



April 2017 Newsletter

Notes From The Editor:

Happy Spring or so they say. I don't know if Mother Nature knows what season it should be! Snow one day and warm and rainy the next. We have some great activities planned over the next few months. The Family Fishing Derby on May 13th followed by African Lion Safari and Marineland. Just a reminder that Help a Child Smile is celebrating its 30th Anniversary. Look forward to some history of the last 30 years and what may be yet to come!

From The Board:

Disney On Ice was our first family event utilizing the new ticket distribution method. While it went smoothly enough for our first run, we learned that you need more information to make it an even better method.



First, you need to know that many popular events have waiting lists of families who did not get tickets for various reasons - often because they were diagnosed after the event registration had already closed. (Once we have submitted our order for tickets, we often cannot get more.) We also recognize that sometimes stuff happens that you didn't expect and you find yourself unable to attend after you registered for an event. It could be a sudden illness, or you find out a conflicting appointment has been scheduled for your child, things like that. We get it.

So, if you find out days prior to the event that you are not going to be able to go, PLEASE EMAIL BERTHA IMMEDIATELY at family.registration@helpachildsmile.com and tell her. If you know just hours before the event is to start, call or text her at **289-241-3184** and let her know. Either way, she will give your tickets to a waiting family. If you are running late, or something happens such as a roadside breakdown on your way to the venue, please call or text the board member whose cell phone number has been given out for the specific event. They can then arrange to meet you when you do arrive to get you in after the event has started.

Our main goal is to ensure that every family who wants to attend an event has every possible chance to do so - even if it is at the last minute. At the same time, we hope to eliminate the waste of having tickets left sitting on the table after the event begins - there were over \$800 worth of them at Disney.

To help everyone get used to this new procedure, we will send out an email reminder the week before an event that will include date/time/location and the contact info for the board member responsible for the event.

Please pay attention to the contact info given for each event and take the phone number of the board member in charge with you when you leave home 'just in case'.

Calling all families!

We really wanted to do something special for and with our families to celebrate our 30th anniversary, so we thought long and hard, and decided a HACS Family Reunion Picnic is the way to go! How better to reflect on how far we have come, see first-hand where we are now, and share our goals and dreams for the future than to spend a day with all of you! **Mark a big X on your calendar for Saturday, September 16th - rain date the 17th** but we know it won't rain! Look for much more info in the July newsletter.

We also have an exciting raffle coming up and we are counting on all of you to help make it a huge success! We are offering a \$5,000 travel voucher as the first prize, and a 55" TV as



second prize!!! The tickets will be \$5 each or 5 for \$20 and the draw will be held on January 17th, 2018. That's a whole 9 months away! But we need your help. If each of our families sold just 5 tickets, the raffle would be a complete sell-out! If we sold every ticket, we could send 5 families to Give Kids The World! What an awesome way to start off the New Year! Mind you, we

are not going to discourage you from selling more if you like. In fact, we are going to offer 10 tickets as a prize for the family who turns in the most sold ticket stubs by September 16th (yes, that date sounds familiar - it's the date of the family reunion picnic). Watch our website and Facebook page for details as they become available.



What's Happened?

On March 17th, many of our families enjoyed **Disney on Ice - Passport to Adventure**. Over 350 tickets went out to our very happy families. As always, it was a magical evening full of exciting music, breath-taking ice-dancing, dazzling costumes, glittering lights and all of our favourite Disney folks.



What Have Our Partners Been Doing?

Brantford's Studio A, Academy of Performing Arts held a Christmas Concert and donated the proceeds to us. A cheque for \$1000 was presented by owner Abbey Girard (C) to Joyce Hutson (L) and Beth Walsh (R). Many thanks to Abbey and her students for showcasing their talents while supporting our kids!



Seven-year-old **Maximus Duran** has noticed that a lot of kids he sees at clinic have no hair. And he decided he wanted to do something. So he set about to collect as many hats as he could to donate to the Clinic. Child Life Specialist Nate Seroski is pictured accepting and checking out the cool hats he will give out to kids, with many thanks to Maximus.



