

Amish Girls Find Friendship in Their Experiences at SHC - Chicago

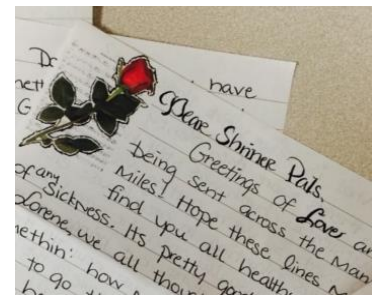


Lorene Lambright of Rome City, IN and Malinda Miller of Morley, MI, young Amish girls, happened to meet a year or so ago at Ronald McDonald House, Chicago, where both were spending the night with their families before having surgery at SHC - Chicago the next day. They hit it off and promised to write each other when they got home.

Lorene wrote in January, "Having 3 surgeries in one year is plain just not fun!" Malinda responded in February, "I am walking with a limp and pain, but I'm trying to cure that with stretchers. I don't use wheelchair much but still some."

What began as a friendship between two Amish girls grew to be a "circle" of letters now in its second year, among seven girls, ranging in ages 13 to 17, and living in WI (3), MI (2), IN (1), and OH (1). Dora from WI wrote, "Lorene, we all thought it was really something how many surgeries etc. you had to go thru already. Almost can't realize how nice we do indeed have it. Or how very minor problems I've got. Thinking of you!" Edna wrote from WI, "Greetings of much love sent to each of you! Wonder how these lines find you all. Hopefully good & not too mischievous!" Lovine wrote from WI, "This week is much full of planting flowers besides taking care of sick ones." Edna wrote a fitting summary: "I hope your all on the better side. It would be exciting if we could all be at Shriner's. That would be fun."

A whole new dimension of "caring" emerges from the fine literary endeavors of these seven patients across the miles, drawn together by a common heritage and their mutual experiences at SHC - Chicago. We are delighted to share them with you, through the kindness of James Lambright, Lorene's father, who participated in an Amish fundraiser in Shipshewana, IN a few years back in which the Amish made pizzas and sold, with the assistance of Shrine van drivers, to other Amish families throughout LaGrange County. They raised enough to buy Mizpah a new Shrine van. Thank you, James and young ladies for helping us understand better.



Hey, Shriners! Remind the Folks in Your Communities about Safety!



June is National Safety Month! It's a great time to secure local TV and radio opportunities. The Shrine goal is to have at least one major media piece during the summer in each city in which affiliated Shrine Temples are located--that's 14 cities for SHC- Chicago. Nobles are urged to work with local media outlets and community partners, to educate communities on how they too can be *Superheroes of Summer Safety*.

For example, Fez-wearing Nobles might host a community play-day at a park and share safety tips with parents, with local radio and TV stations on hand to broadcast live from the event. They might work with local fire departments, to host an educational program for kids about campfire safety, with the local media attending. Or they might partner with community swimming pool representatives, to conduct a swimming safety demonstration, with local news station listening in. These are just a few ideas on how Shrine Temples, clubs, and individual Nobles can use **National Safety Month** to bring attention to SHC and our concern for children.

Other tips and resources can be found at ShrinersHospitalsforChildren.org/SafeSummer.

