

RITE UP

2025 | ISSUE 1



Briggs' "Transformer" Surgery

The Procedure
That Gave Him
a Thumb



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LETTER FROM



THE PRESIDENT

ROBERT L. WALKER
President/CEO

Giving children back their childhood is meaningful — for our staff members who make this hope a reality, for the patient family who witnesses it and especially for the child who receives it. Recently, I had the pleasure of meeting 14-year-old patient Ivy and her family. Thanks to board trustee Dan Davidson, she and her parents had the exciting experience of attending the Fort Worth Stock Show & Rodeo. Ivy and her family recently moved from Canada to Midland, Texas, where she was referred to Scottish Rite for Children with a scoliosis diagnosis that had progressed significantly. Pediatric orthopedic surgeon Dr. Brandon Ramo and his team examined Ivy, created an individualized treatment plan and performed a successful spinal fusion surgery. Today, Ivy is doing great!

The world-class expertise of our clinical teams, researchers and staff paired with our exceptional bedside manner is a rare combination that makes Scottish Rite unique. Each staff member pursues excellence with a compassionate heart, and as a result, our organization has received many remarkable accolades.

U.S. News & World Report ranked Scottish Rite for Children No. 2 in the nation for pediatric orthopedic care in collaboration with Children’s Medical Center Dallas and UT Southwestern Medical Center. This distinction places Scottish Rite at No. 1 in Texas and the Southwest region. NRC Health honored Scottish Rite with the Excellence in Patient Experience Award in the nationwide pediatric category for the eighth time. The award is based on patient families’ overall experience with the care that they receive.

In a survey completed by our staff, Scottish Rite was once again ranked as a Top 100 Workplace in Dallas-Fort Worth for the seventh year in a row by *The Dallas Morning News (DMN)*. One of the statements that received high marks was, “My job makes me feel like I’m part of something meaningful.” The response earned Scottish Rite another *DMN* award titled “Best at Meaningfulness.”

The word ‘meaningful’ involves a sense of significance, understanding and connection that resonates deeply with an individual. This alignment with purpose creates a fulfilling work environment whereby every task, no matter how small, contributes to a larger meaningful cause. The world-renowned pediatric orthopedic care provided by Scottish Rite for Children is the outcome of something larger than any of us — a deeply rooted feeling of meaningfulness that captures the heart of everyone who enters our doors.

Bob



Patient Ivy, of Midland, Texas, (center) with her mother Nena and stepfather Kyle

CONNECTED TO THE CARE

The Dallas Cowboys made their highly anticipated annual visit to Scottish Rite for Children, filling patients and their families with blue, silver and white joy. For decades, Cowboys players and cheerleaders have brought holiday cheer to Scottish Rite patients by interacting with them, posing for pictures, and signing autographs and memorabilia.

Patient Renee, of Wylie, Texas, visits with Dallas Cowboys players Bryan Anger and Sam Williams, as well as Dallas Cowboys Cheerleaders Darah and Armani.



The new **Scottish Rite for Children Sports Medicine Instagram** channel has officially launched! The channel shares inspiring stories from young athletes, updates from our sports medicine team, ways to get involved at our Frisco campus and much more. To stay in the know, follow us [@srchildrensportsmed](#).

The **53rd BMW Dallas Marathon Festival** united thousands of runners across the region. Since 1997, Scottish Rite for Children has been the primary beneficiary of the marathon. To commence the event, the Dallas Marathon and DFW area BMW dealers presented Scottish Rite with generous donations totaling \$250,000. The Scottish Rite race ambassador and patient champions encouraged the participants during the weekend, providing a touch of Scottish Rite throughout the marathon's festivities.

To kick off the BMW Dallas Marathon Festival, Paralympic silver medalist, Race Ambassador and former Scottish Rite patient Korban Best shares his medals with Patient Champion Jon, of Fort Worth, Texas.



LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD | ROBERT L. WALKER

President and CEO Robert L. Walker received the Lifetime Achievement Award from *D CEO* at their 2024 Excellence in Healthcare Awards ceremony. Walker has dedicated more than 45 years to giving children back their childhood, transforming the lives of thousands of patients and their families at Scottish Rite for Children.

Walker began his health care administration career at Parkland Hospital in Dallas, and in 1979, he had the fortunate opportunity to join the staff at Scottish Rite for Children. With the strategic direction of an outstanding hospital board, and the combined efforts of a world-class medical team and hospital staff, Scottish Rite has grown tremendously to not only meet the increasing needs for the children it serves but also to advance patient outcomes.

In 2018, Scottish Rite expanded its operations to Frisco, Texas, with the Scottish Rite for Children Orthopedic and Sports Medicine Center, as well as a satellite location at The Star. Scottish Rite for Children has become a world-renowned pediatric orthopedic center, ranking No. 2 in the U.S. for pediatric orthopedic care and leading the nation in patient satisfaction.



Scottish Rite for Children Earns Top Honors for Excellence in Healthcare From *D CEO*



ACHIEVEMENT IN MEDICAL RESEARCH | HARRY KIM, M.D., M.S.

Director of the Center for Excellence in Hip Harry Kim, M.D., M.S., and his team are leading researchers in the study of Legg-Calvé Perthes disease, a rare childhood hip disorder. The disease affects the ball of the hip joint, which loses blood supply causing the bone to die. As a result, children begin to limp, and without treatment, may not be able to walk. With over \$2 million in grant funding from the National Institutes of Health and three patents, Dr. Kim's team furthers the understanding of Perthes disease and advances patient outcomes. The team recently invented a strategy and device to treat osteonecrosis, or bone death. This breakthrough promotes healing and bone regeneration, which could impact conditions beyond Perthes, benefiting more patients and the medical community as a whole.

CELEBRATING SUCCESS IN THREE CATEGORIES

In addition to the aforementioned awards, Scottish Rite for Children was a finalist in the Outstanding Healthcare Advocate category. Pediatric orthopedic surgeon Amy L. McIntosh, M.D., is passionate about increasing representation of young women in the orthopedic field. Through her work with The Perry Initiative, Dallas Independent School District, Texas Christian University and more, Dr. McIntosh advocates for young women interested in careers in medicine.



Harry Kim, M.D., M.S.; Robert L. Walker; and Amy L. McIntosh, M.D.

THE CHIEF OF STAFF REPORTS

DANIEL J. SUCATO, M.D., M.S.
Chief of Staff



Patient-Centered Research Leads to Extraordinary Outcomes

At Scottish Rite for Children, our experts drive medical breakthroughs that shape pediatric orthopedic care for children worldwide. We confront complex clinical challenges to uncover the answer to a fundamental question: How can we ensure extraordinary outcomes for pediatric orthopedic patients?

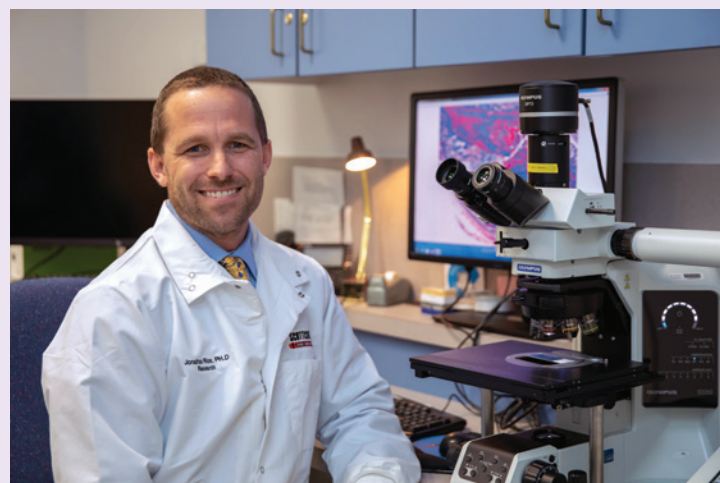
Our researchers pioneer, investigate and invent a range of methodologies, devices and technologies to solve complex problems across the pediatric orthopedic landscape. Scottish Rite holds more than 190 patents with about 40 more pending. Of seven new patents issued last year, one introduces a device and method to treat osteonecrosis — the death of bone tissue due to a lack of blood supply — which occurs in conditions like Legg-Calvé-Perthes disease, a rare childhood hip disorder. Director of the Center for Excellence in Hip Harry Kim, M.D., M.S., and his research team discovered the device and treatment process that promotes healing and bone regeneration. Their groundbreaking findings will help not only children but also anyone enduring conditions affected by osteonecrosis.

