

RITE UP

SCOTTISH RITE



Gracee Gets Back in the Game After The Tether™ Spinal Surgery — the First at Scottish Rite

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Beaver Creek, Colorado

PUBLICATION CREDITS

Senior Editor: Hayley Hair

Editor: Kristi Shewmaker

Designer: Peter Henry

Features Coordinator:
Brittany Musacchio

Photographer: John Dossier

Contributors: Stephanie
Brigger, Colin Casey, Carrie
Davis, Ashley Givens, McKay
Hendershot, Roy Ortiz,
Celene Stanley, Madeline
Yeaman and Development
and Communications staff

Send editorial comments
to: RiteUp@tsrh.org

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If you no longer wish to
receive communications
from Scottish Rite, send a
written request or call:

HIPAA Privacy Officer
Scottish Rite for Children
2222 Welborn Street
Dallas, Texas 75219
214-559-8510

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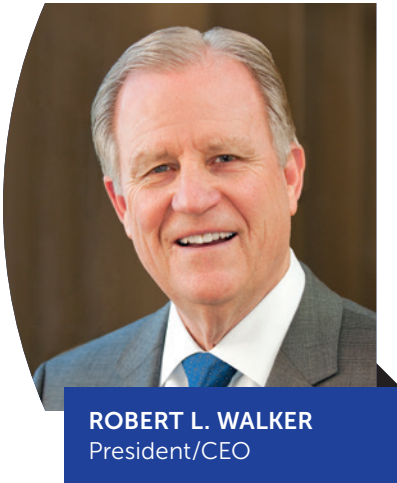
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LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT



Scottish Rite for Children is known around the world for defining pediatric orthopedic care, and as needs evolve, redefining care to meet those needs. Constant advancements in treatments and procedures result in extraordinary outcomes for our patients and families. The unwavering desire to continually better ourselves to benefit our patients reflects the true heart of this organization.

As the population in North Texas increases and expands northward, the demand for health care escalates. As a leader in our community and in the pediatric orthopedic field, we will continue to provide the highest quality of care for those in need. To fulfill this goal, we are positioning Scottish Rite for the future.

At our Dallas campus, we recently opened a 42,000-square-foot, state-of-the-art surgical suite. We are also in the process of renovating and expanding our day surgery to accommodate the increasing demand for ambulatory surgical care. Our Physical Therapy, Occupational Therapy and Child Life service areas will also

undergo renovations that will upgrade and enhance an already outstanding experience for our patients and families.

The Scottish Rite for Children Orthopedic and Sports Medicine Center that opened in 2018 in Frisco has experienced exponential growth in patient care from accelerating demand in the surrounding area. Already, we are expanding our Frisco facility to address the needs of our neighbors to the north, and we will continue to evaluate upcoming needs.

In the midst of such rapid growth, it is essential to invest in our people, our most significant asset. Our recruitment is strong, as we have added outstanding leaders from across the health care spectrum.

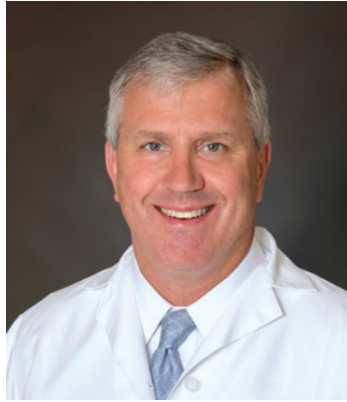


At our Frisco campus, pediatric orthopedic surgeon Corey S. Gill, M.D., M.A., cares for 2-month-old Elena, of Murphy, as her mother, Ashley, observes. Elena wears a Pavlik harness to help correct developmental dysplasia of the hip.

By hiring the best and brightest medical staff who are esteemed experts in their disciplines, we are furthering excellence in clinical care, teaching and research for the next generation.

As the dynamic health care landscape continues to change, Scottish Rite for Children is not only at the forefront but also remains the cherished place you know and love. It is a light in the dark for a child who is struggling, a champion for a family in need and a force in the world for good.

CONNECTED TO THE CARE



Brandon A. Ramo, M.D., and **Karl E. Rathjen, M.D.**, published a paper in *The Journal of Bone and Joint Surgery* titled "Pain Catastrophizing Influences Preoperative and Postoperative Patient-Reported Outcomes in Adolescent Idiopathic Scoliosis." Scottish Rite co-authors include Chan-Hee Jo, Ph.D., Lydia Klinkerman, B.S., and David Thornberg, B.S.

Last fall, a **three-legged therapy cat named Harry** made his debut at Scottish Rite for Children. Harry and his owner, Sarah Dutton, volunteer through **Pet Partners®**, bringing smiles and peace to our patients.



