



Care-A-Lot Communiqué

A bi-annual newsletter, published in May and December.

Winter/Spring 2011

Volume 17 Issue 2



Presidential Ponderings

— Peggy Cormeny, President

As the seasons change, the smell of fall is in the air and the end of summer had come. The sounds of campers laughing and learning come to me as I look at the pictures from the summer. I am so glad camp went so well and as a board we are already thinking of next year.

This is also an exciting time to be part of the Camp Care-A-Lot board. It was great to see many of the board members at our September board meeting. The board has been working on looking at the future and has embraced the challenge of creating a strategic plan to guide us. The current board is committed and dedicated to guiding camp to a new level. As we continue to grow as a board we need to continue to step out of our comfort zone. We will look at our past and future to carry out our mission: "To have a positive impact on the life of a child."

To the board and all who read this newsletter today,

more than ever, we thank you for your generous donations, continued support and engagement with our mission. With everyone's support and cooperation we will sustain and enhance our future and the future of our community.

Smiles!



Executive Director's Digest

—Eydee Schultz

7 Apache Drive, Springfield, IL 62711 • carelot3@aol.com

This year was a particularly memorable one for Camp and for me. We had a great consolidation of 2 camps, which resulted in positive actions and reactions. We had new activities--more great memories. One special memory for 2010, is our newest program-LEADERS.

Enjoy these from our 16-19 year old return camper LEADERS!

Each of the following letters of thanks to you, began, "Dear Friend, ". These notes, no names attached, give more insight into Camp Care-A-Lot than any article I can write for this issue of Care-A-Lot Communiqué.

• "Thank-you for supporting such a great cause. Because of you, children who may never experience camp in any measure, get to spend an entire week doing fun activities that also teach life lessons. You are helping mold tomorrow's citizens today."

• "I learned that all kids have a hidden talent in them, even if they don't know it. I also learned that kids are all special in their own way. I had fun learning how to dance the salsa. Every kid may not know it, but they all have a gift and just need to find it. We did yoga and all the kids had fun with that. The kids didn't know, but they were being taught how to control their anger or stress. We all had fun swimming. Someone taught the kids how to swim..."

• "Thank you so much for giving me a chance to be a leader. I have learned so many things. Teamwork was one of the biggest things I

learned this year. Not only did I teach it but I was taught myself."

We revamped our former Day-Long and Junior Counselor programs. Nine former campers prepared for a phenomenal experience-giving back to young children what these LEADERS received when they were campers. The coordinator, Teegan Watts Lund, was a former camper who began her volunteer career at camp when she was 16, already showing leadership. Ed Wainscott, a 2 year counselor and the retired, fantastic principal of Jacksonville High School, worked with her. Their skills and understanding of our teen LEADERS started the program on the right foot.

We began with a meeting in May, with 10 youth who had not attended Camp Care-A-Lot since they were between 6 and 10 years old. Teegan ran that orientation. She discussed with the students how camp may have changed since they were all youngsters. She explained our program and our schedule. She inspired confidence in the new LEADERS and urged them on. Ed led a great activity, which stirred up memories of the childhood at camp when the LEADERS attended. He encouraged them all to draw and verbalize what they remembered about camp and why camp was important to them. He stressed the importance of good character, something which defines him.



Former camp LEADERS

Diana and I took a small part in this wonderful day with teens from Springfield, Jacksonville, Taylorville, Auburn and Chapin. Afterwards, Diana and I were sure of a successful upcoming summer, and to make a long story short . . . IT WAS A TREMENDOUS SUCCESS.

- *“Thank you for allowing me the opportunity to meet all the kids. It was fun to be able to make so many kids smile each and every day.”*
- *“Thanks for donating to make Camp Care-A-Lot a big part of my life. It has allowed me to have a chance to make a kid’s day or even change one of their lives. I have enjoyed camp over the years from swimming to salsa dancing. This camp has been great for anyone who is able to be a part of it. It influences dreams to come true, no matter what anyone’s background looks like. I love Camp Care-A-lot because they truly care a lot...”*
- *“When I was a camper, Camp Care-A-Lot meant the world to me. I was happy to make new friends, do activities and eat healthy, warm meals. I was so happy to have been given an opportunity of a lifetime that I know has changed me today. NOW, I help with Camp Care-A-Lot every year because I know how much camp meant to me. However, I know it wouldn’t be possible without your donations, so thank you very much.”*

- *“I would like to thank you for sending me to camp. It’s been a very excellent idea for us LEADERS to become involved with camp. I have experienced a whole lot.”*
 - *“Thank you so much for letting me be one of the first ever LEADERS for Camp Care-A-Lot in 2010. It is an honor to be here helping teach the little campers teamwork and communication. I have more and more fun every day I spend here. I personally think the kids have the most fun talking with our guest speakers each day. Thank you again, it’s been a blast.”*
- ... and from a former camper who has volunteered for 5 years as a junior counselor or counselor assistant, and who is now a full time counselor at almost age 21.