Scottish Rite specialists continue the organization's legacy of advancing treatment for many conditions, from mapping genes associated with adolescent idiopathic scoliosis, clubfoot and lupus to inventing revolutionary medical devices for limb lengthening and reconstruction. Our research docket includes approximately 235 active projects, 123 active

clinical studies and 32 active grants, including awards from highly competitive institutions, such as the National Institutes of Health (NIH), U.S. Department of Defense, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Pediatric Orthopedic Society of North America and the Scoliosis Research Society, among others.

Conducting research requires a long list of resources to compete, but the rewards are clear. Recently, Scottish Rite received a \$420,000 grant from the NIH for Rare Disease Research to test a gene therapy for childhood-onset striatonigral degeneration (SNDC). SNDC is a neurodegenerative disease that causes children to lose nerve and motor control by the age of 5. Led by Director of Molecular Genetics Jonathan J. Rios, Ph.D., this project seeks to provide families with the tools and support needed to help this population of children.

Leading the charge in pediatric orthopedic care is more than just a role — it is a calling to serve. Through patient-centered research, we continue to further treatment, resulting in better patient outcomes that improve the lives of children in our care and beyond. «



Director of Molecular Genetics Jonathan J. Rios, Ph.D., received a \$420,000 grant from the National Institutes of Health to test a gene therapy for a neurodegenerative disease that causes children to lose nerve and motor control by the age of 5.



Chloe Races Toward Her Future

"This is me, this is who I am, and I am not ashamed of it," says 17-year-old Chloe, of Panhandle, Texas. She lives by this motto. With hopes of competing in the 2028 Paralympic Games in Los Angeles, she is a rising star in adaptive track and field.

Chloe was born with fibular hemimelia in her left leg. Her fibula, the small bone in her shin, was missing. Before her first birthday, she underwent a Syme's amputation to remove her foot and ankle joint. Later, Chloe began learning how to walk with a prosthesis.

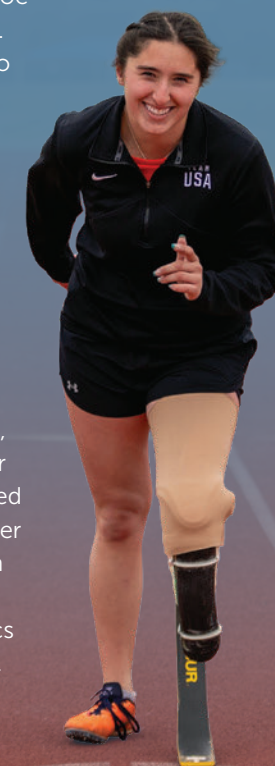
"We did a lot of research before deciding to amputate her leg," says Sheryl, Chloe's mother. "We made a decision Chloe would live with for the rest of her life, not us. Whatever decision we made was never going to be an easy one, but it was whatever would make Chloe's life easier."

At age 14, Chloe began receiving multidisciplinary care at Scottish Rite for Children from pediatric orthopedic surgeon Corey S. Gill, M.D., M.A., and Orthotist and Prosthetist Manager Kelsey Thompson, C.P.O., L.P.O. As her care team worked alongside her to address her specific needs, Chloe transitioned from being a multisport athlete to dedicating her talents to adaptive track and field. She excels in running, throwing and long jumping, earning recognition as one of the 2024 U.S. Paralympics Track & Field High School Athletes of the Year.