Neveya, of Dallas, with Harry, the therapy cat, in the Inpatient unit



Goodyear® North America Brand Director Todd Macsuga presented a check for \$10,000 to Keegan and William Z. Morris, M.D., to benefit Scottish Rite for Children. In addition, the Cotton Bowl Foundation, with the support of Radio Flyer® and the Starlight™ Children's Foundation, donated 100 red wagons.



Leading up to the **87th Goodyear® Cotton Bowl® Classic**, the **University of Southern California** football team visited Scottish Rite for Children. Scottish Rite patient **Keegan, of Mason**, served as USC's honorary captain. Keegan met the team, received custom jersey No. 23, led the fight song and exchanged autographs with the players. To top it off, he also attended the game and watched the coin toss from the 50-yard line.

During the holidays, **Santa Claus** visited Scottish Rite for Children, bringing joy to our patients, their families and staff. President/CEO Robert L. Walker, his wife, Pat, their granddaughter Lillian and Chairman of the Board Lyndon L. Olson, Jr. enjoyed a moment with Santa.





A decades-long tradition, the **Dallas Cowboys®** visited Scottish Rite for Children to celebrate the holidays with our patients by meeting with them, taking photos and signing autographs.

Patient Aubrey, of College Station, visits with Dallas Cowboys® players Tony Pollard, Zack Martin and CeeDee Lamb as well as Dallas Cowboys Cheerleaders® Kelee and Marissa.

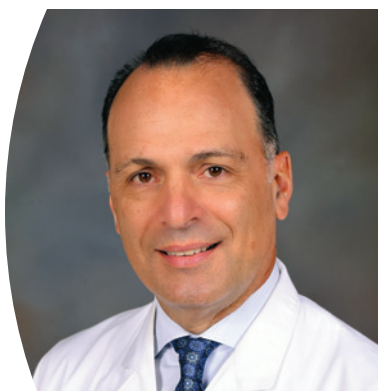
The **2022 BMW® Dallas Marathon** continued its generous tradition of raising funds for Scottish Rite for Children, the race's primary beneficiary. Since 1997, the Dallas Marathon has donated more than \$4 million in support of our mission. Patients **Lauren, of Dallas,** and **Preston, of Houston,** served as Junior Race Directors to represent the thousands of children receiving life-changing care at Scottish Rite.



President/CEO Robert L. Walker, the Junior Race Directors (centered above) and their families joined together on race day to celebrate Scottish Rite and cheer on the runners.



Welcome our new **Senior Vice President and Chief Financial Officer Michelle Hays.** Hays joins Scottish Rite from Las Palmas Del Sol Healthcare in El Paso, part of HCA Healthcare®.



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

Education Fosters Excellence in Future Care

How do we ensure that the next generation of patients receive the highest quality of care at Scottish Rite for Children and beyond? Our top-notch researchers answer this question through a progressive cycle of discoveries and advancements that drive new ways of thinking and problem-solving, which translate into innovative technologies and treatments. From the lab to the operating room, our scientists collaborate with our medical team to launch leading-edge clinical care.

An important component of this cycle is education. Whether training fellows who go on to become pediatric orthopedic surgeons or presenting the latest treatment protocols to medical professionals around the world, Scottish Rite experts share their knowledge to better the lives of children and families everywhere.

To kick off 2023, Scottish Rite hosted two conferences from our Center for Excellence in Limb Lengthening and Reconstruction, led by David A. Podeszwa, M.D. The Essentials of Lower Extremity Reconstruction symposium and the Controversies in Pediatric Limb Reconstruction seminar gathered approximately 125 national leaders to discuss the latest treatment techniques for pediatric patients with challenging limb deformities. Our experts gave 15 podium presentations.

Interdisciplinary specialists from our Center for Excellence in Sports Medicine, led by Assistant Chief of Staff Philip L. Wilson, M.D., represented Scottish Rite in Denver

at the Pediatric Research in Sports Medicine Society's 10th annual meeting. Henry B. Ellis, M.D., medical director of clinical research, helped lead the team to give 17 podium presentations. Some of the study results presented included improving care for elbow and shoulder injuries in throwing athletes; an update on the state of musculoskeletal ultrasound and its function in diagnosing injuries in young athletes; and best practices for using motion capture technology to help determine when children should return to sports.

In partnership with UT Southwestern Medical Center, Scottish Rite hosted the 16th annual Pediatric Orthopedic Education Series (POES) and the 24th annual Developmental-Behavioral Pediatrics (DBP) seminar. Both events provided continuing education for pediatricians, family

physicians and advanced practice providers. POES, chaired by Megan E. Johnson, M.D., educated participants on the musculoskeletal concepts important for the pediatric hip, knee, shoulder, elbow, back and foot. DBP, led by Sheryl Frierson, M.D., equipped participants with techniques to assess, identify and manage developmental and behavioral problems in children.

