

Shrine Club of Southeastern Mass collects 2 ¼ tons of aluminum soda can pull-tabs.

The Shrine Club of Southeastern Mass, which is the world's first and oldest Shrine recently recycled over 2 tons (4500 pounds ) of aluminum pull-tabs from soda cans to help the Aleppo Shriner's Patient Transportation Fund. This would not have been possible if not for the efforts of members of the Shrine Club, members of the community, and various local civic-minded businesses, (which act as collection locations). In case you did not know, there are approximately 1300 pull-tabs to one pound. This means that there were over 5.80 million pull-tabs collected. After they are collected, members of the Shrine club sort them (to separate other types of metals) and bring them to a local scrap metal facility to be recycled. All of the proceeds of which are used to provide free transportation to the Shriner's Hospitals for Children for patients, their immediate families, and necessary medical personnel and equipment from anywhere in the world. (This is funded by the Aleppo Shriner's Patient Transportation Fund and similar funds set up exclusively for this purpose by other Shrine Temples.)



Two of the three trucks which were holding 116 boxes containing 2 1/4 tons of pull tabs.

The Shriner's collect the pull-tabs for four reasons, first, it allows others to help without additional cost to them. Second, because it allows people to help while keeping the can which they can still turn back in to recover the full redemption fee. Third, by recycling the aluminum, the Shriner's are being environmentally friendly (It requires approximately 15% of the energy to recycle the already refined aluminum rather than mine new aluminum). Most importantly, it also is another way to help kids receive world class-care free of charge at the Shriner's Hospitals for Children.

The Shriner's Fraternity consists of men from all walks of life whom also belong to the Masonic fraternity and are dedicated to ideals of fun, frivolity, camaraderie, patriotism, and most importantly supporting the world's greatest philanthropy: the Shriner's Hospitals for Children. They commit to these principles because of their strong desire to help others and make the world a better place, and in keeping with the tradition of the Masonic tenants of brotherly love, patriotism, relief, charity, and truth.



On the local level, the chapters known as, Shrine Clubs have various fun social events for their members as well as fundraising events in order to donate to the hospital funds and support free transportation of patients and their families to the Shriner's Hospitals free of charge. The Shrine Club of Southeastern Mass is the oldest operating Shrine Club and raised \$14,700 in 2009 and every penny went to the hospital fund for the well-being of children with no personal gain to anybody.

The Shriner's Hospitals for Children are a one-of-a-kind international health care system dedicated to improving the lives of children by providing specialty pediatric care, innovative research, and outstanding teaching programs. Children up to the age of 18 with orthopedic conditions, burns, spinal cord injuries and cleft lip and palate are eligible for admission and receive all care in a family-centered environment at no financial obligation to patients or families. Massachusetts is fortunate to have two Shriner's Hospitals locally, with one in Boston dedicated to burn care and another in Springfield devoted to orthopedics The Burn Center in Boston is the largest in the world and leads the way in research work. If you know of a child that the Shriner's Hospitals may be able to help, please call 1-800-237-5055 or visit [www.shriners4kids.com](http://www.shriners4kids.com).



This is an ongoing project and in addition to the various places currently collecting tabs which you can drop off your pull-tab's (Go to [www.shriners22.com](http://www.shriners22.com), or [www.shriners22.blogspot.com](http://www.shriners22.blogspot.com), or [www.facebook.com.shriners22](http://www.facebook.com.shriners22) to find out participating locations where you can drop of your tabs.) we are always looking for new locations, please email us at [shriners22@gmail.com](mailto:shriners22@gmail.com). In addition, the Shrine Club has various other activities throughout the year to support the Shriner's Hospitals for Children. Information about these events, and how to become a Shriner can be found on our website(s): [www.shriners22.com](http://www.shriners22.com), [www.shriners22.blogspot.com](http://www.shriners22.blogspot.com), or [www.facebook.com.shriners22](http://www.facebook.com.shriners22).