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A LETTER from the HEART

Camp del Corazon's quarterly newsletter for campers, parents and friends

Summer 2003

3rd annual Davi Golf Tournament raises over \$65,000 for camp

Over 140 golfers of all professions and skill levels came together on July 11 to raise over \$65,000 for Camp del Corazon at the third annual Davi Golf Tournament at the beautiful Temeku Golf Course in Temecula. The tournament is named after Daviana "Davi" Hogan who passed in January 2001 from heart disease. Davi's mother, Janene Hogan, organized the tournament to carry on the memory of Davi by raising money for our very special camp.



Daviana Hogan

Janene Hogan is passionate about Camp del Corazon. Her daughter and only child, Davi, got so much joy and made so many friends at Camp that Janene is determined to make sure that hundreds of other children from across the nation will continue to have the same opportunity. "Davi attended the camp in its first year of operation back in the summer 1995 and went every year. The kids at the camp meant everything to her," said Janene.

"I would like to extend a personal thanks to everyone who sponsored, participated in, donated towards and worked so hard to make this event such a success! It is through events such as these that we are able to continue with camp operations and work towards our goals – and have fun doing it! We

are already planning on next year's being an even bigger success!" said Ronya Waters, Director of Development for Camp del Corazon. Golfers from all over the Temecula Valley came out to play and participate, including many local politicians and business people. Members of UCLA's Medical Center also attended, and Dr. Mark Plunkett, who was one of Davi's doctors, gave a very heart felt speech about Davi.

Golfers Jack Stouse, Dan Rubin, Janene Hogan, Mayor Jeff Stone and Chuck Washington (l to r) prepare to hit the links.





Sand Warrior
Camp del Corazon counselor Marcus Charuvastra (a.k.a. "Linus P") dons a wig and a sash during last year's Warrior Sand Competition as part of the 2002 Family Festival.

Camp del Corazon prepares for second annual Family Festival

Camp del Corazon is gearing up for the 2nd Annual Family Festival in Long Beach, CA and Event Director Andrea White couldn't be more excited!

"The event has grown from a 5K walk into a huge beach festival with multiple events and attractions for everyone," said White. Activities will include a 5K Beach Stroll; a Kids' Camp with a costume contest; a climbing wall; face painting; arts and crafts; jump houses; games; the Long Beach Fire Department BBQ, fire boat, trucks, and demonstrations; hot air balloon rides; live

acoustical music; and talented local artisans and vendors.

And, of course, back by popular demand is the Warrior Sand Competition,TM a 5K competitive obstacle course on the beach.

With camp just around the corner, this is a perfect time to spend the day having an absolutely silly good time with others who support and are affected by the same cause. For more information on the event or to register for the Beach Stroll or Warrior Sand Competition, please go to www.campdelcorazon.org, or contact the camp office.

Donor's Corner

Cherese Mari Lauhere Foundation

Cherese Mari Lauhere is beloved by many. She was born September 17, 1974 in Long Beach, California and at age 21 her life was tragically and unexpectedly taken on March 26, 1998 in Agra, India.

Throughout her life, Cherese always said, "I want to make a difference in this world." She did, by touching so many lives so profoundly. Cherese gave all her heart and soul with compassion, sincerity and love. The beauty upon her smiling face was a reflection of all things beautiful within her. Her family and friends miss her so much. They say that it never gets any easier or less painful to be without her.

A foundation in her honor has been established, whose purpose states, "The mission of the Cherese Mari Lauhere Foundation is to provide funding and support to charitable organizations whose goals and activities are in concert with those founded and supported by the late Cherese Mari Lauhere. These organizations should reflect her dedication to enrich and better the lives of children, adults and/or families through education, cultural or performing arts, or in support of medical and health-care related causes." Cherese's parents, brother and close friends are committed to keeping Cherese's memory alive. To date, this organization has been instrumental in supporting our camp, and this year will be a Platinum Sponsor at the 2nd Annual Camp del Corazon Family Festival in Long Beach.



A letter from the executive director



Lisa Knight, R.N.
Executive Director
Camp Del Corazon

The excitement continues to grow as camp grows closer. The bunkhouses will soon be filled with campers and the most amazing group of volunteers who are anxiously planning activities, skits and cabin closings.

We are very excited to see the amount of new campers who will be joining us this summer. The word is out . . . Camp del Corazon ROCKS!!!

We work all year round to see the smiles and excitement in the eyes of our campers. This years theme "That's Entertainment" will be a sure winner. You can only imagine what will happen at "A Very Brady Breakfast" or "Nick at Night Bingo".