At Scottish Rite for Children, we continually investigate, invent and enhance treatments across the pediatric orthopedic field, sharing our findings today to achieve excellence for patients tomorrow. «



The Pediatric Spine Foundation honored Jaysson T. Brooks, M.D., with the Behrooz A. Akbarnia Award for Best Paper when he attended the International Congress on Early Onset Scoliosis and the Growing Spine in Rome.

An Affirmation of Independence

"I'm brave. I'm strong. I'm beautiful. I'm perfect — just the way God made me," says 8-year-old Jordynn, of Crowley, with her mother, DeAdriene. Together, they practice daily affirmations. "Because of Jordynn's condition, she is different," DeAdriene says. "When you're different, it can be a confidence killer. I want her to be the best version of herself that she can be."

Jordynn was born at 30 weeks and spent six weeks in the NICU. At her 12-month appointment, she could not sit up or walk. Her pediatrician said not to worry about walking until she was 18 months old. "At 18 months, Jordynn still wasn't sitting up," DeAdriene says. "We'd have to prop her up in a corner."

A month later, Jordynn was diagnosed with cerebral palsy, a neurological disorder that affects a person's ability to move. Jordynn's condition was caused by periventricular leukomalacia, a type of brain injury that is common in very premature babies.

In Jordynn's case, it affected her legs the most.

"When we found out, it was really hard,"

DeAdriene says. "We were seeing all these doctors, and they said she would never walk independently."

Jordynn began wearing leg braces, and at age 3, received a gait trainer — an assistive device similar to a walker that supports a child's mobility. For long distances, she used a wheelchair.

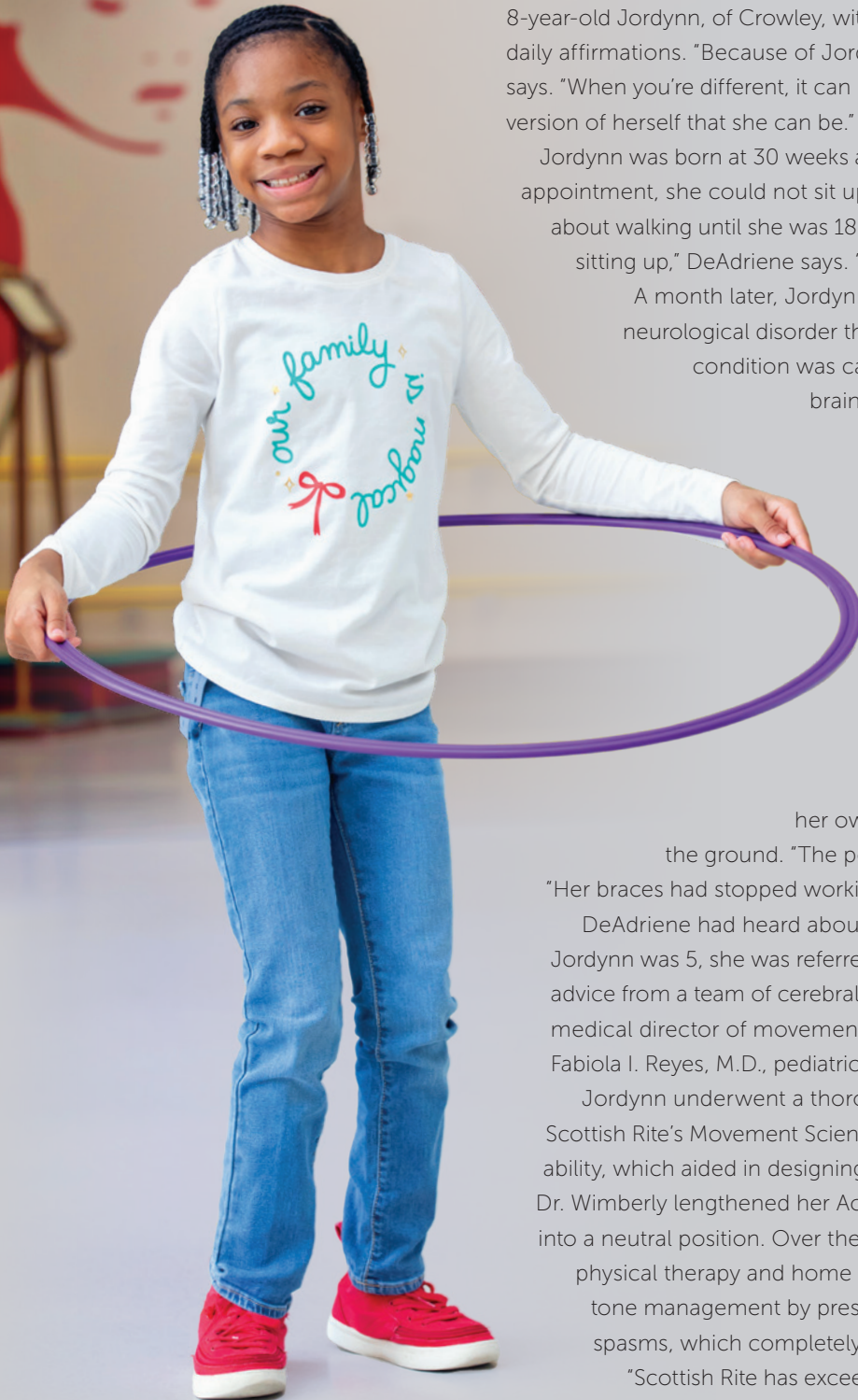
As Jordynn grew, she began taking steps on her own, but she could not put her right foot flat on the ground. "The position of her foot was horrible," DeAdriene says. "Her braces had stopped working because her muscles were so tight."

