

**Make the Sunshine Last**  
Have you ever considered a legacy gift to Camp Sunshine? By including camp in your estate planning now you can extend your support for years to come. **Page 2**

**From Loss, Volunteer Finds Purpose**  
Longtime and well-loved counselor Marc Tardiff lost his brother to cancer many years ago. He finds purpose in his commitment as a Camp Sunshine volunteer. **Page 3**

**RaceTrac Brews Up Fundraiser**  
RaceTrac's "Coffee for a Cause" perked up year-end giving to Camp Sunshine as customers purchased coffee that tastes good...and does good. **Page 4**

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



# POSTCARDS

## Helpful Programs Await New Families At Any Time of Year

*Summer Camp might be the largest and best known Camp Sunshine program, but it is only one of many programs offered throughout the year for children with cancer and their families. A family doesn't have to wait for summer camp to take part in a program that could help their child now. As Program Director Terri Sexton, LMSW, points out, every family is unique and can set their own pace about participating in camp programs. This is the story of how the Farrell family of Suwanee stepped into the Sunshine.*

In February 2009, soccer standout Jordyn Farrell started experiencing exhaustion, fevers, and a swollen abdomen.

Just days before her 16th birthday, Jordyn was diagnosed with a germ cell tumor of the abdomen, a rare condition in children and teens. At Children's Healthcare of Atlanta at Scottish Rite, she underwent surgery to remove a tumor the size of a basketball. With the cancer in remission, Jordyn finished the school year at North Gwinnett High, where her twin sisters, Brenna and Kaelyn, two years younger than Jordyn, also attend.

In August, however, exhaustion set in again and at her six-month checkup,

doctors found more tumors. Jordyn began chemotherapy. On October 30th, she had her last chemotherapy. Her most recent CT scans and ultrasounds have shown no evidence of new cancer growth.



**"The atmosphere is so open and honest that you feel safe to talk about your experience. But the conversations don't have to be just about cancer."**

— Jordyn Farrell, camper

While the journey has been extremely difficult, the Farrells, including parents Nick and Cherri and all three daughters, have found solace in Camp Sunshine. Jordyn first learned about camp while undergoing chemotherapy. First she attended Camp Sunshine's college admissions counseling meeting with her dad. They both liked what they saw and heard. This gave Jordyn the confidence to try Teen Group North, which meets the second Wednesday of each month in Johns Creek

*Continued on Page 5*

OUR MISSION STATEMENT

Camp Sunshine enriches the lives of children with cancer and their families through recreational, educational and support programs allowing them to share similar experiences and to participate in activities that promote normal childhood development as they cope with the challenges of childhood cancer.



DEAR CAMP SUNSHINE FRIENDS,

*Creative giving* is a term that is used a lot today. In fact, if you google creative giving, you'll find close to 49 million results! Basically, creative giving refers to unique, individual ways that people give to a cause or organization near and dear to their hearts. It means thinking outside the box and giving in an inspired manner.

The term may be popular right now, but at Camp Sunshine creative giving has always been in style. Throughout 27 years, the giving spirit has taken countless forms as friends, volunteers and donors continually come up with innovative, meaningful ways to support our programs. This edition of *Postcards* is brimming with examples.

RaceTrac's highly successful "Coffee for a Cause" epitomizes creative giving. RaceTrac CEO Carl Bolch, Jr. and his wife Susan are longtime supporters of Camp Sunshine and both serve on the Board of Directors. When they learned donations were down due to the economy, they launched a creative fundraising campaign tied to the sales of RaceTrac's popular coffee. Who knew a cup of joe could not only taste good, but also do good? We also salute the sponsors of Camp Sunshine Day at Big Apple Circus. Our campers and families are positively enthralled by the creative force of this unique circus; the generous giving of our sponsors makes the magic possible.

The creative giving of time and talent is one of the greatest gifts an individual can offer our campers and their families. Our Volunteer Spotlight tells of Marc Tardif's dedication to camp. From loss, Marc has found great purpose in his volunteer efforts, and now it is a true family affair, as Marc's father, JP, also joins in. In this edition, we also outline another type of creative giving – how you can give even beyond your lifetime by remembering Camp Sunshine with a legacy gift.

Continued on Page 4

MOVING?

Have you moved recently? Are you about to move? Do we need to change your mailing address? Contact Chanteasea@mycampsunshine.com or call 404-325-7979, ext. 10.

