers, who donated their time and materials to make sure that everyone attending received a framed picture. And decorations galore, with Mylar balloons everywhere - all donated by Anagram of Eden Prairie.

Enough cannot be said about the young people from a youth group who volunteered (and dressed up) to come to Prom and make sure all of our kids were out dancing. They had so much energy and were so ready to dance that they made every one of our kids feel special. Maureen Johnston, Director of Child Life, said, "The smiles on the kids' faces and the looks of pure joy and happiness on the parents' faces made the night for all of us."

Another volunteer summed it up by saying, "The dance floor was in constant motion as heads, hips, arms and lips moved and everyone seemed to know the words and the beat to each song. As I watched this celebration from the sidelines I couldn't stop smiling. I felt honored and fortunate to have played a part in helping with our first prom. It was clear to me that we had succeeded in giving all in attendance a night to remember".

An e-mail from one parent read, "Our son, Erik, had a wonderful and unforgettable evening. We noticed everyone else had a great time that night. All the young people helping were true caring individuals and we thank them for spending time with our kids who seldom get this kind of interaction and attention. We, as parents, observed the fun our kids were having and it certainly made our day as well. The facilities and décor were outstanding. Please do it again next year."

From another parent, "PROM-TASTIC!!" "Perfect!" "It was a delightful evening. The children looked so happy! Every detail A+, decorations, DJ, photographer, make-up stylists, food, beverages and formal wear too! A class act! And: the classy invitations a real treat. Thus: a memory to cherish for years."

From Hospital Administrator, Charles Lobeck, "I can say that it was probably the most positive patient experience that I have ever witnessed. It was spectacular – a lifetime of memories for many."





"I dropped in on prom and told Daseith that I was a party crasher and he quickly said that I was a "prom crasher". Later his Mom told me to look at him because he was dancing for the first time in his life. I searched the dance floor and there he was in the middle standing with his walker dancing the night away."

"My favorite moment was when the Felling brother's wheelchairs were parked next to each other on the dance floor and two female volunteers grabbed each of their hands and danced with them. The boys had the biggest smiles on their faces I've ever seen."



"A young gal stopped the DJ (Brian) as he was bringing in his equipment "do you think we will have a grand march?" His reply was "of course! Every Prom has a grand march" this young lady had tears in her eyes as she told her friend it's just like a real prom. "



"I loved it when Michael and his date, Lauren, pulled up in a limo. I could tell how proud they were to have arrived in such style!"

"Prom was wonderful" Jordan & Rynell



BFF! "These two beauties knew every word of every song as they danced the night away."

"Raven was so pretty in purple"



"Erik looked so nice in his pink tie and tux."



"I was touched by the packed dance floor- it was a sea of colors and smiles with the patients dancing. You would not notice walkers or wheelchairs unless you really looked for them. "



"YMCA anyone?"

From day one, the Prom Committee hoped this would be a special event for the kids. In no way did we expect it to have such a profound impact on all of us. We couldn't wipe the smiles or the tears off our faces all night long. We are all so proud to be a part of it. Thank you Shriners kids! And yes, planning for Prom 2012 has begun.

