The Beat of the Drum
Winter 1997

The Beat of the Drum...

began the second Young Adult Conference at Camp Mak-A-Dream this past January. Twenty-two participants from across the USA and Canada gathered around the lodge fireplace to learn of the conference activities, meet new friends as well as visit with old ones, and to toast the conference’s opening!

The Beat of the Drum...

was one of many activities shared by these young adults. For the first several days participants made five authentic, African drums under the direction of the nationally acclaimed Drum Brothers from Arlee, Montana. African jewelry, masks, basketry and other original pieces of art were also created. All of these creations enriched the “Night in Africa” followed by a performance by the Unity Dance and Drum troop from Missoula, as well as a fine feast of African style foods.

The Beat of the Drum...

carried the rhythm of the conference into our guest speaker sessions. These discussions were led by Dr. Stuart Kaplan from St. Jude’s Hospital who joined us once again as the campus doctor and by Jill Downey of Calgary, Alberta Canada. Topics ranged from insurmountability and sexuality issues to grief and loss.

The Beat of the Drum...

was background music for play in the mountains of Montana all week long. Participants experienced downhill skiing, cross-country skiing, snowshoeing, snowmobiling and Winter Olympics!

The Beat of the Drum...

will resonate in all of us as we venture back to our homes; our lives being changed forever, filled with fond memories from all the magic of the Winter Young Adult Conference at Camp Mak-A-Dream!

Maintaining a positive outlook during cancer treatment

By Dr. Stuart J. Kaplan, St. Jude’s Medical Center

The prognosis for children diagnosed with cancer has improved dramatically over the past fifty years. With such advances as using multiple chemotherapy drugs and combining methods of treatment such as chemotherapy with radiation or surgery have been instrumental in giving young patients hope of being cured of their cancer. For example, in the past thirty years alone, the cure rate for Acute Lymphoblastic Leukemia has increased from less than twenty percent to more than eighty percent.

Although the long term outlook for a child diagnosed with cancer is much better than it was fifty years ago, the journey to a cure is not an easy one. While it is true that cancer treatment has become more effective, it also has become more extensive, often with many medicines used at the same time. Multiple chemotherapy drugs not only work together to effectively kill cancer cells, but they also work together to make a young patient sometimes feel even sicker than the cancer itself does. Enduring multiple courses of chemotherapy, radiation and surgeries is a heroic ordeal that no young person should be forced to face.

There are many who believe, and I am one of them, that outlook is very important in the outcome of disease. Camp Mak-A-Dream can help young people maintain a positive outlook during treatment. Looking forward to another week in Montana can give energy and drive to help continue with difficult and painful therapy. A week of wellness can do wonders to overcome illness.
President's Message

Has your winter seemed unusually long? Thankfully, a change in season is approaching and with it, new activities. For Camp Mak-A-Dream, summer is an important season. And you can see in this newsletter how our activities are leading us from winter and spring into summer. Many hours of preparation by many people are required to have a full summer of camp offerings for children and young adults with cancer. Joining us for our third summer of camp is our new Executive Director, Gregg Doerfler. Gregg began on February 1st and brings many talents to Children's Oncology Camp Foundation. We are delighted to welcome Gregg and look forward to sharing camp sessions with him. Among the many activities Gregg is working on is our Phase II Capital Campaign. With Susan Klein and Bob Kelly, Campaign Co-Chairmen, we are asking you to join us in the completion of our dream. As you read this newsletter, keep in mind the many children and young adults who are benefitting from Camp Mak-A-Dream. As you can see, wonderful people supported our campers in 1996. Now we just need to finish Phase II. Please consider how you can help. We welcome you; camp needs you; and the children need camp!

Sally Francis Keayes, President
Board of Directors, Children's Oncology Camp Foundation

Executive Director’s Report

February 1, 1997 was my first day as the Executive Director of the Children's Oncology Camp Foundation. It was also a day of immense honor and pride. I would like to thank the Search Committee, Executive Committee, Board of Directors and the staff for giving me this opportunity. I pledge myself to carry out the Mission statement of Camp Mak-A-Dream and have a great time doing it. I especially would like to thank Sally Francis Keayes, President of the Board of Directors, for filling the Executive Director position during the interim and for making my transition a smooth one. I would also like to thank the staff, a group of dedicated, highly professional and fun people that have made my first several weeks a pleasure.