DeAdriene had heard about a surgery that she thought could help. When Jordynn was 5, she was referred to Scottish Rite for Children where they sought advice from a team of cerebral palsy experts, including Lane Wimberly, M.D., medical director of movement science and pediatric orthopedic surgeon, and Fabiola I. Reyes, M.D., pediatric physical medicine and rehabilitation physician.

Jordynn underwent a thorough evaluation, including a gait analysis in Scottish Rite's Movement Science Lab. The analysis measured Jordynn's walking ability, which aided in designing a customized treatment plan. Through surgery, Dr. Wimberly lengthened her Achilles tendon and hamstring to get her foot into a neutral position. Over the next year, Jordynn regained strength through physical therapy and home exercises. During that time, Dr. Reyes provided tone management by prescribing medication to relieve Jordynn's muscle spasms, which completely resolved her pain.

"Scottish Rite has exceeded our expectations," DeAdriene says. "Jordynn is not only walking, she's running around with her friends. She's even on the dance team at school!"

"Jordynn is happy and active," Dr. Reyes says, "and that is our ultimate goal for our patients." ◀





Watch Gracee play a game of one-on-one with her surgeon. Who gets the most shots?



Gracee Gets Back in the Game After The Tether™ Spinal Surgery — the First at Scottish Rite

by Kristi Shewmaker

Gracee never imagined that one day she would play basketball in the Dallas Mavericks® practice gym, much less play one-on-one against her 6'5" pediatric orthopedic surgeon. As a 15-year-old high school varsity basketball player of Tuscola, she also never imagined that three months before that, she would be the first patient at Scottish Rite for Children to receive The Tether™ Vertebral Body Tethering System, a surgically implanted spinal device that is used to treat scoliosis.

Gracee grew up with basketball. "As a little girl, she went to the gym a lot because we were in the gym a lot," says Carla, her mother. Gracee's father, Hunter, is the high school varsity girls basketball coach. Gracee watched him coach her older sister before playing herself.

Gracee started playing competitive basketball in second grade. "We sent letters home to the girls in her class saying that we were going to meet one day a week to skill and drill," Hunter says, "and it grew from there."

Throughout the years, Hunter coached Gracee and her team in various leagues. In middle school, Gracee joined her school team. In high school, Gracee started on the varsity team with some of the same girls that she has played with since second grade. "What I love most about basketball is the friendships that come with it," Gracee says.

The summer before her freshman year, Gracee was seeing a chiropractor for an issue with her hip flexor, and Hunter mentioned that she had scoliosis during the appointment. A school nurse had noticed it during a routine screening when Gracee was in elementary school. Her curve was less than 10°, so her pediatrician had been monitoring it. "When she laid down on the chiropractor's table, and I saw her back," Hunter says, "I was like, 'Oh my gosh!' We didn't realize to what degree the curve had gotten."

Hunter contacted Scottish Rite for Children for help, and there, Gracee was diagnosed with adolescent idiopathic scoliosis. This condition occurs in patients ages 10 to 18, and the cause is unknown. Her curve measured 42°. "I was shocked," Gracee says. "I didn't think it would be that bad."

Continued on the next page

Initially, Gracee wore a brace to prevent further progression and to try to avoid surgery. However, within months, her curve progressed to more than 50°, which experts call the surgical threshold — the point when surgery is recommended to stop a curve from getting larger. “In a certain subset of kids wearing their braces, the curve still progresses,” says Jaysson T. Brooks, M.D., pediatric orthopedic surgeon. “They have so much growth potential left, their spine overpowers the brace.”