“Thank you for letting me help kids at Camp Care-A-Lot. I enjoyed every day with the kids. I had a blast and the LEADERS were lots of help. I saw all of my old friends and met new ones. Love always, Willie”

Our teens blossomed into LEADERS, taught the campers and adults about caring and concern. They are positive and mature high school and beginning college students. They each took back something special, as well.

We look forward to expanding this program into a year round one. Thanks again for your support.

Eydee



Leader Mary teaches responsibility

HONORARIUM AND MEMORIALS: ON HOLIDAYS OR OTHER OCCASIONS

What better way is there to be remembered, than with a gift from the heart? Please contribute generously to the Camp Care-A-Lot Memorial/Honorarium Fund in memory or in honor of a friend or relative. This contribution as a HOLIDAY GIFT, BIRTHDAY, ANNIVERSARY, NEW JOB, or OTHER gift or in LIEU OF FUNERAL FLOWERS will go towards making a difference in the life of a wonderful 6 - 10 year old child who lives in a central Illinois lower income home. A certificate will be issued to the recipient or their family.

DONATIONS MAY BE SENT TO:
Camp Care-A-Lot • Box 13083 • Springfield, IL 62791-3083
217-546-4777
E-mail: carelot3@aol.com

Cheers and Tears

Pitter Patter of Little Feet: Welcome to this world---

- Harper, granddaughter of camp supporters **Lisa and Steven Stone**, was born March 25, 2010.
- Twins, Ian and Isaac, grandsons of camp supporters **Barb and Mark Rabin**, were born March 29, 2010.
- Joseph Alan Butkus, son of past president **Scott Butkus** and his wife Kim, was born May 25, 2010.
- Ryleigh, daughter of **Janette and Quintin Smith**, former counselors, was born June 22, 2010.
- Regan Christine Graham, granddaughter of camp volunteers **Kathy and Steve McCarty**, was born March 26, 2010.
- Marin Claire Coats, granddaughter of former board member **Wes Hendricker** and his wife Linda, was born May 29th.
- Cyrus Mir Arjmand, grandson of camp supporters, **Beryl and Tofig**, was born on April 24, 2010.
- Temma Isabel, granddaughter of American Camp Association Associate Director and friend of camp, **Michael Hoffenburg** and wife Linda.
- Elder Donald, nephew of former counselor **Tim Chipman**, grandson of volunteers, **Bob and Janet**, and great-grandson of "Grandparent Day" volunteers **Bill and Betty**

Congratulations

- **Bob Koch**, former board member and camp volunteer, was nominated for the Chamber of 2010 Commerce Small Businessowner of the year award. He won one of the "15 under 15" spots. (15 successful businesses, with under 15 employees.)
- **Les Eastep**, won the Distinguished Service Award from UIS and Junior League in 2010. The Award is for exemplary volunteer service to the community.
- **Les Eastep**, camp volunteer, won the special award for service to the Jewish Community, from B'nai B'rith.
- **John Woods**, board member, volunteer and co-founder of Camp, accepted the position of Sea Scout Skipper. (Boy and Girl Venture Scouts who are learning how to sail and conduct formal protocol when in a sailing group.)
- **Dr. Eric Bleyer**, past volunteer camp doctor, is featured on TV in the Memorial Medical Center promotion.
- **Steve Turner**, former counselor is featured with his nephew on a Springfield American Cancer Society Billboard and was in the State Journal Register in the REAL MEN WEAR PINK advertisements.
- **Bill Barnes** (former board vice president) and his family moved to Indiana, bought a home, and are doing well. As Executive Director of the Madison Jefferson Community Foundation, Bill is doing a lot for the community, in the area of assistance to low income kids and families.



Les Eastep 2010 Distinguished Service Award winner accepting his award with John Woods 2009 winner.

