



CAMP RISING SUN

It's Time to CELEBRATE!

We all enjoy celebrating the holidays. Now, imagine celebrating a year's worth of holidays – all within a single week! That's right, this summer, Camp Rising Sun campers and staff will enjoy a Thanksgiving Feast and a Halloween Haunted House on the same day. We'll eat a St. Patrick's Day lunch followed by a Cinco de Mayo dinner, then enjoy a brilliant 4th of July fireworks display. We'll even celebrate St. Joseph's Day in honor of good old Dr. Joe (by eating lots of pizza and taking a nap, of course!). Campers will participate in holiday-themed activities, like pumpkin carving, a "cupid" archery contest, and making gingerbread houses. And, of course, we'll have plenty of time for our 'usual' Camp activities like horseback riding,

arts & crafts, and swimming in the lake. We'll end the week with a New Year's Rockin' Eve Dance Party – and maybe get a little sleep...

Of course the best part of any holiday is celebrating with friends and family – what could be better than celebrating a week of holidays with our Camp Rising Sun family?



Our Staff Spotlight Shines on New Guy – Jason Atkins

"What's your deal, new guy?" inquired a curious camper, who noticed an unfamiliar face on the CRS bus trip to Ski Sundown back in the winter of 2006. The rookie was none other than Jason Atkins, then a first-year counselor and now the Program Director for CRS.

Though he is now a seasoned veteran, the "new guy" moniker has stuck. It is a fitting nickname, for Jason is forever coming up with "new" ideas for camp themes, activities and special visitors. Many of his colleagues at CRS rib him that they have a special folder on their computer for his "How do you like this idea?" e-mails. His creative talents and organizational skills keep the program fresh and running like a well oiled-machine.

Jason heard about CRS through his involvement with Relay for Life. "At a Relay for Life training event, I listened to a counselor and camper talk about what a

profound and enjoyable experience CRS had been for them. I knew immediately I wanted get involved."

At the end of the CRS summer session in 2006, Camp Coordinator Tina Saunders and Camp Directors Jeff Holt and Mike Donahue approached Jason about becoming Program Director. He graciously accepted the invitation and his suitability for the job is evident in the smiles of the campers as they participate in the daily program activities.

It is not all work and no play for Jason. At the end of the day, after he breathes a sigh of relief that the day has run smoothly, you can bet on seeing Jason sitting around a campfire chatting with the campers hanging out in Senior Lodge playing a game of Texas Hold 'Em. "This is my favorite part of the day, as it gives me a chance to take off my planning hat and really get to know these amazing kids."





Kids Night Out



to benefit Camp Rising Sun

Over 25 years of camping for kids with cancer

Wednesday, July 21, 2010

6:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.

Owenego Inn, 40 Linden Avenue, Branford, CT

\$25 Adults/\$10 Children (ages 3-15)

Dinner • Live Bands • Cash Bar • Silent Auction • Raffle



Kids Night Out will be held at the beautiful Owenego Inn on the shores of Long Island Sound in Branford. We are featuring two bands; **Mean Carlene** and **Vivid**. Bring a lawn chair, relax, and enjoy the show while helping to send these kids to camp.

This fund raiser is sponsored by the Camp Rising Sun Charitable Foundation and organized by the Camp Rising Sun staff and our camper families.

For tickets and information please call 203-481-7277

Tickets are also available on-line at www.camprisingsun.com



UPS Sponsors 2010 Poker Run Motorcycle Ride



Got a motorcycle? Love to ride? Then rev up your engine and do it in for a good cause. The Annual UPS Poker Ride for the Kids at Camp Rising Sun, to be held on Sunday, July 18th, roars off from the UPS Distribution Center in Watertown for a scenic ride through the Litchfield hills and ends up at JC Hooks for a cookout and festivities. Rain date is July 25th.

For additional information contact Dee at lcoll13@aol.com. Thanks to Dee, employees of UPS, and all you bikers who are helping us to send the kids to camp!

Three Cheers for Shelton Intermediate School Cheerleading Team



The Shelton Intermediate School Cheerleading team recently held a fundraiser for Camp Rising Sun. The team decorated and cut out an assortment of paper suns in a variety of sizes and sold them to friends and family. They held their final fundraising event March 4th at the Shelton Intermediate School Student vs. Faculty Basketball Game. A banner of all the paper suns was displayed during Camp Rising Sun's Mini-Camp weekend in March for all the campers and staff to see.