I am looking forward to growing with Camp Mak-A-Dream over this next year. Our plans are to have five weeks of camp this summer. If we fill those sessions, and add the Young Adult Conference that was held in January, we will have served a total of 220 campers this year. It will be a challenge, but I know the staff, our many volunteers and myself are looking forward to that challenge. Thanks for helping keep the Dream going!

Gregg Doerfler
Executive Director

In memory of the children who enriched our lives.

Camp Mak-A-Dream asks you to join with us in honoring the lives of two of our campers. We extend to their families our deepest sympathy and also appreciation for sharing them with us. While their lives were shortened due to cancer, they will continue to enrich our lives.

Juan Asturias - Houston, Texas

Juan was 14 years old, originally from Guatemala, and lived in Houston, Texas in order to receive medical treatments. Juan came to Camp Mak-A-Dream in 1995 and again in 1996. He loved nature and the mountains greatly and also enjoyed doing arts and crafts. Juan was a very special young man who touched the lives of everyone who knew him and he will sincerely be missed.

Meagan MacPherson - Nampa, Idaho

Meagan MacPherson, 14 years old, of Nampa, Idaho died March 4, 1997. Meagan, known to all of us as M&M, and remembered for her impatient eye rolls, attended camp in 1995 and 1996. She was active in horse vaulting and we enjoyed hearing all about that part of her life. Meagan loved her family and friends very much and she will be missed by all of us.
Get ready for a wonderful summer!

Camp Mak-A-Dream plans to host five summer sessions for a variety of participants. Two of the five sessions will be devoted to children ages 6-16 years who either have or have had cancer. The next session is for the brothers, sisters, sons and daughters of cancer patients, a session we refer to as Siblings’ camp, also for participants ages 6-16 years. Sessions four and five will be our Young Adult Conference for current or previous cancer patients ages 17-23 years. Please see the Summer 1997 schedule for specific dates.

Camp Mak-A-Dream for Kids 6-16 who have had cancer are welcome to come and join us for a week of wonderful experiences at Camp Mak-A-Dream in Gold Creek, Montana. If you like to horseback ride, fly-fish, mine for sapphires, do cool art projects, camp outside or sing around a campfire, then Camp Mak-A-Dream is for you!

The Young Adult Conference (YAC) will be week-long, cost-free sessions including keynote speakers and workshops, educational events and small group discussions on cancer and related issues as well as unique Montana activities to enhance the experience. Please see the Summer 1997 schedule for specific dates.

The Sibling Program was designed for children ages 6-16 who have a brother, sister, mom or dad with cancer. Growing up in a family with cancer means just that, the family, not just the cancer patient, contracts cancer when a diagnosis is made. This camp allows the physically healthy children of these families to experience a week of forming unique friendships with other kids in similar situations as well as having fun and having all the attention focused on them. Camp Mak-A-Dream wants these kids to be able to live out their dreams, too.

Applications need to be completed and returned to our foundation office prior to May 1, 1997 to attend any summer session. In May, the medical committee will be finalizing the selection of this year’s campers. Camp Mak-A-Dream strives for a careful balance of children and young adults both currently in treatment and in post-treatment stages, to ensure a good experience for everyone. Applications received after May 1, 1997 will be processed on a first-come, first-serve basis to fill any remaining vacancies. Once selected to attend camp, participants will then need to begin making travel arrangements for transportation to and from Gold Creek, Montana. To request an application, please call our foundation office at (406) 549-5987.

Spring help needed

You are cordially invited to work alongside us this spring, cleaning up around campus and gearing up for our summer visitors. If you are part of a service organization, or just service-minded, come join us! We will be hosting several “work days” this spring throughout April and May. Work projects include:

- construction
- landscaping
- housekeeping
- and lots, lots more!

If any of these projects and dates look good to you, please give us a call at our foundation office today... come alone, or bring your group... we're always happy to see smiling faces and put them to work.

