



Winter 2014 Newsletter

Notes From The Editor:


Christmas is behind us and the new year is here. We hope all of our families enjoyed a wonderful holiday season and are looking forward to an amazing 2014.


If you are still receiving your newsletters in the mail, please send us an email at helpachildsmile@bellnet.ca so that we can email future editions.

Note:


See pictures for all items on the 'Random Photos' pages.


What Happened?


 **The Christmas Party** saw many families come out to enjoy the music, games, crafts, gifts, food, fun and of course that special man in red who arrived and wished everyone all the best for a happy holiday season. And as if that wasn't enough, Doug The Great entertained kids and adults alike with his special blend of magic tricks and comedy. The party was a huge success because of the dedication of a great group of people! Many thanks to the Church Of Jesus Christ Of Latter-Day Saints and their many volunteers for opening their church and hearts to us again this year. To Camp Trillium Staff, The Smudge Fundaes and Doug The Great - a huge Thank You! What's a perfect way to end the day? Draw names for great prizes of course! Congratulations to our winners: Cohen Beaupre, Danielle Bradley, Caleb Brand, Ava Caster-Smith, Noah Davy, Gracie Harris, Sadie Hoysa, Ava Kacaur, Nylan Langlois, Emily O'Brin, Sheyanne O'Donnell and Emma Tapp.


 **Two NHL Alumni Games** took place over the Christmas season. Always a crowd-pleaser, our families in Hamilton and Niagara regions roared and clapped to the antics of the players and had a great time. (Details on Waterloo's game to follow)


What Have Our Partners Been Doing?


 **Brantford's Santa Clause Parade** took place on the evening of November 30th. For months, a great group of Brantford volunteers worked very hard to put together The Jim Walsh Bike Ride for HACS float. It was a labour of love and a lot of fun! This year, the parade's rather challenging theme was futuristic Christmas. While our float didn't bring home a prize this year, it was a crowd-pleaser and brought a lot of attention to our cause. Many thanks to Denis Larocque and Marc Dubeau for their dedication to continuing Jim's support of our kids. And huge hugs to our many volunteers who helped in so many ways!


 **The Brant Naval Veteran's Club** recently held a fundraiser that featured non-stop live entertainment, great food, lots of door prizes, tons of fun and raised \$5268 for our kids! Sincere thanks to our many friends at the Navy Club and special thanks to Janine and her crew for another job well done!


 **The Scotiabank** stepped up again this year to raise funds for our kids by selling registrations for the Caitlin Classic Golf Tournament. We truly appreciate the help of Management and Staff at both the Lynden Road and West End branches. Their efforts added \$3100 to the event's revenues.


 **The Brant OPP Detachment** recently donated \$1000 to support our kids. A big thank you to the Unit, and thanks to Jim Allen for bringing our organization to their attention.


 **Caitlin Classic Calendars** sold very well at Sears in the Brantford Mall over the holidays. Sincere thanks to the busy group of volunteers who put in long hours on the 'Moonlight Madness' weekend to man the gift-wrapping station as well as offer the calendars to shoppers. Their efforts raised \$2134!!! Our gratitude goes to the Management and Staff of Sears for giving us this opportunity and going out of their way to make us feel welcome.

 **The 13th Annual Kieffer Memorial Golf Tournament** was a lot of fun and a big success. This year's event raised \$7,775.75 pushing the 13-year total over the \$100,000 mark! What an amazing accomplishment and wonderful way to honour Kieffer's memory. So many thanks to Scott and Maureen Douglas and their hard-working crew, and congratulations on reaching this milestone.

 **The Fred Bassi & Friends Golf Tournament** was fun for all and raised \$400 for our kids. Thanks to everyone who came out to enjoy the day and support our cause.

 **The Administration & Staff of Park Lane Nursing Home, and the Boyd Family** (Joshua, Jenn, Victoria, William, Hunter and Alexandra) opted to donate \$250 to our kids rather than buy stocking stuffers this Christmas. Many thanks for your generosity!

 **The John Howard Society** and Welland's **Casa Danta** recently donated \$530 and \$1000 respectively. Thank you to all for thinking of us.

 **Friday the 13th** is past, but you can still get a Port Dover 100% cotton long or short sleeved, black or orange T-shirt for just \$5 each. To place your order, email joyce.l.hutson@gmail.com today! (Check the Events tab on our website for images)

Donations In Memory Of...

We recently received donations in memory of passed HACS children, families, friends and supporters. We thank the families of Doris Istryhan, Linda Covell, Luigi Riso, Betty Piuni, DM Robinson, John Dunham, Santina Rotella, Ken Monroe, John Harte, Margaret Scodellaro, Cliff & Edna Winfrey, Maragret Burke and May Doherty.

