

Diverse People Come Together for Common Purposes—Love of KIDS!

Philanthropy is a people-business. Generous people often share their own stories as they share their wealth. Thus, a professional, like Yours Truly, working in development, learns much about the donors who compose his successes and insure his institution's health. Let me tell you some of their stories for the Holidays.



Let's begin with Del, a Zenobia Noble from Ohio. Del is 89 now, but as a young man, he was radio operator/waist gunner aboard a B-17, with the 457th bomber group, 8th Air Force, flying 23 missions out of England over Germany, one of nine crewmen—the only one surviving today—aboard one of the most magnificent flying machines ever created. When Del passes on, he's leaving his estate to SHC – Chicago, and he's made all necessary arrangements for his remains to be scattered over Monument Valley, AZ, from a B-17 of the 457th bomber group, commemorated in a museum in Arizona. In the photo, left, he stands



with his plane, "The Wild Hare," in England in 1943. In the photo above, he was aboard his plane, which had just dropped its bombs over Germany (note: the bomb bay doors are still open) and headed back to England.

Then there's Orak Noble, Mr. N, a donor out of Indiana, who gives a major gift to us each year. He was



born in Denmark in 1930 and lived his teenage years under Nazi occupation of his homeland—a time of extreme stress and urgent anxiety. He was a 14-year-old grocery apprentice in 1944 in the photo, left. On February 22, 1944, an American B-17, B 17G 42-31377, "Pot O Gold," crashed 10 miles from his home near Hordum—three miles from the North Sea and on a direct line from air bases in England. It had bombed a German airbase in Aalborg, Denmark. In 2005, Mr. N provided a metal detector for a friend in Denmark, who, with a crewman—the ball-turret gunner—Lester



Schrenk of Minnesota, found the remains of "Pot O Gold." Mr. Schrenk, the only survivor today, stands with the crew—2nd person from left, row 2—in front of their plane in 1944, in the photo, above, right.

Finally, let me tell you about AW, a Mizpah Noble living in Michigan, and a major donor-friend. He's 90

years old today, but remembers with pride when he flew a P-47 fighter-bomber over France and Germany in support of the Allied ground war in WWII. "We were with the 9th Air Force and flew air reconnaissance," he recalls. "I flew 102 missions," which included providing air cover for General George Patton and his Third Army as it moved across Europe toward Berlin and the culmination of the greatest war effort in world history. The photo, right, is of the P-47, capable of flying at 40,000 feet—though most missions, AW says, were at 10,000 feet in bombing and strafing ground targets.



What do these diverse people have in common? They come together, unknown to each other, because of their devotion to children and SHC – Chicago. Each gives, in his own way, to insure the health and well-being of our hospital. Ron Harruff, IDRD-IN, says that these donors reflect a generational quality as well. They are people who have been touched by hardships and know, in maturity, that true meaning and happiness in life come as we give to others. They understand that the words, "Where your treasure is, there will be your heart," mean, as well, where your heart is, there will be your treasure. And they have put their treasure with us! They live above the greed so prevalent these days, through their deeds of philanthropy—their "love of mankind."

They make, in a very special way, the hope of Christmas, which celebrates a child, significant for our children!