Donations In Memory Of ...

Anna Nixon, Dean Wilson, Katie Herron, Austin Cummings, Deborah Lynn Haines, Donna Fish, Jack Riddell, Steve Bronszivich

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

Other Donations ... that have been recently received from ...

- Coast to Coast \$ 7300.00
- Annual Larry Dilt's Golf Tournament (Leo Caron & Volunteers of ADM Milling) \$ 2635.74
- Hub International Employee Giving Back Committee donation \$ 800.00

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 1987, Help A Child Smile has been providing parking passes, gas cards, food and lodging vouchers, and paying for medical procedures that are not covered by OHIP - just a few of the services we fund to support the families. And, of course, we offer adventures to places like Marineland, African Lion Safari, Wonderland, Disney on Ice, Blue Jays and NHL Alumni games and a week's stay at Disney's Give Kids The World in Florida to help our children smile!

Notes From Our Families...

And this is why we do it! Thank you, Amy Watson, for the kind words:

"Joyce, I have been trying to think of what to say about our trip. Words can't describe how wonderful it was. We spent the entire week feeling so loved and blessed. It was truly a life changing experience for us all. Everlee had a permanent smile on her face the entire week. For her birthday, they surprised her with a beautiful horse drawn carriage ride through the village and there were people standing at the end of their driveways waving and cheering and saying happy birthday to her. I have never seen such a bright sparkle in her eyes then when she saw the carriage and horses. The staff were so kind, and doted on

Everlee during every meal, every event and most of them knew her by name within the first couple days of our arrival. The staff and volunteers truly make the experience that much more special. We participated in every event at the village and utilized the tickets to Disney and other local parks such as Clearwater Marine Aquarium where Everlee got to meet Winter, the dolphin from her favourite movie, Dolphin Tale. The staff were so kind there that they had the dolphins sing happy birthday to her.

I have spent months crying over sad things as a result of Everlee's cancer, but this week I spent all week crying happy tears to see the joy on my baby's face. The village offered us experiences every day that just amazed me with the time, effort and consideration they put into every detail.

We can't thank you and Help a Child Smile enough for this once in a lifetime opportunity. I hope you enjoy the photos I have attached, and see how happy you have made not only Everlee, but our entire family.

With so much love and gratitude, Amy Watson"



Carina's Pyjama Party - This kid and family-friendly event was held to honour the memory of Carina. A cheque for \$450.00 was presented to Help a Child Smile representing half the proceeds of this party. Emily is a youth in the leadership training program who took over the leadership on this project supporting Carina, her family and leukemia research. Carina was a much-loved participant in the children's programming at St. Michael's. Carina's mom, when asked what organizations she would like the proceeds of this event go to, stated "Your organization really helped to keep Carina's spirits up with special crafts and goodies and how much that meant to the family". Thank you from HACS to all those involved with this special project in memory of Carina.

What's Coming Up For Our Families During the Next Few Months?

HACS Family Fishing Derby on **May 13th** is generously hosted again the year by The Galt Sportsmen's Club, 6542 Gore Rd, Cambridge, ON N1R 8K2. The pond will be freshly stocked with 10"-12" rainbow trout. There will also be plenty of volunteers to help your family with any aspect of the experience, from baiting the hook, to cleaning the fish you catch! (Please bring a cooler or cooler bag with ice if you plan to take your fish home.) This free event is open to HACS Active and Alumni families of all ages. (No guests please.) No license is required for any angler because the pond is on private property. Rods will be provided for use by any kid who does not have one. Online or telephone registrations accepted until May 7th. If you are leaving a phone message at 905-385-4227, be sure to clearly state your child's last name, # of adults and # of kids (12 and under) attending and number of kids who need to borrow a rod. Fishing starts at 9 am and continues until a BBQ lunch at 1.