R.V. Folks...Volunteer at Camp

This summer season we are looking for 8-10 people and their R.V.s to assist us at camp by participating in our work crews. This crew will assist in the dining service, housekeeping, office, landscaping and other various daily operations. Enjoy time off together getting to know everyone in your R.V. area, experience the magic of Camp Mak-A-Dream, tour and its beauty, and make lasting memories as well as lasting friends. For more information, call the foundation office at (406) 549-5987.
We want to thank our 1996 donors. All gifts, financial, in

CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP MINISTRIES

We want to thank our 1996 donors. All gifts, financial, in

CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP MINISTRIES
ind and hours of volunteer services are greatly appreciated.

James Wade
Dorothy Walshe

Dear Sir,

I am writing to let you know that I have been asked to organize a volunteer program in our community. I have been working on this project for several weeks and I am excited about the potential it has to make a positive impact.

I understand that you have experience in organizing similar programs in the past. I would be grateful if you could provide me with some advice or guidance on how to get started.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

[Your Name]
The 1997 Wish List

Camp Mak-A-Dream's needs are great when it comes to everyday household items we take for granted. If you, or someone you know, could help provide any of the items on our "Wish List," we'd love to hear from you! As summer quickly approaches, we are in need of:

- New Towel Sets
- Fly-fishing Equipment
- Life jackets, various sizes
- Winter sports equipment
- Twin size washable quilts
- 250 duffle-style bags (ok if they are hand-made also)
- 150 new twin-size blankets
- 150 new twin-size filled sheets
- 150 new standard size pillow cases
- 250 hand-made journals
- 2 Electric stoves in good, working condition
- 1 High-pressure dish washer
- 5 Gallons White Latex Paint
- Microwave ovens
- Space heaters
- 2-drawer and 4-drawer file cabinets
- Power tools: chain saws, nail guns, etc.
- Landscaping tools in good condition: spades, gas-powered weed eaters, hand-held fertilizer spreaders, hand tools, wheelbarrows etc...
- Fertilizer & Round-up weed control
- Flowers for terraced beds throughout campus
- Buckets
- CD players, new or in good working condition
- Sound / announcement system
- for main lodge/dining area
- Two-way radio system: base station
  + 8 hand-held units
- Tablecloths, various sizes - call office for details
- Van for passengers and/or luggage transportation
- 8' flat-bed trailer
- Tents, various sizes
- Tipis - materials and/or time to construct them

Get away from it all...Rent the Gold Creek facility!

Our facility at Gold Creek is beautiful all four seasons during the year. Since we are open all year long, we are able to extend an invitation to groups to rent the facility. Our handicap accessible facility includes 4 cabins, each housing 26 people with individual kitchens, fireplaces, and living areas, a mountain lodge with recreation, meeting, and dining areas, and additional buildings for arts and medical needs. Food service is available with a variety of menu selections for home-style serving. Amenities include: high-ropes course, horseback riding, archery range, art building, billiards, ping-pong, swimming pool and hot tub, basketball, sports field and equipment, big screen TV and video equipment. The facility is also close to Discovery Ski Resort and Sapphire/Carnet Mining. For more information, call Katherine Anthony at (406) 549-9587.

DREAMS ON THE NET

Camp Mak-A-Dream is now on the Internet. Look for http://www.campdream.org/

HELP SEND A KID TO CAMP-BUY A CAMPSHIP

Camp Mak-A-Dream is committed to the mission of providing a cost-free camping experience for children with cancer. Help us meet this mission. The cost for sending one camper is $500.00 per session. You can sponsor a child you know, or sponsor a child who is unable to afford to go to camp. Fill out the form below and send to the Camp Mak-A-Dream office at P.O. Box 1450, Missoula, MT 59806.

Name ___________________________ Phone ___________________________
Address ___________________________
City/State/Zip ___________________________
Amount Enclosed $ ___________________________
In addition I would like to pledge $ ___________________________ for _______ Years ___________________________

Spring 1997, Issue #6
Welcome Gregg Doerfler: Executive Director

Children's Oncology Camp Foundation is pleased to announce the arrival of Gregg Doerfler as Executive Director. After attending Sentinel High School and the University of Montana, he and his wife, Bonnie, moved to Polson, Montana where they both worked at St. Joseph’s Hospital. While in Polson, Gregg also owned and operated the local ambulance service. In 1989, they moved back to Missoula where, for the last five years, Gregg was the President of J.S. Marketing & Communications.