We are sorry for your loss and grateful for your generosity.

To Our New Families...

We are saddened to hear your child has cancer. We hope you will find encouragement, fun and support through the activities, programs and camaraderie that we have to offer. Since 1986 Help A Child Smile has been providing support such as bravery beads, Ronald McDonald House accommodations, Emla cream, parking passes and more to families who have a child being treated for cancer at McMaster Children's Hospital. And to help you and your family smile, we fund outings to events like Disney On Ice, Wonderland and African Lion Safari to name just a few. Ultimately, your family may choose to enjoy an expense-paid week at Florida's Give Kids The World Village, including day passes to Disney World, Sea World, Universal Studios and more [on us](#).

Notes From Our Families.

The Martin Family: We had a fantastic trip to Give the Kids the World. It was an awesome place, with soooo much to do, Ryan and I had trouble keeping up with the kids!!! Ainsley absolutely loved being able to meet the characters right at the village, they had characters in the morning and at the parties. All the staff and volunteers at the village were very warm and welcoming. We went to all the night time parties, the kids couldn't wait until it was "party time" at the village. Both the kids loved making the magical pillow at the village, and Ainsley was so proud of her star. Both Ainsley and Brady loved the horse back rides at the village, they wanted to spend all day there with the horses.

We all had a fabulous time at the Disney Park, SeaWorld and Universal Studios. Ainsley was able to fill her autograph book up and meet her very favorite princess Ariel. Brady was scared of most of the characters but he did work up enough courage to meet Mickey and Jake. He met Pluto, Shamu and Woody too but would not venture too close. Ainsley went on her first big roller coaster and Brady went on his first kid's roller coaster, they now are both big fans of roller coasters. Everywhere was done up beautifully with Christmas lights and decorations, it was great to be able to see it. Each day was filled

with fun and adventure and we couldn't have had a better time. Thank you for everything, this trip was something we will never forget and I don't think we have seen Ainsley or Brady smile that much in a very long time, they absolutely loved everything about the Village, Florida, the plane and limo rides and all the attractions we went to.

Much Love to everyone with Help a Child Smile and Give kids the World.

- Ainsley, Brady, Charlene and Ryan

The Kettle Family: To all the dear people who make up HACS - I have been delaying this "thank you" note for a couple of weeks simply because there are not words in my vocab or maybe even the whole English language to express the overwhelming feelings I have for HACS. The tremendous generosity of all the volunteers, sponsors and contributors that came together to provide this unbelievable week just takes my breath away and leaves goose bumps on my arms.

This trip was one of the happiest stressfree vacations any family could possibly imagine! A HACS Alumni mother described how wonderful this trip was but I couldn't even begin to picture it. Right from the beginning with the limo ride to the hotel, the hotel, attraction tickets, car rentals, shuttle services & dinner theaters - everything was perfectly awesome! We were treated like royalty! I don't know of any words that can express our gratitude.

We left our worries behind as we escaped into a truly magically adventure to reconnect as a family and celebrate life! I say this because cancer has a way of tearing apart pieces of a family. HACS and GKTW stitched us back together again and started us on our road to recovery as a family unit - stronger than ever with the knowledge we were not alone in our fight nor ever will be alone. You guys were there for us from the very start of Donald's 2 year battle. Donald was doubly blessed that everyone in his entire family decided to come as well.

From the bottom of our hearts the family of Donald Kettle thanks you! May God bless & keep you growing with more & more volunteers, sponsors & contributors! Sincerely, **The Kettle Family**

What's Coming Up?



An NHL Alumni Hockey game will take place on April 6 at the Waterloo Memorial Recreation Complex. Doors open at 1pm and puck drops at 2pm. See the registration form for more details. *This event is free for all HACS families and guests but **you must register** before the day of the event.*



Disney On Ice is back at Copps Coliseum with 'Princesses & Heroes' on Friday, March 14th at 7pm. This event is free for immediate family members, and \$16 per ticket for guests. You must register **BY** February 14th - see the registration form for more details.

🧡 June 21st is our annual **Marineland** family day so mark it on your calendar. Lunch is at 1:15 sharp and the deadline for registration is May 18th. Free for Active families only! Guest tickets \$40 includes lunch (kids under 5 are free)

🧡 **Wonderland** is July 12th with lunch served from 11:30 until 1 so get there early! \$10 per Active family member, \$20 for Alumni. Guests are welcome - see pricing on the registration page.