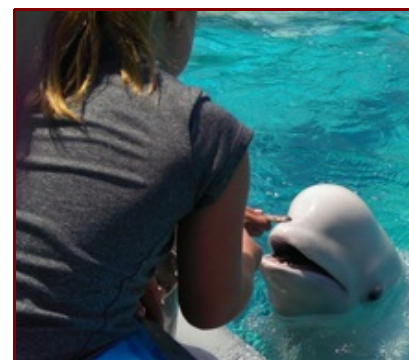


Once again Denis Larocque, the organizer of the **Jim Walsh Bike Ride for Kids with Cancer**, has started April off with the Bike Ride Kick Off Dance. It was held April 8th at the Polish Hall in Brantford and featured many talented artists and a night full of great music. Proceeds from the dance along with the bike ride will be donated to HACS. The Jim Walsh Bike Ride will be held on **May 28th**. Find them on Facebook and visit the following website to register and find out more information <https://raceroster.com/events/2017/10202/jim-walsh-bike-ride-for-kids-with-cancer-fundraiser>

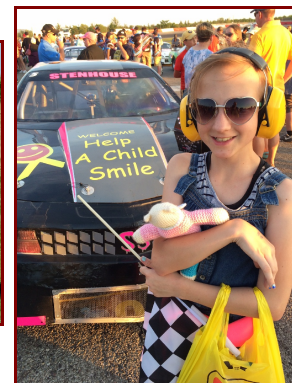


African Lion Safari is **May 27th** and is **free** to all of our Active and Alumni families. Guests are \$22.00 for everyone age 3 and over. Be sure to be at the Antelope Pavilion by 11:40 sharp to experience the Elephant Encounter up close and personal. Immediately following that at 11:50 is the Creature Feature - who knows what exotic animal you will meet! Then the all-you-can-eat BBQ lunch starts promptly at 12. **Registrations will close on May 8th**. Changes to your attendance should be sent to Bertha by email if 24 hours or more in advance, or by cell (**289-241-3184**) if you are giving less than 24 hours notice.

Marineland on **June 17th** is \$5 for each Active immediate family member. Alumni families and guests are welcome at \$39.50 each which includes lunch. Kids 4 and under are admitted to the park for free. You will have the option to convert your tickets into season's passes at the gate for just \$5 each! Lunch is at 12:30 sharp at the Hungry Bear Restaurant. Registrations close on May 29th. Bertha is the point-person on this event. She will be handing out tickets near the Will Call window from 9:30 until 11:30 so call or text her as soon as possible about any cancellations or changes. (**289-241-3184**) She will arrange for you to get into the park after that time **ONLY** if you have contacted her!



Meet The Driver Night at **Flamboro Speedway** is also on **June 17th** and is **free** to all HACS families and their guests. This is an exciting evening for all race enthusiasts! You will have the opportunity to shake the driver's hands, get autographs and pictures taken with the drivers and sitting in the race cars. Look for the HACS banner near the main entrance when the gates open at 5 pm. Racing starts at 6:30. Registration must be in by June 10th.



We realize that we have planned 2 events for June 17th. Unfortunately, Marineland was already booked before the schedule for Flamboro was published. Meet The Driver Night was a huge hit last year and we know our families are looking forward to it again this year. So we compared the registrations for these events last year and found there were only a dozen families who attended both. Of those 12 families, very few took their younger children to Flamboro, so we are leaving them both on the same day.



Registration for **Canada's Wonderland** is open until 9 pm on June 15th. Be sure to order your tickets **BEFORE 9 pm on June 15th** - there will be **NO extensions or exceptions!** Your 'Any Day' tickets will be good until October 29th. So, on the downside, lunch is no longer included, but on the upside, you can go whenever is best for your family! Tickets are \$10 for each immediate Active family member and \$20 for each Alumni family member. Adult guests are 7 to 59 years old and tickets are \$42 each. Seniors (age 60+) and Kids (age 3-6 who are under 48" tall) are \$38 each. Age 2 and under are admitted free.



