

Then and Now Former camper
Matt Lane enjoyed Camp
Sunshine programs during his
teenage years and now is
giving back wherever he can.
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Behind the Scenes Heroes Meet
the four office volunteers who
donate their time each week to
help the staff, ultimately benefiting
the children and families of Camp
Sunshine. **Page 4**

Keencheefoonee Road Race It
was another record breaking
year in terms of fundraising
for this annual 5K run/2K
walk. **Page 8**

C A M P S U N S H I N E



POSTCARDS

Sunshine 2U Brings a Ray of Sunshine to Kids in the Hospital



In the summer of 2012, six-year-old Lake Bozman spent a week at camp, doing normal camp activities such as fishing, archery, arts and crafts and singing campfire songs. And he never left the hospital.

Lake, who had been diagnosed with acute myeloid leukemia just a few months earlier, was participating in Camp Sunshine's Sunshine 2U, where camp and other activities are brought to the Aflac Cancer and Blood Disorders Center at Children's Healthcare of Atlanta, at both the Egleston and Scottish Rite campuses.

"He loved singing the songs, doing art projects and the fishing," says his mother, Anna Bozman Thompson. "It got him out of his bed, out of his room and playing with a roomful of children."

Sunshine 2U started in 2006 as a way for children who couldn't attend regular summer camp to still be able to be a part of camp. Camp Sunshine staff brings in everything needed for the weeklong camp, with both morning and afternoon activities, which could include anything from sports activities to panning for gold to making tie-dye t-shirts.

Sunshine
2U

"For the kids who can't come to camp because of a hospital stay, we bring the camp to them," says Camp Sunshine Program Director Ann Baker. "It's a way for them to be connected to Camp Sunshine and still participate."

Based on the success of the summer camp, Camp Sunshine extended Sunshine 2U year round in 2008, bringing the fun and camaraderie of Camp Sunshine to both the inpatient and outpatient clinics of Egleston and Scottish Rite once a month. In 2015, the program was expanded to the Dwaine and Cynthia Willett Children's Hospital of Savannah.

For the monthly Sunshine 2U, the staff brings in craft activities, which are usually held in the playroom. It gets children out of their rooms for a fun activity and gives them a chance to socialize with their peers. These activities can also provide a much needed distraction from their treatment and its side effects. It's also a great way for children with cancer and their families to learn about Camp Sunshine.



DEAR CAMP SUNSHINE FRIENDS,

No sentiment better describes this issue of *Postcards* than the words of the creative force behind "Peter Pan," author J.M. Barrie: "Those who bring sunshine to the lives of others cannot keep it from themselves."

We know from talking to people who volunteer at Camp Sunshine that the joy they experience is a mirror of the joy they bring to others. You'll see this too, starting with our cover story on the Sunshine 2U program.

The program began as a bright idea to bring the summer camp experience to children in the hospital and has expanded to include activities throughout the year. Sunshine 2U is a living testament to the idea that Camp Sunshine is more than a physical place. It's a concept that can bring happiness and a feeling of inclusion to children even if they're not able to venture to an actual campground.

OUR MISSION STATEMENT

Camp Sunshine enriches the lives of Georgia's children with cancer and their families through recreational, educational and support programs.

You can also see the sunshine in the amazing camp counselors who voluntarily run or walk the Keencheefoonee Road Race year after year. Beyond giving up a week of their lives to volunteer at camp, these are people who help organize the fundraiser and bring in hundreds of thousands of dollars in donations. Seeing these volunteers give so much to Camp Sunshine fills me with enormous pride and gratitude.

Our Volunteer Spotlight this issue shines on four people who drop by our offices regularly to share their time and skill to make Camp Sunshine run. While the ways in which they serve us vary, why they do it has a common denominator, which you'll discover in this story. We're so appreciative of our office volunteers.

