

# *camp rising sun* **news**

Camp Rising Sun Charitable Foundation • December 2013

*A place where kids  
with cancer have fun!*

## Looking Back on a Fun-Filled Week Celebrating 30 Years

Camp Week 2013 might have started on August 18 in Colebrook, CT, but our travels through time and space took us on quite an adventure. We started off by heading back to the 1980s for an arcade night, where skee-ball, Super Mario Bros. and even Pong were among the campers' favorites. It was then off to the 1970s for a beach party, then a drive-in movie (the movie choice, of course, was Ice Age 2!). We returned to the present for our trip to Lake Compounce, but promptly headed back to ancient Greece for an all-camp Olympic games. Next up was 1492 where campers discovered the new world – and lots of treasure – while navigating the high

seas in cardboard boats. After that, we zipped back to medieval times for a knight battle, a fire-breathing wizard, and a royal (utensil-free) banquet. We then wrapped up the week with our decades dance, where the music brought us, decade by decade, back to the present. While everyone wished we could travel back in time and have camp



week fun all over again, at least we have mini-camp weekend in March to look forward to!

## Camp Rising Sun and Connecticut Hockey

Join the Camp Rising Sun campers, staff and their families at the Bridgeport Sound Tigers game on Sunday, January 26th at 5:00 p.m. This is a great opportunity to support Camp Rising Sun and Connecticut Hockey. Campers and their families will be on the ice to hold the giant American Flag during the National Anthem. Join us on this exciting day. For tickets, visit [www.camprisingsun.com](http://www.camprisingsun.com) or email [shaun@camprisingsun.com](mailto:shaun@camprisingsun.com)

camprising  
sun.com  
by January  
17th.... and  
of course  
campers  
come free  
(but you  
must order  
their free ticket online by the January  
17th deadline.)



“CRS is an amazing place where my child can connect and act himself and where people all around understand and don't judge him. It is a bond that never is broken, a family forever!”

– Grace, parent of camper Dylan

### **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.*

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

[www.camprisingsun.com](http://www.camprisingsun.com)

## Camp Rising Sun Moves Forward Through Your Support

A bittersweet year for Camp Rising Sun. As we celebrated our thirtieth year of providing a place for kids with cancer to have fun we also said goodbye to our founding organization, the American Cancer Society, as they realign their mission away from pediatric cancer camps. During the past thirty years the American Cancer Society has helped our 100% volunteer organization grow from just 8 campers to nearly 120.

On October 1st the Camp Rising Sun Charitable Foundation took over the reins to guide camp. With 100% of our

volunteers remaining on board, we are ready to deliver many more years of the awesome camp experiences that our campers have become accustomed. The Camp Rising Sun Charitable Foundation was started in 2006, by a group of camp volunteers, with the sole mission to support Camp Rising Sun and ensure the longevity of the camp.

Over the past 7 years our volunteers, supporters and camper families have worked tirelessly organizing fundraising events and spreading the word about Camp Rising Sun. We thank each and

every one of you for your past support and hope we can count on you in the future as we prepare for the next 30 years.

See you in 2014!!

### Camp Rising Sun Charitable Foundation Board of Directors

Bob Kaufman, President  
Shaun Heffernan, Secretary-Treasurer  
Joe McNamara, MD  
Michael Donahue  
Jeff Holt  
Jill Eder  
Irvin Jennings, MD

## We love a Challenge - *The Connecticut Challenge Bike Ride*

On July 27, 2013, Team Camp Rising Sun rode in its first CT Challenge bike ride. Twelve team members, including campers Jessica Ellison and James McQuaid, joined over 1,000 riders on the back roads of Fairfield and Litchfield counties. In it's 9th year, the CT Challenge bike ride is the primary fundraiser for the CT Challenge, a non-profit organization that supports cancer survivorship programs around the state. Because they wanted to find a way to support camp, the CT Challenge has allowed 60% of all of Team Camp Rising Sun's fundraising efforts to come directly back to camp.

The 2013 team raised almost \$9,000 total, of which over \$5,300 will come back to Camp Rising Sun.

In 2014, we are looking to grow the team at the CT Challenge bike ride, which will be Friday - Saturday, July 25-26, 2014. We hope to see you out on the bike, supporting Camp Rising Sun!