- **Jennifer Cors**, relief volunteer, wife of board treasurer, **Matt**, graduated from nursing school.
- Justin Bougher, son of counselor **Tracy**, graduated from Law school
- **Kimee Armor**, former volunteer camp nurse, was written up in Springfield Magazine. She is a nurse at St. John's, lost over 100 lbs and took part in the Chicago Marathon, in October. She is an inspiration to other people wanting to change their eating habits and exercise more.

Wedding Bells - (See FORMER CAMPER CORNER FOR MORE)

- **Jason Mink**, former counselor, married Sangeeta Ganguly, on August 14, 2010.
- Karen, daughter of volunteers **Nancy and Pat Chesley**, married Jason Carrol, June 5, 2010.
- Amy, daughter of former volunteer **Joni Abramowitz** and husband Joel, married Hunter Gross on June 26, 2010.
- Jenny, daughter of camp supporters **Natalie and Sid Marder**, married Tim Hudgins on June 12, 2010

Well Wishes

- **Judy Cannon**, volunteer
- **John Beall**, volunteer
- **Josh Cannon**, son of volunteer Judy Canon
- Ruel Becker, husband of volunteer **Margaret Becker**
- **Sue Linde**, volunteer
- **Larry and Karen Ladd**, volunteers
- **Marla Ridge**, counselor
- **Marlene Chavin**, supporter
- **Steve Eisenhauer**, volunteer

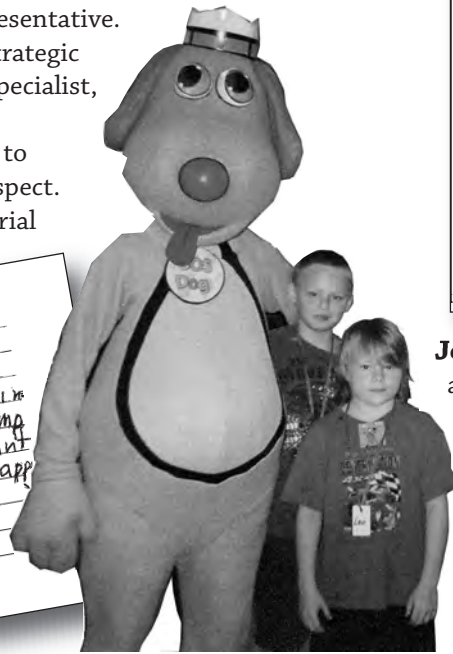
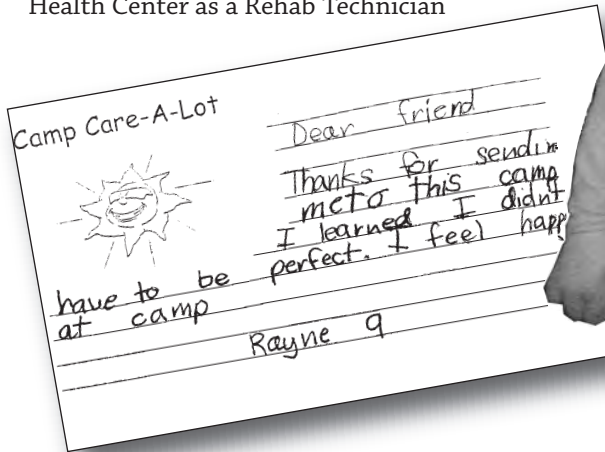
Condolences

- To the **Langford/Hanson Family**, camp supporters, board members, and 17 year volunteers, on the sudden passing of Tom's sister Kathy, at 54 years old.
- To **Cheri** (former volunteer) and **Ron Fafoglia**, camp supporters, in the death of Ron's father, Gino.
- To **Barb and Mark Rabin**, camp supporters, and **Susan Isaaks**, volunteer, on the death of Sylvia, Mark's mother/Susan's grandmother.
- To **Tania Deacon**, Grand Worthy Advisor of Illinois Rainbow Girls, and her family on the loss of her grandfather.
- To **Nate Mayfield**, LEADER, and his sister **Natalie Sims**, former camper, on the sudden death of their dad, Robert, on October 7, 2010.
- To **Kara Lee**, LEADER, and **Keenen Lee**, former camper, on the loss of their grandfather, Roy Woods and their aunt.
- To **Judy Donath**, Grandparent's Day recruiter from the Senior Center, on the loss of her father, Carl Donath.
- To **Jennifer Cors** on the loss of her grandmother Dorothy Johnson.

