

RALEIGH, NC, 10 JUNE 2011. At the North Carolina American Legion June Convention a very busy Ben Lee (rt.) took a break from his campaigning for Department Commander 2011-2012, to have his picture taken with the most recognizable clown in the world, Ronald McDonald.

With a little good natured competition, the 329 Local American Legion Posts of North Carolina collect pull-tabs over the course of the year. They are brought in during the June Convention and at the Fall and Mid-Winter conferences where they are weighed and taken for recycling, with the proceeds going to The Ronald McDonald House of Durham.

The monies generated go to help offset the costs of a family's stay at The Ronald McDonald House in Durham while their children are receiving treatment for life threatening illnesses at Duke Children's Center. Being able to have their family and loved ones near helps lessen the strain and aids in their recovery.

"For the past 13 years our two great organizations have worked together to make it possible for the families of these brave, young patients to stay at the Ronald McDonald house of Durham. By collecting the pull-tabs from aluminum cans" Lee noted, "we reached an outstanding achievement at this June Convention as 7,428lbs of tabs collected resulting in a July 2010 to June 2011 total of 17,114 pounds of pull-tabs -- over 8 ½ tons -- collected in one year!"

Any of the 329 Local American Legion Post would be glad to accept pull-tabs collected by individuals, church groups or any civic organization. Or contact American Legion Headquarters at 1-919-832-7506 to learn where to drop off your pull-tabs.

CONTACT: Lou Cook (919) 778-1463 home (919) 778-9687 work