"The prostheses that Scottish Rite has designed for Chloe have allowed her to confidently compete at the highest level," Kelsey says. "I've gotten to watch her grow into a humble young woman, and I'm always impressed by her drive."

On and off the field, Chloe's care team supports her diverse interests. Scottish Rite prosthetists have created numerous state-of-the-art prostheses for her, including an everyday walking leg and a running blade for sprinting track events designed to mimic the natural motion of a foot for running or jumping. Recently, the team produced a specialty prosthesis designed for long jumping, supporting her dream to go the distance in her pursuit of Paralympic success. They also developed an adjustable heel height prosthesis to match the height of whatever shoes she chooses to wear — from cowboy boots to high heels.

Chloe plans to major in kinesiology, continue adaptive track and field, and inspire other young athletes. "Dr. Gill and Kelsey always believed in me," Chloe says. "It feels amazing to run with kids who look like me. As long as I have my two legs, I'll keep pushing forward and never let anything hold me back." «



Briggs, of Longview, Texas, reaches a pivotal milestone as he uses his left hand with his new thumb to grab a block for the first time. Occupational therapist Ashley Pittman, Briggs' parents Rachel and Robert, and Dr. Oishi happily observe.



Briggs' "Transformer" Surgery The Procedure That Gave Him a Thumb

by Kristi Shewmaker

Just two days after Christmas, 4-year-old Brigham, who goes by Briggs, underwent what he calls his "Transformer" surgery at Scottish Rite for Children. Briggs, of Longview, Texas, loves playing with cars, trucks and Transformers — the Hasbro action figures that start as robots, transform into various vehicles and also star in comic books, animated series and blockbuster films. On surgery day, Briggs arrived dressed as his favorite character, Optimus Prime, a robot-to-18-wheeler Transformer who is the central hero and courageous leader of the Autobots — the good guys.

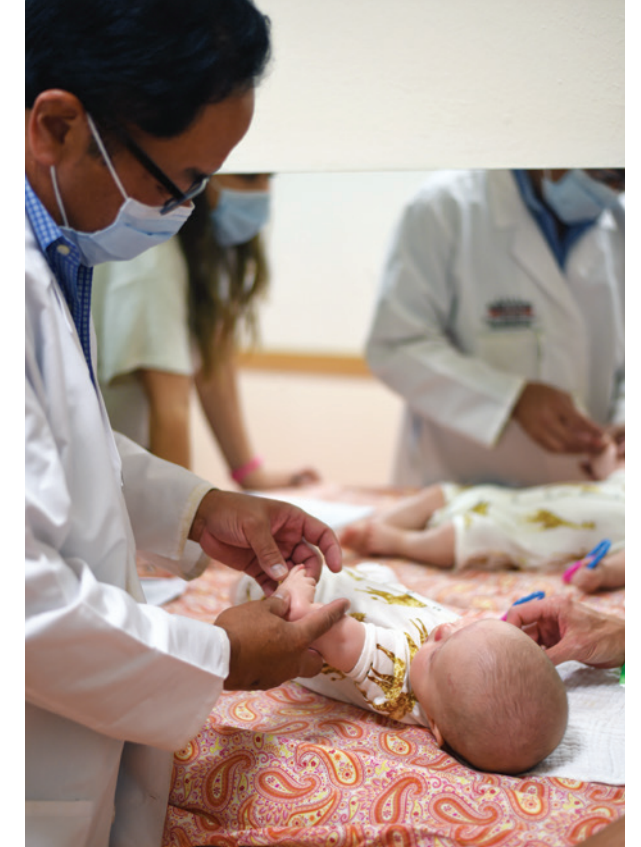
Briggs' parents, Rachel and Robert, had an inkling that something might be different when Briggs was born. During an ultrasound, Rachel recalls a doctor saying that something was going on with Briggs' hand, but he could not see for sure because of the way he was positioned. "It scared me, and I remember leaving there thinking, 'Is there something wrong with my baby?'" Rachel says.