Welcome Bonnie Karrer: Bookkeeper

Welcome to Bonnie Karrer who joined Camp Mak-A-Dream on December 2, 1996 as our Bookkeeper. She comes to us with many years of experience working with non-profit organizations and most recently lived in Georgia. She moved to Montana to join her son and his family in Stevensville, Montana and is enjoying her beautiful new surroundings in the Missoula area.

Welcome Jennifer Benton: Office Manager

In August of 1996, Jennifer Benton came on board with Camp Mak-A-Dream full time as the Foundation Office Manager. Jennifer brings her experience as a former volunteer, as well as eight years of retail management experience. She and her husband, Steve, live in Missoula where they enjoy fishing, hiking, camping, rafting and skiing. Jennifer oversees the day-to-day operations of the Foundation and coordinates this newsletter and is very grateful to be part of such a wonderful organization.

Welcome Terry Christiansen: Facilities Manager

Terry joined Camp Mak-A-Dream as the Facility Manager in Gold Creek, Montana. Terry grew up in Northern Michigan and has spent the last 20 years in the construction business. After moving to Montana in 1992, he worked with Garden City Builders in Missoula until October of 1996, when he accepted the position with Camp Mak-A-Dream.

Terry lives at the camp facility in Gold Creek and has a son, Levi, and daughter, Katie, in Missoula. We’re happy to have him on board!

"We want to express our thanks for everything you always do with the kids in your camp, but especially Juan. He always came back with his mind full of wonderful memories and his heart full of love. Thank you...and God bless you! There are no words to say what we feel."

Beatrice - Texas
Parent

"Thank you so very much for your interest in our son at camp. He loved it! As you can see when he said he really wasn’t ready to come home (Huh Ha). Thanks again for your love...it shows."

Kara - Montana
Parent

WE WOULD LOVE TO HEAR FROM YOU, TOO. PLEASE WRITE SOON!

CHILDREN'S
ONCOLOGY CAMP FOUNDATION

GREGG DOERFLER
Executive Director

GREGG DOERFLER
Executive Director

BONNIE KARRER
Bookkeeper

OFFICERS OF THE FOUNDATION

GREGG DOERFLER
President

BONNIE KARRER
Vice President

JENNIFER BENTON
Secretary

Terry Christiansen
Executive Director

Terry Christiansen
Executive Director

Terry Christiansen
Executive Director

BRUCE WOLFE
Treasurer

BRUCE WOLFE
Treasurer

BRUCE WOLFE
Treasurer

CAMP DIRECTORS

BRUCE WOLFE
CAMP DIRECTOR

CAMP DIRECTOR

CAMP DIRECTOR

1996-1997

1996-1997

1996-1997

HONORARY BOARD

SOPHIE CRAIGHHEAD-MONTANA
Harry & Sylvia Granader-Michigan

SOPHIE CRAIGHHEAD-MONTANA
Harry & Sylvia Granader-Michigan

SOPHIE CRAIGHHEAD-MONTANA
Harry & Sylvia Granader-Michigan

DANNY GRANADER-TEXAS

DANNY GRANADER-TEXAS

DANNY GRANADER-TEXAS

7
GIFTS WERE MADE IN MEMORY OF...

Helen Marie Anderson
Richard Anderson
Robert Anderson
Robert G. Anderson
Susan Arpino
Teresa Asbridge's Mother
Suz Ann Austin
Bill Bailey
Evelyn Barnes
Jeannie Nelson Back
Carl Bemis
Sue Berry
Mary Burt
Cherriene Bloom
Helen Bloom
Harold Bloomstem
Mynor Bourn
Richard Bowers
Dennis Brand
Laurie Breadway
Jann Brilliant
Marylurie Brinell
Margaret Bruno
Ellen Burke-Harris
Cy Burt
Violet Caglia
Margie Carchman
Larry Chlepinski
Stewart Choplin
Robert Claxton
Robert Cobb
David Dale
Beth Delgado
Andie Demmons
Deborah Demmons
Jim Douglas

