

Annual Night Out, Camp Rising Sun's Largest Fundraising Event

The 12th Annual Night Out for the Kids was held on July 17th at the Owenego Beach Club in Branford, CT. This family event is camp's largest fundraiser that is organized and supported by Camp Rising Sun campers, staff and their families. It featured a cookout style dinner, two live bands, kid's activities, a raffle and a silent auction. There was something for everyone.

If you were a child, then the arts and crafts tent was where the action was - from face painting and henna tattoos to sand art and sun catchers. As the sun set over the picturesque landscape, people of all ages eagerly wrote down bids on over 100 silent auction items that were generously donated. Items included two African safari trips, professional sporting events and even four tickets to a Beyonce concert! How about the lucky winner who gets to ride aboard one of the Branford fire trucks to school. And a very popular item - having a dinner at camp amongst the campers, staff and a sky filled with fireworks. Dancing to the sounds of Mean Carlene and Vivid are a tradition, what would the evening be without their support?

Guests heard about the importance of camp from the directors, Shaun Heffernan and Mike Donahue and camp doctor, Dr. Joe McNamara, as well as the heartfelt words from Kathy Castillo,



the mother of our camper Gabby Castillo who lost her battle last August. Gabby will be forever in our hearts.

"The funds raised at this event are critical to keeping the camp free of charge to all campers. We have no idea where we would be without the generous support of all who attend the event." Shaun Heffernan, Camp Director.



Camp Rising Sun
Charitable Foundation
P.O. Box 472
Branford, CT 06405

Return Service Requested

camp rising sun news

*Where kids with
cancer have fun!*

Camp Rising Sun Charitable Foundation • July 2013

Thanks for the Memories!

We recently learned of some big changes for Camp Rising Sun and we want to share them with you. For the past 30 years the Camp Rising Sun has been a program of the American Cancer Society. The American Cancer Society made the decision to discontinue pediatric cancer camps nationwide. The summer 2013 season will be the last year that Camp Rising Sun will be affiliated with the American Cancer Society. 2014 will mark both our 31st year as a camp and our first as we go solo!

We want to assure you that Camp Rising Sun will continue under the direction of the Camp Rising Sun Charitable Foundation to operate as an independent entity. We pledge to continue to fulfill our mission to provide a safe and free camp

experience for children with cancer. Our volunteer staff is committed to continue the Camp Rising Sun tradition.

We need your support now more than ever. We understand that change is not always easy, but rest assured that we are prepared for the transition and look forward to Camp Rising Sun's next 30 years. We ask that you continue to support us through the Camp Rising Sun Charitable Foundation.

We would like to thank the American Cancer Society for having the foresight to envision Camp Rising Sun and we are grateful to all the volunteer directors and staff, past and present, who helped build Camp Rising Sun into the place we know and love today.

Get Ready for Camp Week, August 18-23! Applications on-line now.

Happy Birthday to Us! Celebrating 30 years of fun.



Where kids with cancer have fun!

www.camprisingsun.com

A hundred years from now

It will not matter what my
bank account was,
the sort of house I lived,
or the kind of car I drove.

But the world will be
different because I was
important in the life of a child.

Newest Members of Program Team



Camp Rising Sun is happy to welcome in the newest additions to their program team, Beth Skrzyniarz, Susan Hotchkiss and Mike Benz. Beth, Sue and Mike work for Environmental Data Resources (EDR) in Milford. EDR has been involved with CRS since 2009. Employees of EDR volunteer for one day at camp during free choice activities. In the past they have taught guitar, soccer, hockey, hip hop dancing, among other skills. EDR has also organized the annual camp dance for the past few years. This year, these three employees will be playing a bigger role, as they will be joining the camp program team during camp week in August.



"Kids believe in Santa, us
parents believe in Dr. Joe!"

- Brenda Beard, mother of CRS counselor, and
former patient and camper, Andrew Beard

Camp Rising Sun Wish List

Check out our **Amazon.com** Wish List — purchase online and ship directly to Camp!

Additional wish items include:

- Golf cart sponsor
- Photo paper and ink for Canon Selphy photo printers
- Webmaster
- Gift Cards - Amex, Sam's, Stop & Shop, WalMart, BJ's, Costco, Joann's, Target
- Cabin sponsor
- Videographer to produce Camp DVD
- Projector and screen
- Wii accessories and games
- Cabin kits - liquid soap, paper towels, flashlight, night light, Glade
- Laptop computers

CAMP STORE

We are in the process of putting together a Camp Store — Camp Rising Sun goodies for you, extra funds for us — win win! Our newest addition — CRS car magnets! Head on over to the www.camprisingsun.com/store to get yours!

Camp Store is also available at all Camp Rising Sun events including camp week.