Lasting Sunshine: Consider Camp in Your Estate Planning

Twenty-seven years ago, Camp Sunshine Founder Dorothy Jordan, then a pediatric nurse caring for children with chronic illness, had an idea: why not organize a summer camp week for children with cancer? From a one-week outing for 44 children, Camp Sunshine has grown to a year-round program touching the lives of more than 900 families across the state.

It takes vision, planning and action to make a dream come true. Your ongoing support is vital, as we expand our programs and reach out to more and more children in Georgia, and your annual gifts are deeply appreciated. In fact, we couldn't do what we do without you. But have you ever considered extending your support into the future by including Camp Sunshine in your estate and long-term financial planning?

**Make Camp Sunshine a Part of Your Legacy**

Children with cancer need programs that offer love, support, fun, acceptance and hope. By planning and acting today, you can ensure your continued support of camp programs for years to come. A planned gift through your will or trust will have lasting influence on campers and their families. Moreover, planned giving can offer tax advantages and benefit your family's financial future.

Talk to your personal adviser, and contact Sally Hale at [sally@mycampsunshine.com](mailto:sally@mycampsunshine.com) or 404-325-7979. Your response will be kept strictly confidential. Your foresight will bring lasting sunshine to campers and their families.

Please take a moment to complete and return this form for our records.

Dear Camp Sunshine,

- ☐ I have included Camp Sunshine in my will or other planned giving arrangements.
- ☐ I am interested in learning more. Please contact me.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Daytime phone \_\_\_\_\_ Evening phone \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

**Return to:** Sally Hale, Executive Director, Camp Sunshine, 1850 Clairmont Road, Decatur, GA 30033

## VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT

## From Loss, Marc Tardif Finds Purpose

A longtime and well-loved cabin counselor, Marc lost his younger brother to cancer many years ago. Marc was a student at the University of Georgia when David died at the age of 18. "David really got involved with camp," Marc recalled. "First, he went on the Teen Trip to Washington, D.C. and loved it. Then he went to Summer Camp." As a means of support and connection, Camp Sunshine played an important role for the whole family.

One year after David died, Marc applied to be a counselor at Camp Sunshine. Today, 15 Summer Camps (not to mention innumerable other volunteer positions) later, Marc is as much a part of a camp as friendship bracelets. "When I first started volunteering, I never thought that I'd be doing this every year—I never thought that far ahead," he said. "But now I never doubt it; I can't imagine not going to camp every year and being part of this."

Early on, Marc was paired with Scott Pettite as cabin co-counselors for 13-year-olds boy. They enjoyed their group so much that they kept



**"I can't imagine not going to camp every year and being part of this."**

— Marc Tardif

moving up with the boys every year. When the boys reached 18, Marc and Scott hit their stride. "I like that age group," Marc said. "I like how quickly they can go from being the guys who are too cool to socialize with anybody in the dining hall to the guys who, by the end of the week, are leading everybody in the conga line."

Marc graduated from UGA in 1996 with a bachelor's degree in agricul-

tural engineering and returned there for his MBA. He worked for years in construction management and now is tackling a research and development project which takes him to San Antonio five days a week, returning to his home in Atlanta on the weekends. It is a demanding schedule, yet Marc finds time to volunteer not only for Summer Camp but also for many other Camp Sunshine activities, including Sibling Camp weekend, Remember the Sunshine weekend and Teen Retreat weekend.

"A prerequisite for my job has always been that I get a week off for Summer Camp," he said. In college, Marc painted houses in the summer and could more easily take off. When he landed his first full-time job, his employer was somewhat hesitant about giving him time off for camp. When Marc returned and showed his employer a camp yearbook and brochure, his employer "got it" and has since been very supportive of Marc's volunteer work.

Marc enjoys running, hiking, biking and snowboarding, but his real passion is his volunteer work. His favorite camp activity is the graduation night and bonfire: "It's a quieter time, when everybody gets a chance to really talk with each other, share stories and just remember all the fun they've had together." Another highlight is that for the past several summers his Camp Sunshine family has included his father, JP, who volunteers at the horse barn. "It is great to see him there," Marc said. "It reinforces what camp has meant to my family."\*





## COMMUNITY PARTNER

## RaceTrac's "Coffee for a Cause" Perks Up Giving



Camp Sunshine salutes RaceTrac gasoline and convenience stores for brewing a highly successful, year-end campaign which raised more than \$28,500 for camp programs. From December 21-23, all proceeds from RaceTrac's coffee sales at its Georgia locations were donated to Camp Sunshine during "Coffee for a Cause."