Sidney Dddy
Joseph Digel
Kenneth Dunnell
William "Bop" Franz
Roy Erickson
Al Evans
Josephine Evans
N. L. Evans
Dorothy Faulkner
Craig Finney
Jan Finney
John Finney
Tilie Flury
Luns Flute
Alma Foster
Robert Fox
Dick Frisell
Robby Frost
Landon Grace
Richard Griffin
Eugene Gilbert
Peter "Bajpie" Glenn
Helen Glassberg
Joe Credling
Mark Glance
William "Sherry" Griffith
Gerald Graver
Eugene Graulke
John Grudem
Ralph Haddad
Wesley Hardwood
Iver Hinesberg
Ray Hines
Barbara Herbert
Gilbert Hohler
Steven Hopkins
Jacob Hoyt
Anne Judichik
Arley Judikich
Eunice Johnson
Markese Johnson
Merrill Ann Johnson
Sherry Johnson
Margaret Ros Johnson
Cecilia Johnston

Elmer Jones
Marion Jones
Gage Kerlin
John Kerrick
Daniel Kromey
Alice Krockendall
Kenneth Kuebel
Bill Kuebel
William Kuebel
Donald Laskie
John O. Lake
John R. Lake
Linda Lake
Pete Landis
Aimee Leder
Grace Lewis
James "Notch" Lockhart
Cline MacHaidek
Eugene Mack
Verlin Mandro
Paul Marr
Carroll Maynard
Robert McAdoo
Patricia Maslak
Phyllis Medlock
Molly Medlock
Willie Medlock
Mary Helen Mingenberg
James Murphy
Jouna Louise Nelson
Larry Nelson
Viola Nicey
Tedd Nichols
Lawrence Niland
Florence O'Brien
Dr. Oden
Henry Ohy, Jr.
Louise Ort
Carol Pace
George Palter
Jennifer Palmer

Marshall Paul
Bernard Paul
Norma Paulson
George Peters, Jr.
Gillowrie Pershanniet
Bill Petre
Emma Peterson
Emma Pipinich
John Pipinich
The Parents Of John Poire
Henry Poth
Ann Bouson Prakke
Adrian Purdy
Belle Remy
Rose Margaret Ranaldi
Elvira Ranaldi
Cora Ranaldi
Bill Rix
Helena Rigan
Sammy Revoci
F. Gordon Reynolds
Georgie Rickett
Myrt Riley
Elmer Robinson
Alice Ross
Robert Rosk
Roger Sandin
Jerry Anderson
Pat Schult
David Schreuder
Susan Vodic Sears
Lawrence Shannon
Dave Shannon
Josephine Seicilia
David Severson
George Smilo
Al Simon
Geil Stephens
Mrs. Strickland
Alvin Stevens
Marie Thier
Emily Ann Tocher
Lori Trumbo
Al Vandegriff
Bernice Vichar

Roger W. Sanders
Bill Wagner
Hal Walker
Marie Rar Walker
Jeffrey Washes
Alberta Weaver
Howard Welch
James Whitehorne
Sidney Witterman
Ralph William Wolak
Betty Wolfe
Dollee Woody
Norman "Neil" York
Stephanie Zollinger
Mr. Zelfa

GIFTS WERE MADE IN HONOR OF...

James Babat
Frankie Barrett's 10th Birthday
Tom, Judy & Jordan Caire
Sheila Cowsley
Laurel Dalton
Mrs. Demmons
Raymond Duffy
Arthur Enders
Stacie Finnamore's 60th Birthday
Frankie & Floyd Figgins
Bill Galler
Harry & Sylvia Granader's 55th Anniversary
Mr. & Mrs. William Green
Elizabeth Grigus
Maine Hamen
James Hamen
Shawn & Jackie Earl
Ston Macht
Relene Monet
Dean Martin
Bill & Anna Pauli
Mr. & Mrs. Kevin Pfitz
J.P. Peters Retirement
Mr. & Mrs. Ronald Piere
Friends & Family of Ritchie & Martha Voiser
Hal & Marc Walker

Those donations were received between October 1, 1996 and January 31, 1997.

A WONDERFUL WAY TO REMEMBER THOSE YOU LOVE.

Help make a dream come true for a child or young adult with cancer. If you or someone you know would like to make a generous gift in a loved one's name, just fill this out and forward it along with your gift to the Camp Make-A-Dream office at P.O. Box 1450, Minneapolis, MN 55406. All gifts will be acknowledged with a personalized keepsake card.

This gift is made in honor of: 

memory of: 

Given by:

Send the card to Name: 

Address: 

City / State / Zip: 

Spring 1997, Issue #8

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