

Local Shriners collect a half ton of pull-tabs

Father and son duo Matt and Rick Brodeur of Fairhaven, Mass recently turned in 1000 pounds of aluminum pull-tabs to the Shrine Club of Southeastern Mass which is the local Shrine Club (local chapter of the Shriners) that they belong to. The pull-tabs are used to benefit the Aleppo Shriners Patient Transportation Fund which provides free transportation to the Shriners Hospitals from anywhere in the world to children and their families. "Once they get to the Shriners Hospitals for Children®, children up to 18 receive the world's best burn, orthopedic, spinal cord injury, cleft lip and palette without any financial obligation to the patients or their families," said Rick Brodeur.



30 boxes containing 1000 pounds of pull-tabs

Shriners International is a fraternity with over 340,000 members based on fun, fellowship and the Masonic principles of brotherly love, truth, and relief (because all Shriners must first be Freemasons). Shriners are a premier fraternal organization for men of good character. The Purpose of Shriners International provides attractive, quality programs and services for its members, their families, and their friends in a spirit of fun, fellowship, and social camaraderie. Moreover, they foster self-improvement through leadership, education, the perpetuation of moral values and community involvement. Finally, and most importantly, Shriners serve humanity through the resources of its philanthropy, Shriners Hospitals for

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 Aleppo Shriner's (the parent organization of the Shrine Club of Southeastern Mass and 1 of the 191 state chapters of the Shriners International Fraternity) have collected over 15 tons of pull-tabs and have raised over \$310,000 in a single year to provide transportation to the Shriner's Hospitals. The Shrine Club of Southeastern Mass recently submitted over 2 1/2 tons (about 5.8 million pull-tabs to be recycled.

Matt and Rick collected these pull-tabs from the 40+ locations that they have setup throughout southeastern Mass where members of the public can drop them off. "Without the help of the many generous people, business establishments, organizations, and municipalities, this wouldn't be possible, and I want to let them all know how much their help means to the Shriners and the kids we are able to help because of them," said Matt Brodeur. After they collect these tabs each month, Rick takes the time to painstakingly sort the steel- tabs out so the aluminum tabs can be turned in for their value based on the weight of the aluminum which is based on the market value of aluminum.

Because their goal is ongoing, the Shrine Club is asking for help from the public by dropping off pull-tabs at any of the locations listed on their website www.shriners22.org keyword: pull-tabs. "It's a good service project for youth groups, community organizations, and senior citizens, because it doesn't cost anything extra and it's easy to do. In fact, we have collection locations at most of the local senior centers and they love to help so much that they are usually have the most pull-tabs each month." Rick explained proudly.

Members of the Shrine Club of Southeastern Mass hope that with the support of the community, they can continue to assure that children from all over the world will receive the care they need regardless of their financial status. For more information about the Shrine Club of Southeastern Mass, including to arrange the pickup of pull-tabs, setting up a collection location, or Shriners Hospitals for Children® patient referral information goto www.shriners22.com, or call or 774 263 5018. Finally, questions can also be answered by emailing them at info@shriners22.org.



Look for this new Pull-Tab Recycling logo created by the Shrine Club of Southeastern, Mass