RaceTrac CEO Carl Bolch, Jr. and his wife Susan are 25-year supporters of Camp Sunshine and both serve on the Board of Directors. When donations to camp slowed in 2009 due to the economy, these Camp Sunshine advocates took action. Capitalizing on the popularity of the coffee sold at RaceTrac

stores statewide, they launched "Coffee for a Cause."

Fun signage, featuring Camp Sunshine's mission statement along with a hip Santa in cool shades and holding a RaceTrac cup of coffee, was prominently displayed throughout the stores to remind RaceTrac customers of the opportunity to give. Customers embraced the idea and, due

to their exceptional response, RaceTrac raised more than 140 percent of its original \$20,000 goal.

"Even in times of economic uncertainty, children with cancer require programs that offer them love, support, fun and acceptance," said Mr. Bolch. "We thank our loyal guests for expressing their generosity and helping us to support this very worthy cause."

"We are very grateful for this donation and for the awareness the campaign brings to Camp Sunshine," said Sally Hale, Executive Director. "RaceTrac stepped up to the plate, giving children with cancer the gift of sunshine. This gift will have a major impact on the lives of our campers in 2010."

RaceTrac's generosity touched other organizations as well, setting off a chain reaction of giving. Radio spots encouraging customer to participate aired free of charge on 790 The Zone each day of the promotion. RaceTrac supplier Colonial Coffee Roasters, Inc. donated enough coffee to make 10,000 cups of its finest brew. Their gift made it possible for 100 percent of the proceeds to go toward Camp Sunshine. "We truly believe that Camp Sunshine is a great cause," said Rafael Acevedo of Colonial Coffee Roasters. "We welcome the opportunity to bring comfort to the children and families affiliated with this group."★

## Go Green with Camp Sunshine

**Who says it isn't easy being green?** Camp Sunshine is taking a few simple steps to reduce our eco-footprint and you can help. Our 2010 Summer Camp application is now available on-line. Visit [www.mycampsunshine.com](http://www.mycampsunshine.com) and click on the download. Please fax, e-mail or mail completed applications by May 13th to hold your camper's place. Dates for this year's Summer Camp weeks are:

**Teen Week (13-18 years old)**

**June 13 - 19**

**Junior Week (7-12 years old)**

**June 20-25**

Also, be sure to join Camp Sunshine's e-mail list and stay on top of all the latest Camp Sunshine happenings through our regular e-mail blasts. To register, visit the Web site and follow the quick instructions. Being green has never been easier! ★

## Dear Camp Sunshine Friends, continued from page 2

It is this giving of time, talent and treasure that enables us to offer our year-round programs for children with cancer and their families. Families do not have to wait until summer camp to take part in programs that can help their children today. And speaking of creative giving, we thank the Farrell family — Nick, Cherri, Jordyn, and twins Brenna and Kaeyln — for sharing the story of how they as a family have stepped into the warming rays of Camp Sunshine.

With all this focus on creative giving, let me remind you that traditional giving also is as important as ever to the mission and purpose of Camp Sunshine. Your gift of \$500 supports a child for one week at Summer Camp. Please give as generously as possible. For all the ways you give — creatively, traditionally and always from the heart — we are grateful.

— Sally Hale, Executive Director

## Helpful Programs Await New Families At Any Time of Year, continued from page 1



**“At Camp Sunshine, everything is low-key. You talk if you want to talk and don't talk if you don't want to. There is no pressure. And somehow you end up learning so many little things to help your child and yourself on this journey.”**

– Cherri Farrell, Jordyn's mother

“I absolutely loved Teen Group North, and now I go every month” Jordyn said. “I was nervous at first because I was the new kid entering into an established group, but I was welcomed with open arms and have become friends with several of the campers. All the campers I have met are the sweetest, most loving people ever.”

Jordyn has since participated in the Teen Lock-in and Dance, Spa Sydel Nights, the Big Apple Circus Day, the Gwinnett Gladiators game and more. But her favorite activity is Family Night, held the third Sunday of each month: “It is so incredibly laid back, and you feel you can talk about practically anything with the campers and other people in the room.”

Her parents and sisters share her enthusiasm for Camp Sunshine programs and activities. “We're not normally an extroverted family,” said her mother Cherri. “We like to spend time together and enjoy each other's company. But Jordyn started the ball rolling with her Teen Group North, and we are all so glad she did.”