Months later, Briggs was born early at 33 ½ weeks. "His arm was kind of pinned behind him, and his hand turned in very much toward his forearm," Robert says. "That was the only thing he could do with that arm." Rachel explains that within 24 hours, a doctor at the hospital came in and said, "We're referring you to Scottish Rite because they're the best."

After eight weeks in the NICU, the family brought Briggs to Scottish Rite for Children where he was evaluated by pediatric orthopedic surgeon and Director of the Charles E. Seay, Jr. Center for Excellence in Hand Scott Oishi, M.D., FACS. Dr. Oishi diagnosed Briggs with ulnar dimelia, which is classically referred to as mirror hand. Briggs was born with seven fingers on his left hand, but he had no thumb. The fingers on one side of his hand mirrored the fingers on the other side. In addition to the hand, ulnar dimelia affects the functionality of the arm. Typically, a baby is born with two bones in their forearm, including the radius on the thumb side and the ulna on the pinky finger side. A child with ulnar dimelia has no radius. Instead, the ulna is duplicated, which affects the ability to bend and rotate the elbow and wrist.

"Ulnar dimelia is one of the rarest congenital disorders of the arm," Dr. Oishi says. "Many surgeons that do pediatric hand surgery have never seen it in their life." An article published in the *Journal of Musculoskeletal Surgery and Research* describes ulnar dimelia as a rare developmental anomaly with only about 70 cases reported worldwide. "At Scottish Rite for Children, we have a vast amount of experience treating conditions that are very rarely seen," Dr. Oishi says. "And, we have an entire



Dr. Oishi evaluates 6-month-old Briggs' left hand and his seven fingers.

multidisciplinary team of not just surgeons but also child life specialists and occupational therapists, as well as hand camp programs for children with congenital anomalies."

Dr. Oishi and his clinical team designed an individualized treatment plan for Briggs that they continue to manage as he grows. To date, Briggs has undergone three different surgeries to improve the functionality of his arm and hand. The first one occurred right before his first birthday. Prior to the procedure, his arm was stuck in extension, meaning Briggs could not bend his elbow. After a complex

surgery, Dr. Oishi created a functioning elbow that Briggs could begin to move. "He went from his arm being kind of twisted behind him to having an arm that hangs normally with a slight bend," Robert says. "It was amazing! I mean, how in the world do you create an elbow for somebody?"

When Briggs was 3, Dr. Oishi performed a second surgery to release soft tissue that took Briggs' wrist from a locked position into a more flexible one. "When your wrist is curled in, it makes your arm look very short," Robert says. "That surgery released his wrist, and he was able to have it stretched out more."

*Continued on
the next page*



Robert holds 9-month-old Briggs, who could not bend his elbow until he received his first surgery just before his first birthday.



A close-up of 4-year-old Briggs' left hand with seven fingers.

Briggs' latest operation — his "Transformer" surgery — is technically called pollicization. He went into surgery with seven fingers and no thumb, and Dr. Oishi transformed his hand into one that now has three fingers and a functioning thumb. The pollicization procedure creates a thumb to give a child the ability to grab objects. This is accomplished by converting one of the fingers into a thumb by moving it down the hand and rotating it into opposition to the other fingers.

"Your thumb plays a pivotal role because it comes toward your other fingers to give you true functional grabbing ability,"

Robert says.

"Briggs never had that. He could grab things by pinching two fingers together, but they were side by side."

Dr. Oishi explains that a child will usually indicate which finger they want to be their thumb. "The finger has to be what we call supple, so when you push on it, it bends easily," he says. "Some kids have stiff

fingers, and they don't work well as a thumb." Over the years during Briggs' appointments, Dr. Oishi examined his fingers and also determined his grip pattern. "I have a lot of toys in my pockets," he says. "People think I'm just playing with the kids, which I am, but I'm actually playing with them with purpose to see which finger they want to use as their thumb, and that's how we determine which one to move."