When Gracee and her family first met Dr. Brooks, they began discussing treatment options in anticipation of the need for surgery. Dr. Brooks presented two surgical options, including spinal fusion, which he calls “the gold standard treatment,” and The Tether™, a new non-fusion surgical device he had used previously to treat scoliosis but had not been used at Scottish Rite.

In a spinal fusion, screws are inserted into channels of bone surrounding the spinal canal. Two rods are secured into the back of the screws with set caps and tightened with a torque wrench. Bone graft is placed along the implant to help the vertebrae fuse together. This procedure stops the growth in the previously curved

part of the spine and prevents the curve from coming back.

When using a tether, a flexible cord is attached with screws to the vertebrae on the side of the spine that curves outward, which is also known as the convexity of the curve. The

tether slows the growth on the outward side of the curve while allowing the inward side of the spine to continue growing. During surgery, the flexible cord is tensioned, which corrects the curve to some degree. As a child grows, the spine grows straighter because the tether guides it into the correct alignment. The Tether™ is a non-fusion implant that allows children to maintain the majority of their natural spine flexibility.

“Gracee was a good candidate for this procedure because her curve is flexible, and she was still really young from a bone standpoint, or skeletal maturity,” Dr. Brooks says. “The younger your skeleton is, the higher chance you have of getting taller, and using a tether requires you to be able to grow taller because it capitalizes on that growth.”

Over several appointments, Dr. Brooks discussed the pros and cons of each surgery, the difference in incisions, how X-rays look when rods versus a tether are attached to the spine, and the potential downsides and risks. “He did a really good job explaining the difference between the two,” Gracee says. “He also did a really good job of making me feel calmer.”

“There wasn’t a lot of anxiety on our part about which way to go,” Hunter says. “In my mind, vertebrae are meant to be flexible. If you can keep it the way God designed it, I think you’re better off. Obviously, there are times when the fusion is the only answer, but with this being another option, we wanted to try it.”

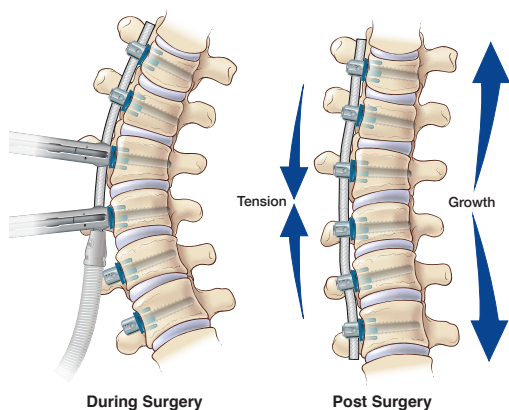
Gracee’s family chose this device because they wanted to maintain the overall flexibility of her spine as well as endure a shorter recovery period, so that Gracee could get back to playing basketball as quickly as possible.

“They are very intelligent and very pragmatic to approach a procedure that is this new and say, ‘I think this is going to be the right thing for my daughter,’” Dr. Brooks says. “They were mature enough as a family to say, ‘we’re okay with the potential consequences, but we think that the benefits outweigh the risks.’ You couldn’t have asked for a better family to be the first family for The Tether™ at Scottish Rite.”

In April of 2022, Gracee underwent surgery. “I wasn’t that nervous going into it,” Gracee says. “When I got out, I was excited to finally be good. I was excited about it.”

“The whole time, I felt like she was in very good hands,” Carla says. “Dr. Brooks’ knowledge

Tethering Functionality



During Surgery

Post Surgery



Dr. Brooks checks on Gracee as she recovers after surgery.

is one thing, but he is very compassionate and caring as well. I truly felt like he loved my child."

Two weeks later, Gracee went back to school. After six weeks, she played her first post-surgery game, and after three months, she found herself at the Dallas Mavericks® practice gym playing basketball with Dr. Brooks.

"It was a really cool experience," Gracee says. "Dr. Brooks did pretty good."



Carla, Hunter, Gracee and Dr. Brooks

The feeling was mutual for Dr. Brooks. "It was a special opportunity for sure," Dr. Brooks says. "I was pretty good at basketball in high school, but I'm super out of shape now. The only thing I had to my advantage was my height. Where she beat me in speed, I used my height."

Gracee has played shooting guard for as long as she can remember. Hunter explains that she shoots in the 40% range from the three-point line. "Gracee's a good shooter because she's up at the gym at 5:00 or 5:30, three or four mornings a week working on her shots," Hunter says. "Our basketball program is highly competitive. They're ranked No. 2 in the state."