MISSION STATEMENT:

Camp Rising Sun exists so that all who come can have fun, improve familiar skills, learn new skills and develop self-confidence by joining in camp activities in a secure positive place.

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Camp Rising Sun Celebrates 30th Birthday

On February 23, Camp Rising Sun celebrated its 30th birthday with a gala consisting of over 240 friends and family members of the CRS Family at the New Haven Country Club in Hamden, CT. Not only was this a special milestone for Camp but also for Dr. Joe McNamara who was honored at the event for his 20 years of dedication to our campers. Dr. Joe's three children Joanna, Jim and Laura commemorated the evening by speaking about their father, his dedication to CRS and what CRS has meant to their family over the past 20 years.

Brenda Beard, mother of CRS counselor, and former patient and camper, Andrew Beard, shared her family's experience with Dr. Joe and how important and thankful she was for Joe and Camp Rising Sun. "Kids believe in Santa, us parents believe in Dr. Joe!" said Brenda.

Camp Directors Shaun Heffernan and Michael Donahue shared some amusing anecdotes about their long- time friendship with Dr. Joe before presenting him with a watch as a gift for his 20 years of devotion to CRS.

CRS would like to thank Chaz from WPLR for being the event's EMCEE, the staff at the New Haven Country Club and La Cuisine Catering, as well as everyone who attended and made the event possible.



Camp Rising Sun Calendar of Events

August

Sunday, August 18th - 23rd
Camp Rising Sun Camp Week
Camp Jewell, Colebrook, CT

Monday, August 26th
Foxwoods Golf Outing to Benefit Camp Rising Sun
Foxwoods Lake of Isles, North Stonington, CT

October

Saturday, October 12th
Team Camp Rising Sun Runs the Hartford Marathon
Bushnell Park, Hartford, CT

Check out all of our events on our Facebook page
www.facebook.com/camprisingsun or www.camprisingsun.com
Planning a fundraiser to support Camp Rising Sun?
Contact camprisingsun@hotmail.com

Thanks to All Our Donors!

Our sponsors, big donors and small, are the reason that we are able to give the children a week of camp full of friendship, laughter and happy memories. All donations to the Camp Rising Sun Charitable Foundation are used exclusively for camp expenses. You can make a secure donation on-line at www.camprisingsun.com or by mail.

Carrigan Middle School



West Haven's Carrigan Middle School made a difference, for the Camp Rising Sun Campers. For second year in a row, led by Asst. Principal and Mean Carlene drummer Rich Weber, raised over \$3000.00 for Camp Rising Sun Charitable Foundation by selling bracelets to friends and family. Camp Director Shaun Heffernan and Camper Mia Zito told the auditorium full of 5th and 6th graders all about Camp Rising Sun.

Northwest Sporting Goods

Postponed from early January due to lack of ice a huge crowd attended the First Annual Camp Rising Sun Ice Fishing Tournament, sponsored by Northwest Sporting Goods in Winsted, on February 23rd. The fish were definitely biting for our generous participants. Camper turned counselor Jordan Mann represented Camp Rising Sun at the event.

Knights of Columbus



The 16th Annual Beer Tasting sponsored by Hamden's Knights of Columbus Carmel Council on April 5th had a packed house over over 250 people. This awesome event was organized by Dave "da Coach" Koch, cancer survivor and father of CRS counselor Erika Koch. Attendees had the opportunity to sample all types of brews from 15 different microbreweries. Everything from blueberry and lemon flavored to the traditional IPA's and even one garlic flavored concoction. This event wasn't all about beer, there was a vast selection of some tasty food and a great raffle the included all types of beer memorabilia to decorate that man cave. While in it's 16th year this is the first year that Camp Rising Sun has been privileged enough to benefit from a portion of the proceeds. One first time attendee and longtime CRS support said "I am completed amazed at the amount of people here tonight, I had the opportunity to try different beers and I think I found a few new favorites for this summer"

In Memorial

Angelo Miceli,
we will always
remember the
times we shared
together.



Mini-Camp Recap: Snow Snow and More Snow!

Campers and counselors reunited this past March for Mini Camp weekend. Unlike past mini camps, this one had snow! Among many other activities, campers were able to enjoy snow tubing, cross-country skiing and some snowball fights.

Other activities included arts and crafts with Crafty Patty; candle making; shooting BB guns; karaoke; game room activity; video games; basketball; paintball; GaGa; floor hockey; an ice cream sundae bar and the weekend was topped off with Game

Show Night, where all the campers broke up into two teams of The Boys vs. The Girls. Campers had to answer trivia questions ranging from historic events to television shows. They also competed in physical battles such as hula hoops, limbo and tug of war!

CRS was also happy to welcome in several new campers and counselors who also enjoyed their first CRS experience! A great preview to camp week in August!

