

ROCKY MOUNTAIN BASE USSVI KAP(SS) 4 KID(SS)

Our first visit was to Ronald McDonald House in Aurora, Co. on November 16, 2011, so we have just started our third year of visits. The visits consist of Colorado Children's Hospital, Aurora; Rocky Mountain Hospital for Children; Denver, Co.; Ronald McDonald House, Aurora & Denver, Co. plus individual homes. The visits to the facilities are on a four month rotation, one each month, with individual visits as required. In all the facilities picture taking is strictly controlled and we do not take pictures of the children unless we have obtained permission ahead of time.. When we give the children caps and also sign the bills, write the name and hull number of our qualifying boat, and tell them to Google them to learn about the boat. To date we have given out approximately-750 ball caps .



Colorado Children's Hospital Jan 16, 2013

1st Row, Marilyn Leeney, Becky Logan, Tim Logan

Back Row. Bob Leeney, Sharon Schaub, Sandy Kellar, Hailey Irwin, Jim Brunemeier, Gene Kellar

Seated , Al Schaub(WWII)

Team members not present: Steve Cazenave, Bill and Lynda Staab, Bev Gibson and Dave Linker, Jim Bradford, Dan and Cora Tostevin, Gene Nagel, Myra Meverden, Tom Utley, Bill Gregory, Bob & Carla Gerle, Joan McGowan,

Our setup for facilities is basically the same. In the hospitals we are in the lobby and at Ronald McDonald in the dining area where families convene.



Left to Right: Tattoos, Beanie Babies, Sub Books and memorabilia, bracelets, caps and certificates. 540 new Beanie Babies were donated by a friend. At the hospitals, all give away items must be new or manufactured... no homemade items. Health screening & hand sanitation is required.

COLORADO CHILDRENS HOSPITAL AURORA

Children's is an Isolation and Treatment Facility so therefore we do not get to visit children in their rooms unless specifically asked by a parent. Typically we visit from 11:00am to 1:00pm. This allows us to interact with children leaving from their morning appointments or arriving for their afternoon appointment. We are assigned a "Host Volunteer" who runs over the rules for us, such as, the procedure to apply tattoos. We must use separate towels to apply the tattoos and then sanitize our hands after we apply each tattoo. We have 3 specific volunteers who do this.

ROCKY MOUNTAIN HOSPITAL FOR CHILDREN

RMHC is also an Isolation and Treatment Facility, but we are allowed to visit selected children in their rooms as well as setup in the lobby. Arranging for the visit is a little more detailed as the Patient Advocate works with us to arrange a convenient date and time for our visit and which children we visit. Similar rules apply with the addition of sometimes full "Anti C's" are required in the room. We have special team members who volunteer to visit rooms as it can be very difficult when a child is very ill or if we know they are (sadly) terminal.

RONALD McDonald HOUSE AURORA& DENVER

Ronald McDonald House is a more relaxed facility. We usually visit on a Wednesday night, which is family night, at dinner time. This allows a relaxed interaction with the children and families staying there. There is time to talk about submarines and answer the children's and parents questions. We found if we approach the family and talk with them first then invite them to receive a ball cap, we seem to have more people willing to approach us. This is a difficult time for family and patient so we don't want to be intrusive...just encouraging.

ARRANGING OUR VISITS

We call each facility months ahead of time to arrange a convenient time for them to have us visit. Visitation days can vary and we try to go to a different place every month. Starting out, we had to be focused on setting up the visits as the hospitals/houses hadn't heard of K4K. We are becoming more well know in the Denver/Aurora Metro Area. and thanks to our very special team members, we walk away with more than we gave.

FUNDING

Through the efforts of many team members, we have received donations from schools, service organizations, businesses such as Wal-Mart and private donations. We have been invited to speak and visit at Middle Schools and High Schools to inform potential donors of our efforts. We have been recognized by a local TV station also which helps in our fundraising efforts.