In December, Gracee's team won the Whataburger® Basketball Tournament, an invitation-only tournament in Fort Worth. When it was over, five players out of approximately 160 girls were chosen for the all-tournament team. Gracee was one of the five.

"Going from being on a surgery table in April to being able to do that in December is just phenomenal," Hunter says. "Gracee's always been a spunky kid. There wasn't much spunk a year ago, but we're seeing it come back."

Today, Hunter says that they have no regrets about choosing tethering, but he knows that it is still early. During surgery, Gracee's spine was corrected to a little more than 30°. The goal is that the tether will continue to straighten her spine as she grows.

"If Gracee had walked into my clinic with a 30° curve, she would not have gotten surgery because 30° isn't big enough," Dr. Brooks says. "In the end, if nothing changes, it's still a win because she has a curve that is stable. There are lots of kids walking around with 30° curves who are living full, successful lives."

Hunter says that they would be happy if her curve stayed where it is and ecstatic if it improves even more. "We're just fortunate that we're talking about a scoliosis curve that is manageable," Hunter says. "When you see what other families at Scottish Rite are dealing with and the care that you see being administered to them, it's as close to heaven on earth as you think you'll ever see."

"Everyone works so hard to make the kids at Scottish Rite feel at home, to make me feel at home," Gracee says. "I wasn't scared to be the first kid at Scottish Rite to get The Tether™. I like being groundbreaking. I like being the first."

"And, our experience at Scottish Rite," Hunter says, "has been nothing but first-class." <<



DONOR SPOTLIGHT



With Thanks for a Happy Place

Troy Ratliff has supported Scottish Rite for Children for more than 20 years. He connected with the organization through his participation in the San Angelo Sporting Clay Shoot, an event that was established in 1998 to raise funds for patient care. "I just wanted to win a shotgun," Troy says. "When Keegan was born, I realized what the shoot was all about."

Troy and his wife, Wendy, live in Mason, Texas, and have three children — Jonah, age 21; Keegan, age 15; and Cooper, age 13. Wendy was a teacher and a coach for 25 years and now owns Hilltop Tennis, where she gives private lessons to children. Troy is an entrepreneur in the electrical field and owns three companies, including Ratliff Electric, TW Compressor Company and Dynamo Rentals, a generator rental business.

When Wendy was pregnant with Keegan, they discovered at her 4D ultrasound appointment that something was wrong with his leg. An orthopedic

surgeon in Midland diagnosed Keegan with fibular hemimelia, a condition in which the fibular bone had stopped growing in his left leg. "Keegan didn't have a foot," Wendy says. "It was like a sack. You could feel where the toes had tried to develop, but they never did."

"We were pretty much devastated," Troy says. They were referred to Scottish Rite for Children, and when Keegan was 2 months old, they traveled to Dallas for his first appointment. "We took Keegan to the waiting room and saw wagons with kids with no arms and no legs," Troy says. "When we got into the room, we broke down crying."

"Scottish Rite is very touching," Wendy says. "They cater to the kids, and no matter what their disability, they all seem happy. It was eye-opening, a wake-up call."

The Ratliffs met J. A. "Tony" Herring, M.D., now chief of staff emeritus, who evaluated Keegan and explained the treatment options. They could reconstruct his leg, but that would require many surgeries throughout his childhood



Dr. Herring and Don Cummings, C.P., L.P., evaluate Keegan's prosthetic leg as orthotics and prosthetics resident Caitlyn Conley observes.

with no guarantee of how functional his leg would be. The other option was to amputate.

Through Scottish Rite's Peer Support Program, the Ratliffs met a patient from El Paso who had a prosthetic leg. "Looking back, the kid explaining how normal of a life he had was the turning point for me," Wendy says. "It was a breath of fresh air, like everything was going to be okay." The Ratliffs went home and made the decision to amputate. "I felt like amputating would allow Keegan to be a kid," Wendy says.

When Keegan was 10 months old, Dr. Herring performed the amputation. On Keegan's first birthday, he got his first prosthetic leg complete with his favorite superhero. "He got his Batman® leg," Wendy says, "and within 30 minutes, he was walking on it."

Keegan still likes Batman® today. "I was Bruce Lee for my eighth grade graduation," he says. Keegan is an all-around athlete. He plays football, tennis and basketball, but his favorite sport is tennis. He plays for his high school team and in tournaments through Universal Tennis, an organization that connects tennis and pickleball players through level-based play. At an adaptive tournament in Dallas, he won the junior level and the consolation in doubles.

Throughout his life, Keegan has received care from Dr. Herring and prosthetist Don Cummings, director of prosthetics. "For the first two years of Keegan's life, I didn't know Don had two prosthetic legs," Wendy says.