“She came out of that very first teen meeting recharged and with the energy she hadn't had in awhile,” her father added. It inspired the entire family to attend Camp Sunshine's Family Night. “Family Night works for us, because it spans across the entire spectrum of needs—the camper's, the parents' and the siblings’,” her father said. “As a family, what we are going through might not seem normal, but at Family Night, we find it to be a normal state. Everybody there has a child who is sick and everybody is going through this horrific process. The commonality brings people together...it's a place to talk to others, to share

information. Every time, we walk out with a new piece of information to help our child.”

“You feel you are part of a larger family and part of a huge support network,” Cherri added. “You end up doing a lot of laughing; it is so much better than crying. But crying is OK, too, if that's what you need to do.”

The Farrells appreciate that their younger daughters' needs are also considered at Camp Sunshine. “Brenna and Kaelyn were having a very tough time, because they are very close to Jordyn. They are close as sisters, and they are best friends,” their mother said. She knows that camp programs have become important to the younger girls because, even though at least one sister was hesitant about participating at first, they now all put Family Night on their personal monthly agendas.

The Farrells also enjoy Camp Sunshine family outings. “We haven't had a normal year,” Nick commented. “But events like the Big Apple Circus? It's like normal family time. For a couple of hours at least, you don't have to be concerned with other things. You can just relax, have fun and be a family for awhile.”

With Summer Camp approaching, Jordyn is “incredibly excited.” “I have never seen Camp Twin Lakes, but I have heard so many amazing things about it! I am most looking forward to meeting new people and getting to know my friends better,” she said. In the meantime, she is busy with school and soccer practice. She also finds herself reaching out to others. She participated in Relay for Life and has connected with a teen recently diagnosed with a brain tumor. Jordyn wants her to give Camp Sunshine a try. ✨

### HOW IS A FAMILY INTRODUCED TO CAMP SUNSHINE?

Generally, Camp Sunshine representatives, including Program Directors Michele Rothstein and Terri Sexton, LMSW, meet up with families in the oncology clinics at the hospitals in Georgia which treat children with cancer: Children's Healthcare of Atlanta at Scottish Rite and Egleston, and Backus Children's Hospital in Savannah. “The first meeting often takes place when a child is newly diagnosed, a tumultuous and overwhelming time for the family,” Terri said. Thus, Camp Sunshine is grateful to the hospital professional staffs for reaching out to and following up with patients and families about camp program. “Each family is unique,” Terri said. “Some jump at the chance to participate; others need time to warm up to the idea.” She suggests trying a program or activity for the whole family and seeing how each member likes it. For a complete listing of Camp Sunshine programs, see the calendar listing on pages 6-7 of Postcards or check the Web site at [www.mycampsunshine.com](http://www.mycampsunshine.com).

**“Camp Sunshine provides steps to help her gain it back. We are happy to let her participate and experience this independence.”**

– Cherri Farrell, Jordyn's mother



# CAMP SUNSHINE POSTCARDS

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

## ONGOING PROGRAMS

### FAMILY NIGHT

3rd Sunday of each month.

5:30 – 6:20 Dinner

6:30 – 7:20 Groups meetings

Call to RSVP

Meet and share dinner with other families affected by pediatric cancer. Following dinner, groups will meet to share, encourage, support and learn from others in similar situations. Parents will meet, teens will gather and school age children will get together. Childcare is available for those under 5.

### TEEN GROUP

TEEN GROUP NORTH meets the 2nd Wednesday of each month in Johns Creek from 6:00 – 7:30 PM

TEEN GROUP meets the 4th Thursday of each month at Camp Sunshine House from 6:00 – 7:30 PM  
Call to RSVP

For 13 – 18 year olds who are currently on treatment or were diagnosed as a teen. Meet, hang out and get support from other teens who have or have had cancer. Dinner is served at all groups.

### SPA SYDELL NIGHT AT CAMP SUNSHINE

2nd Monday each month

6:00-8:00 PM

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

### PRESCHOOL MUSIC CLASS

2nd and 4th Wednesday each month  
12:15 PM – 1:45 PM

Join us for lunch, music class and a fun activity! For campers birth – 6 years of age and their preschool age siblings.