We also visit with an extraordinary volunteer, Matt Lane, who is the subject of this issue's Then and Now feature. Matt first got to know Camp Sunshine as a shy 13-year-old camper, and he's come a long way from that first summer, in 1999. Today, he helps us out in a number of capacities, including as the volunteer unit head for Teen Week. Matt truly has a gift for putting others before himself.

Finally, to reference another classic author – C.S. Lewis, of "The Chronicles of Narnia" fame – we were thrilled to welcome Camp Sunshine families to the spring production of "The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe" at the Alliance Theatre. The signature fundraising event was made possible through the generosity of individuals and companies, all of whom contributed a piece of their own sunshine to provide a day of escape to the land of Narnia while raising funds for Camp Sunshine. – Sally Hale, Executive Director

Go Gold for Childhood Cancer Awareness

Five Ways to Go Gold

- ✦ Turn your social media profile "Gold" for September - use Camp Sunshine's social media resources to help
- ✦ Tweet using #gogold
- ✦ Plan a gold-themed fundraiser, birthday party or awareness-building event like a bake sale, fun run or performance
- ✦ Decorate your office, mailbox, car antenna or baby stroller with a gold ribbon
- ✦ Make a donation to Camp Sunshine in honor or memory of someone you care about

Check out Camp Sunshine's Pinterest boards for inspiration to "Go Gold" www.pinterest.com/mycampsunshine

September is Childhood Cancer Awareness Month and Camp Sunshine is asking friends and supporters to go gold to help raise awareness and resources. From tying a gold ribbon on your mailbox to hanging a workplace banner to planning a fundraiser to making a financial donation, you can join Camp Sunshine in taking action against childhood cancer.

Cancer is the leading cause of death by disease among children in the U.S., with more than 15,000 new cases diagnosed each year. Approximately 430 children in Georgia are diagnosed with cancer each year. With your help, we can be a driving force in increasing awareness of childhood cancer and enhancing financial support for children fighting this disease – and the clinicians and researchers making inroads against it.

For more information about how you can make a difference, visit mycampsunshine.com. Go gold in September, and help beat childhood cancer! ✦

THEN & NOW

Matt's Story



“Camp Sunshine gave me so much as a camper, that I want to give back so that future campers can have the best time of their life. Like I did.”

– Matt (far right)

Two weeks after he was diagnosed with non-Hodgkin Lymphoma in October 1999, Matt Lane attended his first Camp Sunshine activity: Teen Retreat – a weekend of outdoor activities designed for kids ages 13–18.

“The nurses at Scottish Rite were telling me that I had to check out Camp Sunshine,” Matt remembers. “So I did, and I have never looked back.”

Though Matt, who was 13 at the time, was willing to give Camp Sunshine a try, he says he really didn’t know what to expect. “I was a big introvert,” he says, “and I didn’t know anyone. I was also so new into my cancer diagnosis. Everything was moving really fast.”

But by the end of the campfire on the first night, Matt had made friendships that would last through his teenage years.

Matt, who grew up in Greensboro, Ga., underwent treatment for two and a half years, and has been healthy ever since. Through his treatment and beyond, Matt attended every Teen Retreat and summer camp until he was 18. He also went on the Washington, D.C., trip and the Teen Challenge program with Outward Bound.

“Attending these programs was a great way for me to get out of town and be with my friends,” he says. “I looked forward to them every time.”



As soon as he was old enough, Matt began volunteering during Teen Week at Camp Sunshine, his way of giving back to a place that has meant so much to him. His first few summers, he spent working with the campers in sports and games. This summer marked his seventh year as a summer camp volunteer, where he now

works as a unit head, overseeing all the activities during the week.

And his volunteering is not limited to summer camp. He has helped out with Family Camps, Teen Retreats, Hit a Homerun, Sunshine 2U, as well as in the Camp Sunshine office. Most recently he assisted the staff with scheduling all of the summer camp activities for both weeks.