Briggs' most functional fingers include the four that were originally located on the left side of his hand — the side on which they are supposed to grow. These are his pinky, ring and middle finger. The one located immediately after the middle finger was his best finger, the one that Dr. Oishi made into a thumb. "You'd like to leave him with four fingers and a thumb, but the other three fingers were stiff, and he didn't use them," Dr. Oishi says. "My goal is to give him the most aesthetically pleasing and most functional hand."

Having a functioning thumb is critical to overall hand function. It is better for a child to have three fingers and a thumb than four fingers and no thumb. It is also important for a child to undergo pollicization surgery when they are young so their brain can adapt and functionally integrate the new thumb. "Researchers debate about when the use pattern of plasticity sets in," Dr. Oishi says, "but usually, you conduct a pollicization before a child turns 4, 5 or 6 so they can incorporate the idea of the thumb into their brain." When these children get older, they simply think of that finger as their thumb, whereas a child who undergoes pollicization later still thinks of their thumb as the finger that was moved.

When Briggs came out of surgery, he wore a blue cast to match his Optimus Prime outfit. He also got Transformers stickers, which of course, he stuck on his cast. "Briggs has lived a large portion of his life in a cast or with a splint on his arm," Robert says. "I would be a hot mess of complaining, but it doesn't faze him. He just doesn't get down, which is really cool to watch."

"Briggs is an overcomer," Rachel says. "He has a spirit of true joy." She shares that recently, Briggs was pretending to be a doctor. "I was like, 'Are you being Dr. Oishi?'" Rachel says, "and Briggs was like, 'Yeah!'"

Dr. Oishi's hope for Briggs is that he has no pain and can do everything he wants to do without any help. "Briggs is still young, but he's pretty close to achieving this," Dr. Oishi says. "He's got a great support system, and he doesn't let anything stop him."

"We have a high level of trust in Dr. Oishi and feel that he's got Briggs' best interest in mind," Robert says. Rachel appreciates his bedside manner. "The trust we have in him is because of how much he genuinely cares," she says. "You can see how passionate he is about his patients — every single one." «



After seeing his new hand with a thumb for the first time, Briggs wears a splint to support his recovery.



From Patient to Advocate: "The Chosen" Actor Jordan Walker Ross Inspires All

Actor, filmmaker and screenwriter Jordan Walker Ross describes Scottish Rite for Children as a place of love and hope. Shortly after Jordan was born, his family brought him to Scottish Rite for cerebral palsy (CP), which affects his muscles and movements. Jordan also developed scoliosis due to his muscle weakness. After years of undergoing multiple hip surgeries, a spinal fusion and recovery in the Inpatient Unit, Jordan recalls only positive memories at Scottish Rite.

"I felt at home at Scottish Rite, even when I was about to undergo a major surgery," Jordan says. "There was always something happening to help the patients experience something fun and memorable, regardless of whatever pain we were feeling."

Since age 6, Jordan performed in local theaters and professional productions. However, his condition caused him to develop a limp, which impacted his ability to receive larger roles. This changed in 2018 when Jordan was cast in the TV series "The Chosen," a historical drama based on the life of Jesus. He plays the role of Little James, who is one of Jesus' disciples.

"The creator of "The Chosen" made my limp part of my role," Jordan says. "I used to hide my disability, even feeling embarrassed to call myself disabled. Now, I own it."

The role of Little James marks a turning point for both Jordan's career and personal life. Since the success of "The Chosen," Jordan has received roles in other films and TV shows, like "1883," "Yellowstone" and "Black Panther: Wakanda Forever." He credits this achievement to a pivotal scene in season three of "The Chosen" between Little James and Jesus, where Little James asks Jesus why he hasn't healed him of his condition.