## Camp Rising Sun New Contact Information

PO Box 472, Branford, CT 06405  
Phone: 203-481-7277

### Our Director Team

Mike Donahue: [mike@camprisingsun.com](mailto:mike@camprisingsun.com)  
Shaun Heffernan: [shaun@camprisingsun.com](mailto:shaun@camprisingsun.com)  
Jason Atkins: [jason@camprisingsun.com](mailto:jason@camprisingsun.com)  
Fred Samoskevich: [fred@camprisingsun.com](mailto:fred@camprisingsun.com)  
Tina Saunders: [tina@camprisingsun.com](mailto:tina@camprisingsun.com)

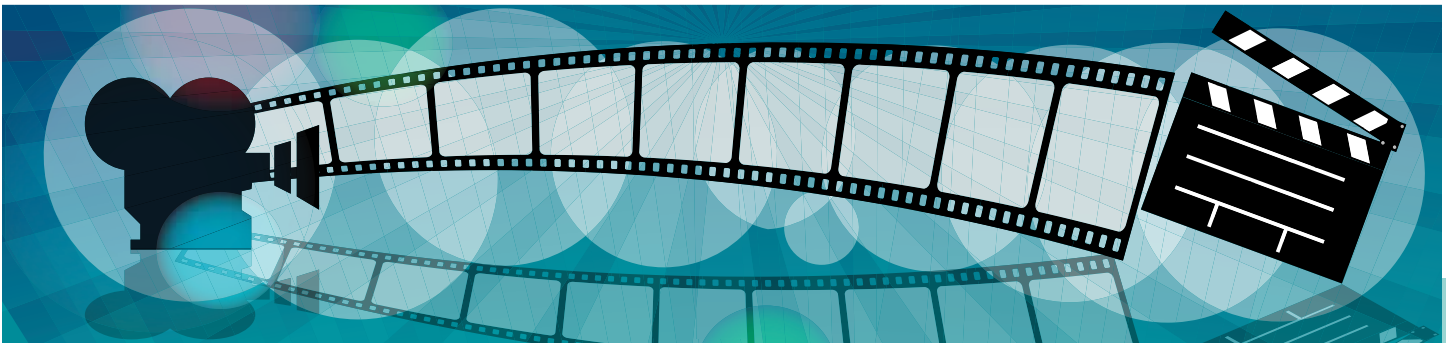
Camp Rising Sun  
invites campers  
from *Camp Hope*  
in Rhode Island  
to join our CRS  
family this summer  
– Welcome!

# Camp Rising Sun Salutes the Kelly Family

Camp Rising Sun celebrated our 30th year anniversary in 2013 but we also celebrated 30 years of service from the Kelly/Donahue Family. It all started with Mary Kelly (now O'Shea) R.N. who was our first camp nurse. In the ensuing years, Mary started to recruit family members to volunteer. They in turn recruited. Cousins,

siblings, aunts and uncles signed on. In each of our thirty years there has been at least one member of the family, and usually many, on the CRS staff. Walking through camp in 2013, you might come across Director Mike Donahue, Head Counselors Lynn Kelly, Amy Rawden and Amanda Altieri, Camp Nurse Marybeth

Kelly and Cabin Counselors Tara Kelly, Tori Reynolds and Mary Kate Cervin; all members of the clan. But let us not forget the rest who have given their time over the years – Tricia, John, Billy, Helen, Liz, Meg, Ryan and Corey. (Apologies if I have omitted someone). Many thanks to each one of you!



## Call In on December 20th to Support Camp Rising Sun

As each of us prepares for the holiday season; Mr. Chuck Lewis' class at Haddam Killingworth High School prepare for their 25th Annual Holiday Show. Camp Rising Sun is honored to be the charity for this year's show. The Holiday Show is a telethon which supporters have

the opportunity to call in their pledges, 860-554-5490, during its live airing on December 20th from 8:00 am – 11:30 am or throughout the following two weeks when it is re-broadcast multiple time each day. The telethon will feature campers and their families as well as camp

volunteers, supporters and of course Dr. Joe. You don't have to live in the Killingworth area to see this award winner production that has raised over \$450,000 for various charities over the past 25 years. You can watch it statewide on U-Verse as well as on the web.