## M A Y 2 0 1 0

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
						1
2	3	4	5 Washington DC Trip For Teens Sunshine 2 U at AFLAC Cancer Center/Eglston	6 Remembering the Sunshine Family Night	7	8
9	10	11 Sunshine 2 U at AFLAC Cancer Center/Scottish Rite	12 Pre-School Music Class Teen Group North	13	14	15 Staff Orientation for Summer Camp
16 Young Adult Cookout Family Night	17 Spa Sydeell Night	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25 Seasonal Sunshine	26 Pre-School Music Class	27	28	29
30	31					

## J U N E 2 0 1 0

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
		1 New Camper Orientation at Camp Sunshine House	2	3 Remembering the Sunshine Family Night	4	5
6	7	8	9 Pre-School Music Class Teen Group North	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
Teen Summer Camp at Camp Twin Lakes						
Sunshine 2 U at AFLAC Cancer Center/Scottish Rite						
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
Junior Summer Camp at Camp Twin Lakes						
Sunshine 2 U at AFLAC Cancer Center/Egleston						
27	28	29	30			

# CAMP SUNSHINE POSTCARDS



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

## JULY 2010

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7 Teen Outdoor Leadership Excursion Sunshine 2 U at AFLAC Cancer Center/Eglston	8	9	10
11 →	12 Spa Sydehl Night	13 Sunshine 2 U at AFLAC Cancer Center/Scottish Rite	14 Pre-School Music Class Teen Group North	15	16	17
18 Savannah Regional Program Family Night	19	20	21	22 Teen Group	23	24
25	26	27	28 Pre-School Music Class	29	30	31

## AUGUST 2010

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
1	2	3	4 Sunshine 2 U at AFLAC Cancer Center/Eglston	5 Remembering the Sunshine Family Night	6	7
8	9 Spa Sydehl Night	10 Sunshine 2 U at AFLAC Cancer Center/Scottish Rite	11 Pre-School Music Class Teen Group North	12	13	14
15 Family Night	16	17	18	19	20 Sibling Camp at Camp Twin Lakes	21 →
22 →	23	24 Seasonal Sunshine	25 Pre-School Music Class	26 Teen Group	27	28 Teen Lock-In
29 Hit-A-Home- Run	30	31				

### SAVE THESE DATES

#### September

Wild Adventures

#### October 1-3

Family Camp at Camp Twin Lakes

#### October 8-10

Family Camp at Camp Twin Lakes

#### October 15-17

Remember the Sunshine  
Weekend

#### November 12-14

Teen Retreat

### UPCOMING SPECIAL EVENTS

#### May 22

Bike ride with Georgia Power  
Plant Wansley in Roopville, GA

#### June 5

Taste of the South in Washington,  
D.C. benefitting Camp Sunshine

#### June 15

Keencheefoonee Road Race at  
teen week summer camp

#### June 22

Keencheefoonee Road Race at  
junior week summer camp

#### September 11

Pre-school apple orchard trip

### INDIVIDUAL COUNSELING

Camp Sunshine offers support and  
counseling for children, teens and  
young adults ages 5 - 23 regarding  
illness-related issues and concerns.  
Call Terri Sexton, LMSW, at 404-  
325-7979 for details.

### REGIONAL PROGRAMMING

Camp Sunshine continues to provide  
regional programming. We will now  
provide programs in all areas of the  
state in addition to programs in the  
Metro Atlanta area. Checkout our  
website [www.mycampsunshine.com](http://www.mycampsunshine.com),  
the newsletter and your mail for  
programs coming to your area.



1850 Clairmont Road  
Decatur, GA 30033  
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Camp Sunshine Postcards  
is published three times annually  
for friends and supporters of  
Camp Sunshine.

NON PROFIT  
ORGANIZATION  
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**PAID**  
ATLANTA, GA  
PERMIT # 1156



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



### Families Enjoy a Bowlful of Bello At Camp Sunshine Day at Big Apple Circus

What better way to spend a Valentine's Day afternoon than under a Big Top ringing with the sounds of belly laughs? More than 1,100 circus lovers, including 174 Camp Sunshine families, enjoyed breathtaking feats of humor by daredevil clown Bello at the sixth annual Camp Sunshine Day the Big Apple Circus on February 14th. The event raised close to \$100,000 this year, bringing the six-year total raised for Camp Sunshine's year-round programs to more than \$530,000. A heartfelt thank-you to Mo Thrash, long-time friend to and champion of Camp Sunshine, for being a wonderful Honorary Ringmaster. Camp Sunshine salutes our sweetheart sponsors for an unforgettable Valentine's Day of circus fun. ✨

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without you.