Matt graduated from Georgia Tech in 2009 with a degree in electrical engineering and worked in the nuclear power industry for six years. In August 2014, Matt returned to Georgia Tech to work on his MBA at night, and will graduate at the end of the summer. With his new educational background, Matt transitioned out of engineering and into supply chain when he took a job at Home Depot as a Senior Logistics Analyst. In October, he will marry his fiancé, Jessica Holcomb.

With a busy life, Matt still makes volunteering at Camp Sunshine a priority.

“Camp Sunshine gave me so much as a camper, that I want to give back so that future campers can have the best time of their life,” he says. “Like I did.”✳



VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT

Working Behind the Scenes: The Office Volunteers

In putting together each Camp Sunshine program, a lot of work goes on behind the scenes to make it successful. Whether its copying thousands of pages to go in the 250 volunteer notebooks for summer camp or making phone calls to confirm attendance to an event or stuffing envelopes for a mailing or printing nametags, there is a dedicated team of office volunteers who give their time each week to help keep things running smoothly at Camp Sunshine.

Teresa Hill, Marsy Thomas, Reba Howard and Brian Lusty are all retirees who were looking for something meaningful to do with their new-found spare time, and happened upon Camp Sunshine.

For Teresa, it was through personal experience. She lost her 15-year-old daughter, Jordan, to cancer in November 2005. Though



Teresa Hill

Jordan was too sick to ever experience camp, Teresa and her husband came to know Camp Sunshine through the bereavement group "Remember the Sunshine," held monthly at Camp Sunshine House.

"It literally saved our lives," Teresa recalls. "We met other parents who were going through the same thing and they understood what we were feeling. We made incredible friends in that group."

So when Teresa retired from her job at a financial services company three years ago, she decided to give back to the organization that had helped her so much. Now she comes every Wednesday and helps with everything from filing to mailing to organizing.

Marsy was also looking for some kind of volunteer opportunity after she retired and moved to the Decatur area in 2012. She just happened to be walking by Camp Sunshine and decided to check it out. "I had no idea what they did, but I walked up to the front door and rang the bell to see what it was all about," Marsy says. Executive Director Sally Hale opened the door and spent a few minutes with Marsy, explaining what Camp Sunshine was and



Marsy Thomas

then gave her some forms to fill out. Within weeks, she was working one day a week, helping wherever she could.

A friend encouraged Reba, a retired nurse, to volunteer at Camp Sunshine, especially since she was living in a retirement community directly across the street. For the last six years, she has volunteered for a few hours one day a week, doing "whatever they need me to do." She says the office environment at Camp Sunshine is what keeps her coming back. "The staff is so energetic, creative and kind," she says. "It is great to be in that kind of atmosphere. I like knowing what I do helps the staff do their jobs better. They are always so appreciative."



Reba Howard

Reba was the one that suggested to Brian that he volunteer at Camp Sunshine, and he became a regular office volunteer last year. Like the others, he was looking for something worthwhile to do with his time. "I like the feeling that I can contribute in a small way to such a worthy organization," he says. "I am happy to be a part of the team." Though he also helps out wherever needed, he says he has become an expert on using the office shredder!



Brian Lusty

All four volunteers feel that doing the behind the scenes work takes the burden off of the staff so they focus on doing their jobs to benefit the children and families of Camp Sunshine.

"The staff puts so much care and love into each task because they care so much about the children and their parents," Teresa says. "I love to help them – even if it is just filing."

"I feel like I am going to be with my friends," Marsy adds. "I look forward to going to Camp Sunshine every time." ✨

A Match Made in Giving



Here's an easy way you could maximize your donation to Camp Sunshine: check to see if your company has a matching gift program. Just contact your company's human resources department to find out. Matching gifts instantly multiply your generosity, and they really help us deliver our programs year round!