### Where to view the telethon:

- On the Web 24/7: <http://www.hktvholidayshow.org>
- Encore Presentations: December 20th – January 2nd – 8:00 am, 2:00 pm and 7:00 pm
- Comcast Channel 18: in Clinton, Westbrook, Old Saybrook, Essex, Chester, Deep River, Durham, Killingworth, Haddam.
- On AT&T U-Verse statewide on Channel 99 scroll to Killingworth and select VSETV



Check out all of our events on our Facebook page  
[www.facebook.com/camprisingsun](http://www.facebook.com/camprisingsun) or [www.camprisingsun.com](http://www.camprisingsun.com)

Planning a fundraiser to support Camp Rising Sun?

Contact [info@camprisingsun.com](mailto:info@camprisingsun.com)





## QuestCares Wallingford Goes to Camp Bringing Peace and Love

QuestCares, Wallingford participated in an event that left them all speechless. On a bus generously donated by Dattco, we went to camp. A committee of fifteen employees spent months raising money with challenges, raffles, bake sales and more to put on a barbeque night for Camp Rising Sun. Having done it in 2012, the group could not wait to do it again. The theme this year was traveling through time and we chose 1960, using “Peace”, “Flower Power” and “Love” as our theme. We transformed the beach to festive area with decorations and games for all to play. Over two hundred people were served at the barbeque of hamburgers, hot dogs and veggie-burgers. The volunteers stayed and danced with the group of campers and staff and enjoyed the fireworks display. “The best part about this event for us is the interaction with the children. These children, though facing a struggle in life, are happy. We see the reward of all of our hard work come back to us in the smiles on the children’s faces.”

Lynn Boorman goes on to say, “Cancer affects everyone in one



way or another. When you meet these children, you can’t help but feel you want to fight harder for the cure.”

**Will you be the next lucky person to take a 6 night Photo Safari in South Africa? A trip to Zulu Nyala will be offered in our Silent Auction at the Annual Night Out for the Kids. This year’s event will be on Wednesday, July 16th at the Owenego Inn in Branford. Mark your calendar and start planning an exotic vacation.**



*Personal pictures taken on safari October 2013.*

## Hartford Marathon 2013

Camp Rising Sun, an official charity at the Hartford Marathon, fielded a team of 26 runners and 20 volunteers. Our runners ran their choice of the 5K, half marathon or marathon. Our volunteers were very busy keeping the runners hydrated at a water station in East Hartford. For their efforts, over \$18,000 was raised to help give our kids a super fantastic week at camp.

We are forming a committee now to help grow our team for next year. Email [scapozza@hotmail.com](mailto:scapozza@hotmail.com) or [info@camprisingsun.com](mailto:info@camprisingsun.com) to sign on.



A group of our volunteers spending time on the course helping out at a water station.



Camp Rising Sun's 2013 running and fundraising team. A huge thank you to all who sponsored our runners.

# 2014

## Camp Rising Sun Calendar of Events

Friday, December 20

**Haddam Killingworth HS TELETHON**

Contact [Shaun@camprisingsun.com](mailto:Shaun@camprisingsun.com)

Sunday, January 26

**Camp Rising Sun Family Hockey Night**

Contact [Shaun@camprisingsun.com](mailto:Shaun@camprisingsun.com)

March 22-23

**Mini-Camp Weekend**

Contact [Tina@camprisingsun.com](mailto:Tina@camprisingsun.com)

Wednesday, July 16

**Annual Kids Night Out  
Owenego Inn, Branford, CT**

July 25-26

**Connecticut Challenge Bike Ride**

Contact [scapozza@hotmail.com](mailto:scapozza@hotmail.com)

August 17-22

**Camp Rising Sun Camp Week**

Camp Jewell, Colebrook, CT

Contact [Tina@camprisingsun.com](mailto:Tina@camprisingsun.com)

Saturday, October 11

**Team Camp Rising Sun Runs  
the Hartford Marathon**

Bushnell Park, Hartford, CT

Contact [scapozza@hotmail.com](mailto:scapozza@hotmail.com)



When you shop at AmazonSmile, Amazon will donate to Camp Rising Sun Charitable Foundation Inc. Support us every time you shop.



Until there's a  
**CURE,**  
there's **CAMP**









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

**Return Service Requested**

**Get Ready for Mini-Camp Weekend, March 22-23, 2014!**



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.



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