IMPORTANT REMINDERS:

- 🧡 **ACTIVE** are families whose child was diagnosed or has relapsed within the past 4 years
- 🧡 **IMMEDIATE** family members are parents and children at the time of diagnosis
- 🧡 **ALUMNI** families are those whose child was diagnosed or relapsed more than 4 years ago

Random Photos



Jenny Walsh, Heather O'Shea, Beth Walsh, Marg Lee, Jen Battler, Robin Crockett, Loretta Beaton, Paige Miller



Cindy Rose, Randy Alonzo, Sandra Allen, Janine Hann, Kay Hunt, Brad Bell, Gabby Bell, Ted Rose



Jon-Marc Snider's trip presentation at the Kieffer Memorial Tournament



Marg Watt



OPP awarding cheque to Sandra & Jim Allen



The Kettle Family



Bill Williamson & Marty McSorely



Ainsley & Ariel

Spring 2014 Family Event Registration Form

Mail completed registration forms with money orders made payable to HACS to:

Bertha Bertrand, 61 Canboro Rd. PO Box 1262 Fonthill, ON L0S1E0

If you received this form electronically, print it, fill it out and mail it to the address above. Copies can also be printed from our website.

Please do not cut this form - send multiple forms if necessary.

Family Name: _____ Patient's Full Name: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ Postal Code

Telephone: (____) ____ - _____ Email: _____

Can we send newsletters to this email address? Y N (circle one) Is this a new mailing address? Y N (circle one) (So we can update our records)

1) **DISNEY ON ICE: Friday, March 14th, 7pm** - COPPS Coliseum, Hamilton - **Register BY Feb 14th!**

of **immediate** family (parents and children) members attending [Free]: _____

of guests (no more than the number of immediate family, please) [\$16 each]: _____

Total number of tickets:

2) **MARINELAND: Saturday, June 21st - FREE** for **ACTIVE** families only - lunch at 1:15 sharp. Guest tickets \$40, includes lunch. **Kids under 5 - Free!** (Can upgrade to Season Tickets at the gate for \$5 + HST)

of immediate family adults attending _____ Are you Joining us for the lunch provided? Y N # of vegetarians _____

Names of immediate family children attending: Age: Check meal } Regular Vegetarian Halal Burger
BBQ Food Burger (Chicken)

1) _____	_____	_____	_____	_____
2) _____	_____	_____	_____	_____
3) _____	_____	_____	_____	_____
4) _____	_____	_____	_____	_____
5) _____	_____	_____	_____	_____
6) _____	_____	_____	_____	_____
7) _____	_____	_____	_____	_____

of guests (adults + children): ____ X \$40 each = \$ _____ # of kids **under 5** _____

Registration forms **with money orders** (if requesting guest tickets) **MUST** be returned by **May 18th**

3) **WONDERLAND: Saturday, July 12th - lunch 11:30 to 1:00** - **ACTIVE** families \$10 ea (**immediate only**) ALUMNI families \$20. Guests welcome - see guest pricing below.

of immediate family adults attending _____ Are you joining us for the lunch provided? Y N # of vegetarians _____

Names of immediate family children attending: Age: (under 3 free) 48" or taller? (circle) Vegetarian?

1) _____	_____	Yes	No	Yes	No
2) _____	_____	Yes	No	Yes	No
3) _____	_____	Yes	No	Yes	No
4) _____	_____	Yes	No	Yes	No
5) _____	_____	Yes	No	Yes	No
6) _____	_____	Yes	No	Yes	No
7) _____	_____	Yes	No	Yes	No

Total # of **ACTIVE** immediate family members attending (adults + children) ____ x \$10 each = \$ _____

Total # of **ALUMNI** immediate family members attending (adults + children) ____ x \$20 each = \$ _____

Total # of guests ages 3-59 years and **over*** 48" tall ____ x \$40 each (includes meal) = \$ _____

Total # of guests age 60+ or under 3 years and **under**** 48" tall ____ x \$36 each (includes meal) = \$ _____

Registration forms **with money orders** (if requesting guest tickets) **MUST** be returned by **June 2nd**

Note: If your child will be in treatment/hospital on July 12th please let us know and we can offer you '**Anyday**' passes at the same rates as above and guest passes at \$39* (ages 3-59) or \$33** for each - sorry, no meals with '**Anyday**' passes.

IMPORTANT NOTES: ♦ Reprint this registration page if you are not able to send money orders for all events at once, but **ONLY** fill out the registration for **EACH** event **ONCE**. If you received your newsletter in the mail, you can go to our website to download and print this form from the Newsletters page. ♦ Pay strict attention to the deadlines - they are NOT 'mail by' dates. They are when the registration forms **with** money orders (no cheques) **MUST** be in our hands. Failure to get them back in time will result in not enough tickets being ordered! Don't let your family miss out on any of these memory-making adventures!