"It was cathartic to perform that scene and to express many frustrations that I've had in my life," Jordan says. After the scene aired, he recalls that people — including patients from Scottish Rite — commented how it helped them feel seen. "I was like, 'Why don't I see that in myself?'" he says. "I realized that I had stopped loving myself the way I did back then. Now, I am proud of who I am and what I mean to my community."

Jordan currently uses his platform to advocate for increased visibility of disabilities in all spaces. From his podcast to public appearances, Jordan promotes self-acceptance for all through his endeavors.

"I have no idea where I would be if it wasn't for Scottish Rite," Jordan says. "I refer someone any time I get the chance because Scottish Rite literally changed my life." «

Therapy Services Opens in New, Innovative Space

Samuel, age 7, of Dallas, Texas, engages in physical therapy with Morgan Stephens, P.T., and Ashley Vesotsky, P.T., in the recently renovated Therapy Services space at Scottish Rite for Children in Dallas. Through contributions from generous donors, patients receive physical and occupational therapy using new state-of-the-art technology and equipment.

Samuel works on balance and mobility using a robotic body weight support

system that allows patients who are not fully weight-bearing to safely practice walking, balancing and other functional activities in a reduced gravity environment. The system offloads a percentage of the patient's weight so the child feels lighter as they walk. Patients wear a harness attached to a robot on the ceiling that routes on a track throughout the therapy gym – from a treadmill to parallel bars to stairs, and finally, to a 100-foot walk lane.



With a **warm reception area and observation room**, the facility also hosts a **sports physical therapy area** that includes an antigravity treadmill, upper and lower extremity bikes, and more. An **Activities of Daily Living Suite** was built to mimic a home setting, including a bedroom and bathroom, where families can practice using a lift that transfers children from the bed to the bath, shower or toilet safely and independently without lifting them in and out of a wheelchair.

A **hand therapy section** was specifically designed for patients to receive care for hand and upper extremity conditions. Hand therapists work with patients using interactive rehabilitation devices that employ gaming software to enhance classical therapy exercises. The sensor-based technology helps children improve range of motion, coordination, balance and cognitive abilities as it provides assessments and feedback on the patient's progress.

A beautifully lit and open space, Therapy Services is an innovative place of hope and healing, thanks to the tremendous support of Scottish Rite friends. <<



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- 2023 Central Texas Golf Classic
- Crowley-Carter Foundation
- 2023 Knox-Corinthian Golf Tournament
- Anonymous

Don L. Eames has masonry in his blood. In high school during the summers, he worked as a bricklayer. In the fall of 1979, he graduated, and rather than working outside in the winter, he joined the burgeoning semiconductor industry in Austin, Texas, by applying for a job at Motorola. "I thought, 'I'll do this during the winter until I can get back to my real job of brick laying,'" Eames says. His application led to a successful 45-year career in the microchip business where he has worked his way up from technology training instructor to equipment engineer and into supervisory roles. Eames met his wife, Wendy, at Motorola, and with the company's help, he paid for his education at Austin Community College, earning an Associate of Applied Science Degree in Electronics Technology. Along the way, Motorola spun off its semiconductor business, which became Freescale Semiconductor and was later acquired by NXP Semiconductors. Today, Eames leads a team of engineering

technicians in NXP's Research and Development department.

Though his bricklaying days are over, his love for masonry and Freemasonry thrives. In 2003, Eames joined the Scottish Rite of Freemasonry. "The thing I like to communicate is service — service to the community, to the fraternity and to your fellow man," Eames says. For more than 20 years, he has devoted himself to service and leadership in the Austin Valley Scottish Rite. In 2009, he was invited to join the board of the Austin Scottish Rite Community and Children's Theater and quickly became the president, leading the board for more than two years. In 2019, he became general secretary of the Austin Valley Scottish Rite. In this role, he is responsible for valley operations, similar to a chief operating officer. He was also appointed as personal representative of the valley in 2024, which is akin to a CEO. In this position, he leads about 800 Masons and serves as a personal representative to the Sovereign Grand Inspector General of the Scottish Rite Orient of Texas.