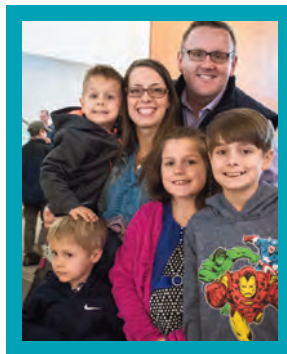


Families Enjoy “The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe”

Camp Sunshine Presents is Camp Sunshine's annual signature fundraising event at the Alliance Theatre. This year, over 1,000 Camp Sunshine campers, families, supporters and friends were treated to the performance of “The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe” on March 20.

Based on the beloved novel, this magical production portrays the adventures of four siblings through the wardrobe and into the land of Narnia. C.S. Lewis's classic of love, faith, courage, and giving, with its triumph of good over evil, is one of the most enjoyed stories of our time and especially resonates with our families facing the challenges of childhood cancer.

Through the generosity of our Sunshine Friends, Host Committee and corporate sponsors, including our Presenting Sponsor, The Coca-Cola Company, those attending enjoyed a magical day at the theatre. We appreciate the commitment of our event co-chairs, Lee Loughran and Valerie Love, along with the amazing support of many, raising over \$180,000 to support the year-round programs at Camp Sunshine. This wonderful partnership and tradition with the Alliance Theatre will continue into 2017. Save the date for “Cinderella and Fella” on March 19, 2017. ✨



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Sunshine 2U Brings a Ray of Sunshine to Kids in the Hospital, continued from page 1

“Sunshine 2U is more than just fun and interaction,” says Becca Johnson, a Certified Child Life Specialist at Children’s Healthcare of Atlanta’s Egleston campus. “It makes the hospital less scary. When they are doing an activity, they are making decisions and in control. To the kids that know about Sunshine 2U, it’s something to look forward to.”

Those who are in isolation or are not feeling well enough to leave their rooms are

given a bag that contains the activity.

“The bags make them feel included,” says Chelsea Key, a Certified Child Life Specialist at Children’s Healthcare of Atlanta’s Scottish Rite campus. “Knowing that someone cares and wants you to have fun even if you’re not feeling well or can’t come out makes them feel special and not so isolated.”

Lake passed away in May 2015, just shy of his ninth birthday. His mother says that

activities like Sunshine 2U and attending regular summer camp helped him live the three years he had with cancer as normally as possible, and for that she is very grateful.

“It helped me so much to see him smile and be happy,” Anna says. “And it got me out of his hospital room and around other parents who were experiencing the same thing. Sunshine 2U is good for the soul.” ✨



CAMP SUNSHINE POSTCARDS

For any House program, we ask that you RSVP to 404-325-7979

SEPTEMBER 2016

SPA SYDELL NIGHT At Camp Sunshine House

September 12 and November 14

6:00 PM-8:00 PM

Call to RSVP

Come have dinner and be pampered by the talented professionals from Spa SydeII.

SPECIAL EVENTS

BEREAVEMENT WORKSHOP

With Alan Wolfelt

September 7

7:00 PM-9:00 PM

For Camp Sunshine Community and Professionals.

BEREAVEMENT WORKSHOP

With Alan Wolfelt

September 8

9:00 AM-3:30 PM

For Professionals and Camp Sunshine Volunteers.

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
				1 Remembering the Sunshine Family Night	2	3
4	5 Labor Day Holiday (Office Closed)	6 Sunshine 2U at AFLAC Cancer Center/Egleston	7 Bereavement Workshop	8 Bereavement Workshop Sunshine 2U - Savannah	9	10 * Preschool Apple Orchard Program Wild Adventures in Valdost
11	12 Spa SydeII Night	13	14 Sunshine 2U at AFLAC Cancer Center/Scottish Rite	15	16	17 School Age Overnight →
18 →	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

* ATLANTA BRAVES CHILDHOOD CANCER AWARENESS DAY

September 10

Turner Field

For Families, Survivors and Friends
www.Braves.com/ccawareness

COFFEE FOR A CAUSE

Coffee proceeds at all Race Trac gas stations in Georgia will benefit Camp Sunshine. Watch for announcement for dates on Facebook!