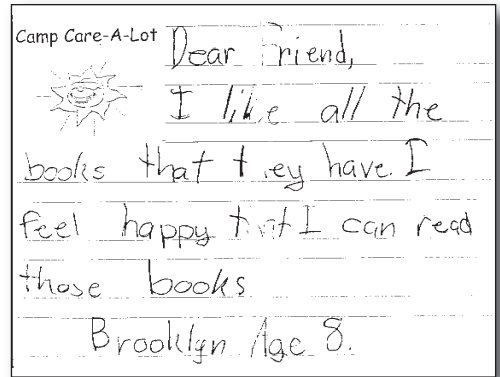
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Jobs

- **Diana Wasem**, Camp Director, is working with Hoagland Center for the Arts as a Customer Care Representative.
- **Scott Butkus**, past Board President and Strategic Plan chair has been promoted to Financial Specialist, at Ameren.
- **Bruce Glickson**, counselor, was promoted to Manager of Gordon Food Service in Mt. Prospect.
- **Katelyn Davis**, volunteer, works at Memorial Health Center as a Rehab Technician



Bank of Springfield's BoS Dog visits at camper check-in,



Jennifer Cors, camp volunteer, works as a Registered Nurse at Passavant Hospital, in Jacksonville.

- **"Gramma" Harriet Bradney**, camp grandma, "hugger" and best Simon Says leader, helps in a 2nd grade class, teaching beginning creative or independent writing.

DONOR HIGHLIGHTS

WASTE MANAGEMENT:

Waste Management has contributed to Camp Care-A-Lot for over a decade. We thank them for their contributions and their friendship.

CONGRATS to **President Larry O'Donnel** on his excellent appearance on the new TV show, Undercover Boss. Larry worked hard while participating in entry-level jobs at his company, in order to find out how people felt about their positions, how they felt personally, and how they build corporate relationships. As the kids at camp say when they are complimenting someone:

GOOOOOOOOOOOOOOD JOB!!

BIRDIES FOR CHARITY

Camp Care-A-Lot was one of 40+ participants in the 1st LPGA State Farm Classic Birdies for Charity. We were in the top 10 donations collected. EVERY PENNY PLEDGED TO US WENT ONLY TO US, and all pledges were immediately collected. THANKS to you all for participating. Next year, we will hopefully do it again, so watch your spring newsletter for the donor form.

LUMPKIN FAMILY FOUNDATION

Thanks to this dedicated friend of ours, we are in the process of developing our Camp Strategic Plan. We will use a generous grant for a facilitator and meetings to work with our board, community members, and other stake holders.

We will try to make you all proud. Members of the Lumpkin family, the Foundation, the Telephone Pioneers, and others affiliated

with the Lumpkin family, have been part of our Camp family for more than 10 years. They have been instrumental in sending more than 55 Christian and Montgomery County children to camp.

ORDER OF ILLINOIS RAINBOW GIRLS

In July 2010, I had the distinct honor of attending the installation of 19 year old, Tania Deacon as the Grand Worthy Advisor of the Illinois Order of the Rainbow Girls. Last fall, Tania, her mom Tori, and I met as Tania decided which state charity would benefit from their fundraising efforts and their material collections. I instantly loved them both. They came to the Springfield Camp Holiday Party and met the kids, staff and party planners. Tania's decision to choose Camp as their Grand Charity was kept a secret from everyone until July, when she took over the esteemed state position.

Tania graduated from high school in Dupage County, where she and her family live. She takes classes at Junior College, works and spends her blood, guts and passion for her Rainbow Girls. We are fortunate to have Tania as a new friend and the Rainbow Girls as a camp partner. She believes in what we do, who we are, and our mission. This year, I hope Tania and I see each other and work together often. Certainly, she will become a lifelong friend.

Thanks to Tania and all the Illinois Order of the Rainbow Girls for all their hard work, on behalf of Camp.

Visit our website
www.campcarealot.org

DIANA'S CORNER

On the bus ride from camp to church at the end of the week, I sat next to two girls who cried the whole way. I asked them what was wrong, and they said they didn't want to leave camp. They had made a new best friend and didn't want to leave each other. I told them they could exchange addresses and write to each other, and they said they had already done that, but they were still sad and cried the whole way.