Cummings lost his legs below the knees to bacterial meningitis when he was a freshman in college. "One day, we were building Keegan's leg, and Don was trying to explain legs to us," Wendy says. "He goes, 'let me show you this one,' and he throws up one of his legs. Then he

says, 'or my other one.' It's so cool that he has prosthetic legs because he knows how it feels. He can truly relate to Keegan."

Keegan recalls having had 16 or 17 prosthetic legs as he has grown. Depending on the activity, he has worn different types. When he ran track and cross country, he wore a running blade designed primarily for sprinting. Now, he mostly wears a hybrid blade that has similar properties but includes a foot plate and foot shell, which allows him to wear various shoes. "With the foot shell, he was able to quarterback better," Wendy says, "and he can cut better in football and tennis." On his next leg, Keegan will display his school logo. "Anything you need, they'll do it for you," Keegan says.

"The people at Scottish Rite are pretty special," Wendy says. "Dr. Herring is always smiling. You can't help but be happy around him. He always wants to see Keegan run. Every time he sees him, he says, 'get out there and run for me.'"

"Seeing what Scottish Rite has done for Keegan," Troy says, "I'm just fortunate enough to have the opportunity to give, and my favorite thing is to donate to Scottish Rite." Not only does Troy continue to participate in the San Angelo Sporting Clay Shoot, but he also supports the event, as well as supporting the West Texas Golf Classic in Lubbock and Emi's Color Shoot in Amarillo. All three events raise funds for patient care at Scottish Rite. Whether giving individually or through Troy's companies, the Ratliff family has contributed more than \$550,000.

"We are grateful for the Ratliffs' generosity and the many ways that they have supported and promoted Scottish Rite for Children over the years," says Stephanie Brigger, Vice President of Development. "It is wonderful to witness Keegan's success and to know that the Ratliffs' kindness will help other children succeed as well."

"Scottish Rite has been life-changing," Wendy says.

"It's a safe zone for kids to be themselves and learn that they're not alone," Keegan says.

"When you walk in the door, you don't have a condition," Troy says. "It's just happy." <<



The Ratliff family: Cooper, Keegan, Wendy, Troy and Jonnah

TRUSTEE PROFILE

“SCOTTISH RITE
IS THE FINEST
PEDIATRIC
FACILITY IN
THE WORLD.”

GREGORY “GREG” L. MCEWEN
Trustee Since 2016



Greg L. McEwen sums up his secret to a successful life with this advice: “Do the right thing regardless of who is looking.” How does he do that? He follows what he calls the pure path.

When McEwen reflects on the origin of his values, he speaks fondly of his mother, who earned a doctorate in educational psychology. “She was always learning and always teaching us to do for others,” McEwen says.

His idea of the pure path comes from studying southwestern Native Americans, who call it the “red road” or “walking in beauty.” “To walk in beauty is to lead a full, productive, service-oriented life,” McEwen says. “Though we venture through life in a small way, whatever we do, we’ve got to do it for the right reason — to help people.” And, he has done just that.

In 1984, McEwen joined Freemasonry and became a member of the Waco Scottish Rite Bodies. A tenet of Masonry is to help those who are less fortunate. McEwen’s journey began when he discovered his grandfather’s Masonic ring after he passed away. McEwen was unaware of Masonry and did not understand the ring’s significance until he saw the same ring on a supervisor’s finger at Texas Farm Bureau Insurance, where McEwen experienced a successful 33-year career. He inquired about the ring, and after expressing interest in Masonry, he recalled the supervisor saying, “I think that you will enter upon a path that will be extremely rewarding.”

Since then, McEwen has served diligently and held numerous leadership positions through Masonry. In 2004, he was named president of the Texas Shrine Association (TSA) and is currently in his 13th year as secretary/treasurer. After his presidential year with TSA, he was selected to be on the Board of Governors for the Galveston Shrine Burns Hospital, now called Shriners Children’s Texas. There, he served a 10-year term, leading the board in various roles, including secretary, vice chairman and chairman.

“I don’t really seek honors or positions,” McEwen says. “I was called to be in a certain place at a certain time. I was following a path that was laid out for me by the great architect.”

McEwen’s Masonic leadership also includes the Scottish Rite of Freemasonry where he currently serves as chairman of the Scottish Rite Valley of Waco. This position connected him to Scottish Rite for Children where he was appointed as a trustee on the board, which McEwen describes as a blessing. “Scottish Rite for Children is the finest pediatric facility in the world,” he says. “I see the kids at Scottish Rite. They’re happy. Their families are happy. They’re receiving the best care ever. I’m happy.”