OCTOBER 2016

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
						1
2	3	4 Sunshine 2U at AFLAC Cancer Center/Egleston	5 Sunshine 2U at AFLAC Cancer Center/Scottish Rite	6 Remembering the Sunshine Family Night	7 Family Camp at Camp Twin Lakes-Rutledge →	8
9 →	10	11	12	13 Sunshine 2U - Savannah	14 Family Camp at Camp Twin Lakes-Rutledge →	15
16 →	17	18	19	20	21 Remembering the Sunshine Family Camp at Camp Twin Lakes-Rutledge →	22
23 → Fall Festival	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					



Connect with Camp Sunshine online to stay up to date on the latest news and happenings! Join us at www.facebook.com/campsunshine, twitter.com/mycampsunshine, [Pinterest.com/mycampsunshine](https://www.pinterest.com/mycampsunshine) and [Instagram.com/mycampsunshine](https://www.instagram.com/mycampsunshine)



For any House program, we ask that you **RSVP to 404-325-7979**

NOVEMBER 2016

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
		1 Sunshine 2U at AFLAC Cancer Center/Egleston	2 Sunshine 2U at AFLAC Cancer Center/Scottish Rite	3 Remembering the Sunshine Family Night	4	5
6	7	8	9	10 Seasonal Sunshine Thanksgiving Family Night Sunshine 2U - Savannah	11	12
13	14 Spa Sydell Night	15	16	17	18 Teen Retreat at Camp Twin Lakes-Rutledge	19
20	21	22	23	24 Thanksgiving Holiday (Office Closed)	25	26
27	28	29	30			

SAVE THESE DATES

January 2017
Winter Dance and Lock In

March 19, 2017
Cinderella and Fella
at the Alliance Theatre

March 26, 2017
Spring Fling

WHAT'S NEXT? Planning for College

PROGRAM FOR JUNIORS AND SENIORS IN HIGH SCHOOL

September
6:00 PM - 7:30 PM
Camp Sunshine House

Featured Speaker: Dave Graves,
Senior Associate Director of
Admissions, Operations & Evaluation,
University of Georgia

Topics to Include:

- Navigating Admission Process
- Getting into the College of Your Choice
- Scholarships for Survivors

RSVP required. Call (404) 325-7979

DECEMBER 2016

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
				1 Remembering the Sunshine Family Night	2	3
4	5	6 Sunshine 2U at AFLAC Cancer Center/Egleston	7 Sunshine 2U at AFLAC Cancer Center/Scottish Rite	8 Sunshine 2U - Savannah	9	10
11 Holiday Party at Camp Sunshine House	12	13	14	15 Young Adult Holiday Party at Camp Sunshine House	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23 Office Closed	24
25	26 Office Closed	27	28	29	30	31

REGIONAL PROGRAMMING

We now provide programming in all areas of the state in addition to programs in the Metro Atlanta area. Check out our website (www.mycamp-sunshine.com), the newsletter and your mail for programs coming to your area.



CAMP SUNSHINE®

A ray of hope for children with cancer.™

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C A M P S U N S H I N E P O S T C A R D S

Volunteers Make Keencheefoonee Road Race Another Great Success

Each Tuesday during the two weeks of summer camp, enthusiastic Camp Sunshine volunteers get up before breakfast to either run a 5K or walk a 2K race – while raising thousands of dollars for Camp Sunshine.

This is the Keencheefoonee Road Race, Camp Sunshine’s largest annual fundraising event planned and run by volunteer counselors who raise money in the months prior to camp to support Camp Sunshine’s year round programs for children with cancer and their families.

Over the past 16 years, our volunteer staff has raised more than \$2.5 million by asking friends, families and corporate sponsors to support Camp Sunshine. This year 126 volunteers participated in the race while 60 remained in the cabins with the campers during the running of the race. The volunteers brought in contributions from over 1,700 donors and reached the goal of \$300,000, making the Keencheefoonee Road Race another huge success! *