STAMPEDE DAYS brings bucking bulls & the Jordan Szoke's extreme bike team to Paris for a great show on **July 9th ONLY**. Gates open at 12:30 pm and the show starts at 2 pm. The Rodeo is free for all of our families and their guests, but pre-registration is required by **July 8th**. You can sign up on our online

registration page, by emailing us at info@helpachildsmile.com or by leaving a message at 905-385-4227 - be sure to tell us your child's name, and how many tickets you require.

Merrittville Speedway is **August 12th** with the gate opening at 5:30 and racing starting at 7. This is free for all of our families and their guests. Children 7 and under **DO NOT REQUIRE A TICKET**. Check their website at <http://www.merrittvillespeedway.com/> for details on how your kids can get in on the action and compete in Box Car Races! Registrations close July 24th.



Plans for the second **CanJam Revived** in Honour of Sandra Allen are well underway. This event for all ages will be held at the Knights Hall in Brantford on **Saturday, August 26th**. We have lots of fun stuff for the kids starting at 11am and great live entertainment by some of the best musicians around starting at 1 pm. and continuing till 10 pm. Come join in the fun! Visit our Face book pages, CanJam Revived in Honour of Sandra Allen, Help A Child Smile and our web page www.helpachildsmile.com to keep up on current information.

More details to come for the following events:

- ☺ Our families are invited to the open house at the **Canadian Military Heritage Museum**, August 6th in Brantford. Watch the 13th Battalion Drill Regiment, dressed in their scarlet uniforms of 1862, demonstrate precise period drill and fire volleys from reproduction Enfield muskets.
- ☺ **Blue Jays vs New York Yankees** - Saturday, September 23rd at 1 o'clock.
- ☺ **Go Gold** this year in Brantford will be held on Saturday, September 9th.
- ☺ **The Sandra Allen Memorial Golf Tournament** is set for Sunday, September 10th
- ☺ **Family Picnic in September!** - Saturday, September 16th - rain date the 17th



We will continue to Help A Child Smile until there is no more childhood cancer!

IMPORTANT REMINDERS:

Active families have a child who was diagnosed or relapsed within the past 4 years.

Immediate family members are parents and siblings at the time of diagnosis.

Alumni families are those whose child was diagnosed or relapsed more than 4 years ago.

NOTES:

If you sign up for an event that has a charge, please process your payment no more than 7 days after registering. If we have not received online payments within 7 days or money orders within 14 days, we will assume that you have changed your mind and cancel your registration. This is to avoid buying tickets for your family that you must have decided you are not going to use. If you have a problem with the online payment system please notify jhutson@helpachildsmile.com immediately.

If you are mailing your registration to us, 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 these memory-making adventures! **Money orders are to be made payable to: Help A Child Smile**

PS: Our families are finding the e-Transfer method of paying for event registrations to be quick and easy. To use e-Transfer instead of Visa, Mastercard or money order, please send your payment to pcharron@helpachildsmile.com using your child's name and the name of the event as the security question (ie Mary Smith Wonderland - yeah, we know that's not really a question) and hacs2017 as the security answer. This is VERY IMPORTANT if we are to be able to process your payment.

Family Event Registration Form

Mail forms with money orders to *Help A Child Smile*, 61 Canboro Rd, PO Box 1262, Fonthill, ON L0S 1E0

If you received this newsletter by email, please register online at
<http://helpachildsmile.com/family-registration/>

If you need more copies of this registration form it can be printed from the event page of our website.

Patient's Last Name: _____ Patient's First Name: _____

Phone: (____) - ____ - ____

Address: _____ City: _____ Postal Code: _____

Is this a new mailing address? (check one) Yes ☐ No ☐

African Lion Safari - Saturday, May 27th

FREE to all HACS families. Guests are \$22.00 for everyone age 3 and over.

No. of immediate family adults attending: ____ Are you joining us for the lunch provided? Y ____ N ____
Names of immediate family children attending: Age of each child: Vegetarian? (Circle one)

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

of adult guests attending _____ x \$22 = \$ _____ No. of vegetarians _____

Registrations *with money order or e-Transfer* if requesting guest tickets. Registrations close May 8th.