McEwen and his wife, Jerry, live in Lorena, Texas. They have two children and four grandchildren. McEwen is an Eagle Scout, a graduate of Baylor University, and he enjoys playing the bagpipes. He spends his retirement doing good for others, taking life one step at a time down the pure path. ◀



Pain-free and Positioned for Speed

"When I'm on the snow, I'm not really thinking, I'm just skiing," says 15-year-old Banks, of Beaver Creek, Colorado. "I like to go fast!"

Banks is an alpine ski racer. He skis for Ski & Snowboard Club Vail and attends high school at Vail Ski & Snowboard Academy where he trains and competes in races across the nation and internationally. Banks started skiing when he was 4. At age 6, he told his dad he had found his sport. In a typical year, he skis in alpine events, including slalom, giant slalom, super-G and downhill.

When Banks was in 4th grade, he started having hip pain. "I would wake up in pain and not want to go skiing," he says. "In class, I had pain in my tailbone from sitting in a chair." Doctors in Denver diagnosed him with juvenile idiopathic arthritis (JIA). Banks' parents, who are from North Texas, decided to seek a second opinion from Scottish Rite for Children.

At Scottish Rite, rheumatology experts confirmed JIA as well as a diagnosis of bilateral sacroiliitis, an inflammation of the sacroiliac joints that connect the spine to the pelvis. The team prescribed weekly injections, and after getting his medication just right, they were able to manage his condition.

"The last time I had pain was in 5th grade, and I was on crutches," Banks says. "Now, I almost forget that I have JIA."

His mother, Brandi, says that his care has been handled so well that his diagnosis has not held him back from accomplishing what he wants to do. "I want to make the U.S. Ski Team," Banks says, "and my ultimate goal is to ski in the World Cup."

"Without Scottish Rite, I wouldn't be able to ski," he says. "They not only care about how you are doing as a patient, they care about your life." «



SCOTTISH RITE



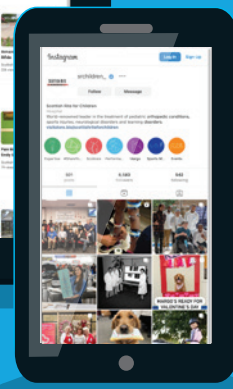
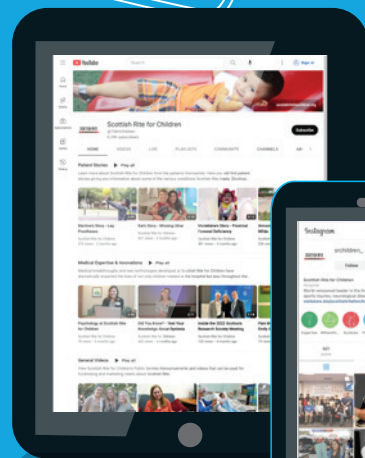
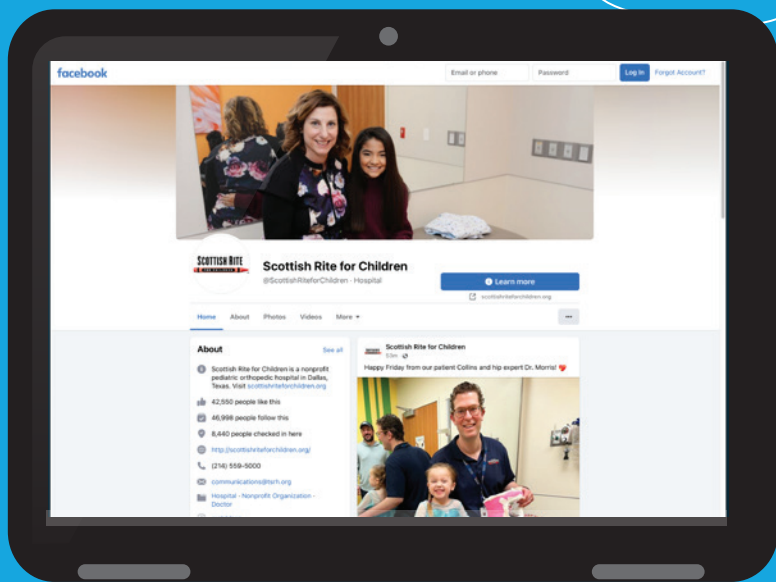
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ABOUT SCOTTISH RITE FOR CHILDREN

Scottish Rite for Children is a world-renowned leader in the treatment of orthopedic conditions, such as scoliosis, clubfoot, hand differences, hip disorders, limb lengthening, 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.

Are you receiving duplicate mailings or need to correct your name, title or address? Please send corrections to P.O. Box 199300, Dallas, Texas 75219-9842 or call 214-559-7650.

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