For many of us, Camp Care-A-Lot is fun, exciting, and something different than what we normally do, but for our campers, it is a whole new world where they experience love, joy, and success. Many of them come to camp afraid and worried. They are going to be away from the world they are comfortable with and know, for a whole week. They don't know what to expect. However, with love, comfort, and understanding from the Treasure Hunters, LEADERS, peers, and other volunteers, they make it through, all the while having fun, trying new things, learning skills to help them succeed in life, and making new best friends.

Camp Care-A-Lot is different from other camps because it is more than just a camp. It is a family where everyone feels love and is successful. Anyone who has been involved with camp, from the campers to the volunteers, is connected as part of that family. Every person in our family has made an impact on the life of a child. As in my story earlier, even the campers make an impact on the lives of each other.

I want to take the time to thank everyone who has been a part of our camp family and those who keep it in their hearts. Without you, the two young girls who became best friends at camp may never have met.

Diana Wasem, Camp Director



Board member Jim, from County Market, at the ribbon cutting ceremony

BRUCE STROM, FIRST YEAR COUNSELOR:

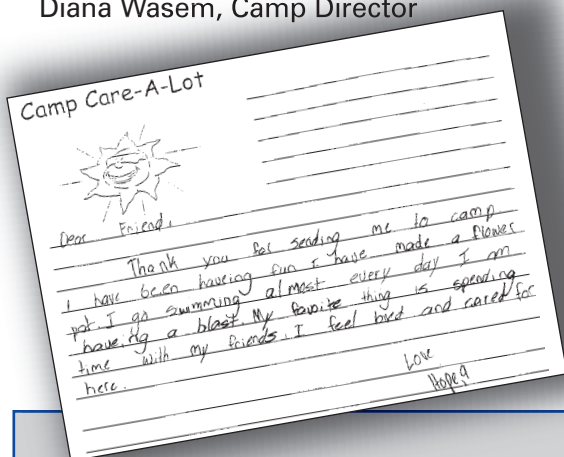
This was my first opportunity to participate as a camp counselor. Just as the campers had new experiences and learned things about themselves and how their future might be shaped going forward, I learned some things. I learned that this experience can be life changing for the kids who attend, and I see the value of this camp for them.

For each camper, it is at once the same experience and a different experience. It is the same because they are all asked to participate in the same activities and adhere to the same rules of behavior. Yet, it is a different experience for each camper based on their sex, age, family background, and life experience before coming to camp.

I think about "G", a bright and active eight year old. He was proud of his involvement in various sports and had a competitive spirit. However, he seemed slow and cautious to talk about himself. When evening drew near, he would become sad and he longed to be at home with his family. On four separate evenings, adults sat with him and comforted him as he repeated that he wanted to go home but impressed on us that he DID LIKE camp during the day. Each morning, he would pop out of bed with his roommates and eagerly participate in the activities of the day.

The dedication and caring exhibited by the camp counselors and LEADERS was amazing. Their commitment to his and each camper's sense of well-being and self-esteem was clear.

I would like to thank all those who have supported Camp Care-A-Lot in one way or another. This is a valuable experience for the campers and one which they would likely not have without your help. This was a memorable experience for all – campers, LEADERS, and counselors. I welcome you to apply to be a counselor to share this wonderful experience with me and the other staff.



iGive.com

iGive.com is a **FREE** service for shoppers and the organizations supported by shoppers.

Register with iGive.com and shop through the website at **over 700 brand name online stores**, such as Amazon, eBay, iTunes, JC Penney, Best Buy, Overstock.com, Barnes and Noble, Expedia, Old Navy, and Staples. You pay the same (or less, with exclusive coupons and free shipping deals!) than you would pay by going directly to the store. A portion of each purchase will be donated to Camp Care-A-Lot.

Use this link and simply register with your name, an e-mail address, and a password – and begin shopping!

<http://www.iGive.com/welcome/warmwelcome.cfm?c=24724&m=308597>

Or go to www.iGive.com and search for Camp Care-A-Lot, select our cause, and register!

TESTIMONIAL 8/10

Dear Eydee,

Camp Care-A-Lot has done so much for my Granddaughters. Thank You for giving them a good week during the summer (July 2010) in Pittsfield. The girls go to school in Springfield, Illinois. They had a real good time at camp. The girls needed a break from the trouble at home.

You have went above and beyond, going to camp. These girls are being raised by my son, (their father). There are three girls, two of them went to camp, the smallest was too young. She is 5 years old going on 6 years. She was sleeping on a youth bed with a crib mattress held together with duck tape. Camp found her a twin bed.

