

A Special New Year's Greeting for the Staff of SHC – Chicago

The following brief message came to us via email a couple of days after New Year's Day here in Chicago. We think this a delightful way to begin the year and thus share it with our Shrine friends. Norma Jean Williams, an appreciative grandmother, wrote: "Our thanks go out to the Shriners and SHC - Chicago. My grandson David McGinty has been a patient there over the past 6 years. He is turning 21 this year, and I know we would be lost without the wonderful doctors, nurses, and staff at the hospital. They have been the most wonderful, caring people we have ever met. Thank you again—and Happy New Year!" Thank you, Grandma Norma Jean!

Kenosha Shrine Club Brings Gifts for 'Family-to-Family' Program

Among the early contributors to our "Family-to-Family" program, Jim Ganame and his colleagues in Kenosha Shrine Club recently donated \$3,000 to assist families here at SHC – Chicago, who have special funding needs associated with the insurance program and other special situations. In the photo, right, Noble Bob Lefevre (l), his Lady Laryssa, Noble Jim, Yours Truly, Jim's Lady Joan, and Jim's son Noble Russ Ganame pose for the check presentation. To date, the Kenosha Shrine Club has donated \$46,728. Their next big event is set for March 21, 2012, when they'll host a dinner featuring a speaker from the hospital. We are grateful for the energetic and creative programs devoted to the welfare of children and support of SHC – Chicago in Kenosha. Thanks, Folks!



Those Redoubtable *Medinah* Nobles Come Through Again



It was one of those silly, freak accidents: A patient in a wheelchair bumped into the pool table a while back, and the whole table collapsed! Crash! There it lay, in a pile, on the floor. Tough to use unless you're lying on your belly—and that's an awkward posture from which to shoot pool. What to do! *Medinah* Noble Ron Comiano, a true friend of children and our hospital, heard about the situation and went to work. He contacted the Brunswick people in Wisconsin, who offered a new pool table at cost. He got some friends and *Medinah* units to join him,

including Brunswick Billiards, the Great Escape, Keith Koopman-Wilson Delivery Service, Inc., and Robert A. Alley-A&M Signs, in the purchase, transportation, and set up—and, just like that, our patients have a place to shoot pool—better than what they had before the accident. In the photo above, *Medinah* friends gather around the table as Ron presents the check to Darlene Kelly, director of recreation therapy/child life. They include members of the *Medinah* Divan, the Motor Patrol, the Hospitality Committee, and Recorder Scott Sonnenberg. Chairman Emeritus, Board of Governors, Gordon Husk, joined the group. We thank the *Medinah* Nobles and all Noble Ron's friends for this kind and useful gift. The kids are back at the pool table—every day!

Remember the 87th Annual East-West Shrine Game, 4 PM, January 21!