Through all their hard work the team was able to raise \$1250 to help pay for supplies for this summer's scrapbooking projects including photo printers! The check was presented to Camp Rising Sun camper Andrew Cordes and counselor Fred Samoskevich, both Shelton residents, at the fundraising ceremony. A big 'Thank You' goes out to the SIS Cheerleading team as well as everyone who purchased a sun from Camp Rising Sun!

Camp Rising Sun on the Radio

Did you catch any of the ads for Camp Rising Sun on the radio? Did you recognize the voice as our dear friend Bob from Bob's Discount Furniture? Our heartfelt thanks go to Bob and everyone at Bob's Discount Furniture for producing and placing the radio spot to help us to get the word out about Camp Rising Sun. Thanks also to the many radio stations for airing the spots free of charge as a Public Service Announcement.



Have you sent in your camper application yet?



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

Looking for a good time and the opportunity to help out camp? Join about 900 other people at the Annual Night Out to benefit Camp Rising Sun. The Annual Night Out is the largest fundraising event organized by Camp Rising Sun's volunteer staff. This fun filled event at the Owenego Beach and Tennis Club in Branford features two live bands, cook-out style dinner, kids' activities, raffle and silent auction. Camp Director Jeff Holt said "the over \$35,000 raised each year at the Annual Night Out is critical in keeping camp free to all campers" Holt added "I have no idea where we would be without the proceeds from this night". For tickets to this rain or shine event please visit www.camprisingsun.com.



2010 Dates to Remember

July 18

UPS Poker Run Motorcycle Ride
contact: lcoll13@aol.com

July 21

Night Out for the Kids at Owenego
contact: heff@branfordfire.com

August 22-27

Camp Week
Tina.Saunders@cancer.org

August 25

CRS Head Shave Fundraiser
contact: bgdg121@aol.com

October 9th

Hartford Marathon: Join the CRS team
as a runner or volunteer
contact: scapozza@gmail.com

**Thanks to our 2010
Fireworks on the
Beach Sponsor**



**The Daitch Family
and
HJ Promise Foundation**



Jordan's Way, Kids Making Quilts For Kids with Cancer

At the age of 10. 8 and 6, when most children are out playing, going about their normal lives in sports and play, cancer, became part of a normal day in the lives of Taylor, Jordan and Riley Mann. In 1997, Jordan was diagnosed with Ewing Sarcoma in his right hip.

He endured a year of chemotherapy and several surgeries to cure him of the cancer. During this time he received a quilt from his Aunt Lynn and his second grade classmates. He brought the quilt with him during his 42 week protocol of chemotherapy. It was a little bit of comfort from home which helped him feel secure and comfortable. The Mann children became accustomed to the daily procedures of a patient in treatment for cancer, and to them, and unfortunately like so many other children, it became just another part of their everyday lives.

It was later, when life was getting back to being somewhat normal, that Taylor started making quilts with a few of her friends to give to children with cancer. She thought it would be nice to brighten up the hospital rooms and their hearts with quilts crafted with love and prayers in every stitch. Riley and Jordan also helped make quilts. They named their group "Jordan's Way, Kids Making Quilts For Kids With Cancer."

Over the years, hundreds of children have received quilts from Jordan's Way. For Taylor, Jordan and Riley, it is their hope that each quilt will bring sunshine, colorful dreams and exciting adventures to all who use

them.

Taylor developed the story of Jordan's Way later to

help encourage sick

children to have courage even when they are frightened; to find even when they are feeling sad; and to always have days full of hopes and dreams. With Taylor's younger brother as her inspiration, Jordan's Way was written. In addition to the amazing medical care he received, Jordan found the courage and strength within himself to get through cancer. He is also reminded of the love that surrounds him every time he wraps the quilt around him.

In his own interpretation of the adventure in Jordan's Way, Riley fills the pages with bright and colorful illustrations. He hopes his illustrations will brighten a child's spirit and bring joy to his or her day.

The productions costs of this book were underwritten by the Camp Rising Sun Charitable Foundation. It is used to increase camp awareness and recruit campers, volunteers and supporters. To obtain a copy of Jordan's Way please visit www.camprisingsun.com.



In Loving Memory *We will always remember the times we spent together.*



Keisha Vernon, Camp Rising Sun Camper



Nick LaTorraca, Camp Rising Sun Camper







Camp Rising Sun
American Cancer Society
825 Brook Street
Rocky Hill, CT 06067

Return Service Requested

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Permit #385



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.