The other two girls have a bunk bed. The girls didn't have chest of drawers or dressers, they had plastic broken down drawers. Your people came up with a dresser, and two chests of drawers.

All of them have one now. Plus clothes for school and school supplies, back packs, shoes. I don't know how we would have got through the beginning of school without all of your friends. These girls are so thankful for everything you have done. And so am I and their father. He works but it doesn't pay much. But I just wanted to thank you for everything you have done for my grandchildren. My husband is on disability and I am working. It's everything I can do to keep ahead barely, with our bills.

Grandma



Can you turn the tarp using team work and no hands?



CPR class for staff and the community



Creating camp posters



Getting directions after cleaning up from lunch.

Stocks for Cash and Tax Deductions

Your gift of stocks for Camp Care-A-Lot can be of great help. You may donate stocks which will be converted to cash at that day's market price, and used toward room and board, supplementary food, gifts for children, personal hygiene products, crafts, clothing, camp pictures, post high school scholarships (for former campers) and more.

Contact Eydee Schultz

217-546-4777

carelot3@aol.com for more information.

FORMER CAMPER CORNER

- **Sammy Presker**, LEADER participant, senior at Auburn High School is class president for the third year.
- **Nyssa Watts**, former camper, junior counselor and counselor assistant, became engaged to Kris Catton on 10/16/10. A spring 2012 wedding is planned.
- **Jessica Gomer**, LEADER from Triopia, made the honor role in school!!
- **Nick Wessing**, former camper, junior counselor and counselor assistant, married Cynthia on 9/3/10.
- **Julia Fruchtl**, former camper and counselor assistant, married Kyle Brown on 10/5/10.
- **Amanda Smith**, former camper, got engaged to Byron Cole
- **Micki (Watkins)** former camper and volunteer, and husband Cory Cochenauer, had a son, Levi Curtis May 1, 2010.



Wedding of former camper, Julia Fruchtl to Kyle



Former camper Nick Wessing on his wedding day

F•U•N•D•R•A•I•S•E•R•S

• Camp-Care-a-Lot has been selected to be the Recipient of the **Spiegel Burn Foundation's** "Pay-it-Forward" FUNdraiser, held this October, November and December 2010. We hope to help Warm Hearts, Enliven Senses, and Inspire the Souls of all candle lovers by sharing THE SAFE way to enjoy candles with Authentic Scentsy Wickless Systems. 100% of the proceeds raised during this time will benefit Camp Care-a-Lot. If any of you are interested in learning more about Eliminating Candle Fires and Supporting your Camp Programs, while giving Scentsational Gifts anytime of year, please visit our site at www.NoMoreFires.Scentsy.us to purchase your Scentsy Systems. (Specials with discounts of 10% are available, too - email julie@spiegelburnfoundation.com for details)

Please go to their website, mention Camp and order plenty of gifts. They are small, beautiful table top "ceramic furniture," which come in a variety of colors. There are lots of different scents to mix and match. MOST PRICES ARE \$15-\$30.00. Go to the camp website and click on Donations/Fundraisers for the catalog and ordering info.

• **Godfather's Pizza** had a great fundraiser. Purchase a card for your name and donate \$1.00. Look for this again in the Spring. Thanks, Godfathers!

• **Food Fantasies**, on Wabash in Springfield, will donate the proceeds from their December and January "Give a Nickel and Skip Bagging" program and from 2 donation jars in their store. **Thanks Food Fantasies!**

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Eydee Schultz

CAMP DIRECTOR

Diana Wasem

EXECUTIVE BOARD OFFICERS

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Jason Hanson, Vice President
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Matt Cors, Treasurer
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SPRINGFIELD, IL 62711

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Mission:

to have a positive impact on the life of a child.

Vision:

to help create strong leaders, responsible citizens, productive members of society and caring adults, because we believe that all kids are capable of success, no exceptions!




Treasurer Hunter
(staff and LEADERS orientation)



Winner of Sparky! Williams Citizenship Award, Jonasia performs step dancing.




Camp Care-A-Lot



Dear Friend
Thank you for sending to
camp I learned many things like
Respect and Teamwork.
I also learned not to fight and never
give up. I learned how to communicate
with deaf people, it was fun!
My favorite thing at camp is Swimming
and the zip line.

Thank you for Helping.



Love
Amy



Work or materials donated in part.