Flamboro Speedway - Saturday, June 17th

Meet The Drivers Night - gates open at 5, racing starts at 6:30

Patient's Last Name: _____ Patient's First Name: _____

Phone: (____) - ____ - ____

Address: _____ City: _____ Postal Code: _____

Free to all families and guests. No. adults attending: ____ No. of children attending: ____

'Shout-Outs' from the announcer during the races is available for the **patient child only**.

Check **ONLY IF** you would like the announcer to do a shout-out to your child () first name only () full name

First Name: _____ Last Name: _____

Total # of tickets required: ____

Registration forms **MUST** be returned by **June 10th**

Marineland – Saturday, June 17th

Patient's Last Name: _____ Patient's First Name: _____

Phone: (____) - ____ - ____

Address: _____ City: _____ Postal Code: _____

Registration deadline is **May 29th**. Lunch at 12:30 pm sharp. Immediate Active family members cost \$5.00.

Alumni families and guests are welcome at \$39.50 each which includes lunch. Kids 4 and under are admitted to the park for free (Can upgrade to Season Tickets at the gate for \$5 + HST)

No. of immediate family adults attending: ____ Are you joining us for the lunch provided? Y ____ N ____

No. of Vegetarians: ____

Names of immediate family children attending: Age: Check Type ☐ Regular ☐ Vegetarian ☐ Halal Burger
of Meal ☐ BBQ Food ☐ Burger (Chicken)

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

No. of Immediate Active family: ____ X \$5.00 each = \$ _____

No. of guests (adults + children): ____ X \$39.50 each = \$ _____ No. of kids **under** 4 and under ____

Registrations *with money order or e-Transfer* if requesting guest tickets **MUST** be received **by May 29th**.

2017 Bulls and Bikes – Saturday, July 9th

Patient's Last Name: _____ Patient's First Name: _____
Phone: (____) - ____ - ____
Address: _____ City: _____
Postal Code: _____ Number of tickets for July 9th : _____

If you wish to leave a message at 905-385-4227, **CLEARLY** state your child's name, your phone number, the number of tickets you want. **Free** to all HACS families and their guests but pre-registration is required.

You can also register online at <http://helpachildsmile.com/family-registration/> or by emailing us at info@helpachildsmile.com Registrations must be received by **July 8th**

Merrittville Speedway - Saturday, August 12th

Patient's Last Name: _____ Patient's First Name: _____
Phone: (____) - ____ - ____
Address: _____ City: _____ Postal Code: _____

(Children 7 and under do not require a ticket)

No. of immediate family adults attending: _____ No. of immediate family children age 8 and up attending: _____

No. of adult guests attending: _____ No. of child guests age 8 and up attending: _____

Total # of tickets required: _____

Registrations **MUST** be received by **July 24th**

Wonderland – Any Day

Patient's Last Name: _____ Patient's First Name: _____
Phone: (____) - ____ - ____
Address: _____ City: _____ Postal Code: _____

Registrations for these Any Day tickets close May 29th and are good until October 29th.

ACTIVE families \$10 ea (immediate only) ALUMNI families \$20 ea.

Guests are welcome - see guest pricing below.

Adult guests are 7 to 59 years old and tickets are \$42 each.

Seniors (age 60+) and Kids (age 3-6 who are under 48" tall) are \$38 each.

No. of immediate family adults attending: _____

Names of immediate family children attending: Age (2 & under free) 48" or taller

1) _____	_____	Yes	No
2) _____	_____	Yes	No
3) _____	_____	Yes	No
4) _____	_____	Yes	No
5) _____	_____	Yes	No
6) _____	_____	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 kid guests ages who are under 48" tall x \$35 each = \$ _____

Total # of adult guests age 7-59 x \$42 each = \$ _____

Total # of senior guests and kids age 3-6 (who are under 48" tall) x \$38 each = \$ _____

Registrations with money order or e-Transfer if requesting guest tickets **MUST** be received by **May 29th**.