

The Bears' Home Opener a Multiple Winner—for Team and SHC



Not only did the Chicago Bears defeat the Indianapolis Colts 41-21 in their home opener on September 9—but the Baran family and Scott J. Baran agency of American Family Insurance had a winning Home Opener fundraiser for SHC – Chicago at Douglas Street Sports Pub, Elgin, IL. Seven former NFL players attended—and most of them appear in the photo left. They included, from left, Marc May, Dave Blaha, Bill Schick, Allen Ellis, John Janata, and Tim



Tyrrell. Major Hazelton is not in the photo. The young lady being held by John, Eleanor Baran, is not a former NFL star but our own very special celebrity scoliosis patient, Eleanor, who was honored at this fundraising event. Dad Scott Baran, a *Medinah* Noble, reports that it was a first-rate event. About 120 guests attended, and Sue, Scott, Eleanor, and Joe Baran raised \$6,085 for our hospital, including a gift of \$2,500 from American Family Insurance Co., bringing to a total of \$14,000 over the past three years that this event has raised. In the photo, above, Scott (#29) presents this year's check to Mark Niederpruem, Administrator, and Linda Cree, RN. Thanks, Barans and Friends! You bring us all Victory!

Mizpah Driver Retires—to Fish—After 200 Trips to Shriner Hospitals!



One of the delightful aspects of work at SHC – Chicago is that you get to know many fine people—people who, out of the generosity of their hearts and their love of children, give in so many ways. Drivers, in particular, please me, for they volunteer their time and take on the heavy responsibility of keeping children safe as they transport them, without cost whatsoever, to and from our hospitals. Lynn Gerardot, a *Mizpah* Noble from Wolcottville, IN, is one of those people. He wrote me the other day, saying: "I won't be seeing you at the hospital anymore as I retired from driving the Shrine vans. I had



around 200 trips and when I turned 75, thought it was time to hang it up. I enjoyed it and met you and many other drivers there. Don Fredricks and Jim Keeslar were fun to ride with. I enjoyed chatting with Rosa, when she was still there. That is another thing I will dearly miss—the food they prepare: "First Class." If I can locate some of those



small Shrine decals I will put them on some of my lures [Lynn turns lures on his lathe.] and send them to you to be sold in the lobby. I transferred to Kendallville's Masonic lodge [Yours Truly's hometown] two years ago and have become quite active. They are a super group. Adrian Nowells is the Secretary, and he brags about your ability running the hurdles. I hope all is well and that you are feeling great and keeping the hospital straight." We shall miss Lynn as he works among his lure collection (see photo above). The photo on the right is of his Staley-Johnson "Twin Minns," made in Ft. Wayne, 1946-48, his prized collection. We thank Lynn for his many hours of safe driving and his constant kindness to everyone. He, like the

thousands of Shrine drivers across the continent who transport children, is a true friend of all.