Soon after Eames became general secretary, he was appointed to the Scottish Rite for Children

Board of Trustees. "One of the best things you can do in Masonry is to be on the board of Scottish Rite for Children," Eames says. "It is an opportunity to make a difference and create miracles for patients and their families." He explains that while he is in a global corporate environment professionally, he is inspired by the surgeons and staff at Scottish Rite for Children, whom he refers to as saints. "Serving on the board is an opportunity to associate with exceptionally-minded people who have integrity and attitudes of generosity," Eames says. "I try to take that example back with me into the corporate world."

A servant leader and a Mason through and through, Eames lives in Round Rock, Texas, with Wendy. They have a daughter and two grandchildren, whom they adore. «

"SCOTTISH RITE
CREATES MIRACLES
FOR PATIENTS AND
THEIR FAMILIES."

DON L. EAMES
Advisory Trustee
Since 2020



Leaving A Legacy of Love for Children

In 1989 on an evening after work, Tom Dudley sat on the floor in his suit and tie engaging with a young patient as they played with a dollhouse in the Inpatient Unit at Scottish Rite for Children. Two years before, his wife, Joni, began volunteering at Scottish Rite and had so much fun doing it that Tom joined her. They spent their evenings in the Inpatient Unit delivering treats from the snack cart, playing games with patients in the playroom and reading to them. Joni recalls one little boy who had no legs bouncing around in his bed saying, "I'm not sick. I'm just getting new legs!" The Dudleys closely connected with patients and their families, even meeting one family at the airport to say goodbye. "For us, it was all about the children," Joni says. "We really enjoyed being with the kids."

For more than 37 years, the Dudleys have shown their love for kids at Scottish Rite for Children by giving tremendously through their time as volunteers and their gifts as generous donors. They gave their first gift by delivering toys and games to the hospital. Since then, they have supported patient care in a variety of ways. They have donated through engraved bricks that line the walkway on the Dallas campus in memory of their parents. For years, they have volunteered at the Tartan Golf Classic, an annual tournament that benefits Scottish Rite. At numerous Volunteer Holiday Bazaar and Bake Sales that support patient care, Joni contributed her famous lemon daisy cake, along with a trunk full of cookies, muffins, cupcakes and brownies. The Dudleys also gave in celebration of Scottish Rite's centennial, and they regularly attend Treasure Street, the signature annual fundraiser. Today, the Dudleys' cumulative giving totals almost \$75,000.

"We just love the hospital so much, and we knew our money was going to a very good cause," Joni says. Other than the Dudleys' church, Scottish Rite for Children is their charity of choice. "Those are our kids," Tom says. "The way we look at it, we don't have any kids so Scottish Rite kids are our kids."

In 2022, Joni and Tom established a planned gift by including Scottish Rite for Children in their will. "The key is we know where the money is going and what it's going to be used for, and that's important to us," Tom says. "I have no problem giving whatever we can. I know it will be used properly." To honor dedicated donors who leave a legacy for future generations of patients, they are invited to join the W. B. & Brandon Carrell Society. These distinguished patrons ensure best-in-class care for tomorrow's young patients. "We are happy to give to Scottish Rite for Children," Tom says, "and we won't stop giving." «



Joni and Tom Dudley

*To learn how you can create a charitable legacy and join the W. B. & Brandon Carrell Society, please contact:
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ABOUT SCOTTISH RITE FOR CHILDREN

Scottish Rite for Children is a world-renowned leader in the treatment of pediatric orthopedic conditions, such as scoliosis, clubfoot, hand differences, hip disorders, limb lengthening and reconstruction, sports injuries and fractures, as well as certain related arthritic and neurological disorders and learning disorders, such as dyslexia. Patients receive treatment regardless of the family's ability to pay.

For more information about services available at the Dallas or Frisco campuses, visit scottishriteforchildren.org.

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