I want to thank all of you for your continued support and making this dream possible. You are truly making a difference in the lives of children with heart disease.

Ronya Waters joins Camp del Corazon as the new Director of Development

Ronya Waters has recently joined Camp del Corazon as the Director of Development and is proud to be a member of such an exciting organization. "I would like to thank everyone for making me feel so at home," she said.

Ronya will be in charge of fundraising and development in order to achieve our goals and to continue to provide a wonderful

camping experience for many more children in the future.

You will be hearing from her in the future regarding upcoming events, sponsorship and volunteer opportunities. In the meantime, please contact her with any ideas or thoughts you may have for fundraising. You can email her at rwaters@campdelcorazon.org or call her directly at (818) 754-0312.

Pasadena Macy's Benefit Shopping Day to raise funds for Camp del Corazon

Camp del Corazon will be sharing the proceeds of Benefit Shopping Day 2003 to be held Thursday, October 30 at the Pasadena Macy's.

Customers can purchase \$10 tickets to this annual one-day event and enjoy 10-20% off almost everything* in the store.

In addition, Macy's will host special events and product samplings throughout the day. Plus, customers can enter to win a \$1,000 Macy's shopping spree!

Part of the proceeds from ticket sales will be donated to Camp del Corazon. Tickets may be purchased from Camp del Corazon or from any Macy's sales associate.

* Excludes Cosmetics, Fragrances, Lladró, Waterford, and Selected Designers.

Camp Wish List

- Costumes for next year's camp theme: Around the World
- A new storage facility in the San Fernando Valley
- Printing services
- Cargo van
- Any donations for program supplies for camp

Camp del Corazon Goals

We're looking forward to growing by leaps and bounds in the future. Some of our immediate goals for the next calendar year include:

- CIT Training program for 18-23 year olds this fall
- New Year's Event
- 2004 Universal Symposium
- Springtime Black Tie Event
- 450 campers in 2004!

A big thank you!

2nd Annual Kikuyu Classic

Many thanks to everyone who participated in and donated for the 2nd Annual Kikuyu Classic at The Riviera Country Club on Friday, July 18th & Saturday, July 19th. This members-only event has raised over \$12,000 to date for our camp! We would like to personally thank Dr. and Mrs. Friedman for being involved with making Camp del Corazon the beneficiary for this year's event, and Todd Yoshitake, Golf Pro, for orchestrating everything. We look forward to many more partnerships with the Riviera Country Club in the future!

Collectivenergy, Inc.

Everyone at Camp del Corazon would like to thank the crew at Collectivenergy, Inc. for creating all of our marketing and promotional materials. Without you, we wouldn't have this beautiful newsletter! Thank you! To contact Collectivenergy, please call (949) 248-3950.

Recycle-Free

We would like to remind everyone to recycle used toner cartridges through Recycle-Free. 5% of all net proceeds are donated to Camp del Corazon. For more information, visit their website at ww.recyclefree.com.

3rd Annual Family Weekend gives parents and patients valuable knowledge and perspectives

On Saturday, May 31, The American Heart Association and Camp del Corazon joined forces to host our 3rd Annual Family Weekend at the Universal Sheraton Hotel in Universal City.

This free symposium allowed parents of children with congenital heart disease and adults living with congenital heart disease a unique opportunity to spend the day with L.A.'s experts in the field. While the adults attended the symposium, the children went exploring Universal Studios/Hollywood theme park with volunteers from our camp.

Over 300 people came out to take advantage of this unique experience, and based on the feedback and evaluations we have received, the day was a tremendous success!

In one of the panel discussions, adult patients spoke to parents about their personal experiences around growing up with heart disease. Each patient with his or her own unique story had something special to share. Stories varied from past procedures, personal fears

to funny little things told to them by others.

"It was great to be able to laugh about something so serious," said one camper mom, Tambra Bane. "As a parent, you are so inundated with what has happened, what is happening, and what may happen that you can't see the quirky little things that can completely lighten up a serious situation. The speakers gave my husband and I so much during their visit. Just seeing these individuals' true success stories has made me realize about the big picture and a future ahead of us. Children are making it to become older adults. This visual has completely changed our perspective as parents."

Speakers also encouraged parents to allow their children to become more involved in their own care and let go so they can become individuals.

"Two months have passed since the Universal Weekend and I have already seen a major change in my daughter. Not because of what she

is doing, but what my husband and I are doing differently," said Tambra.

"We have taken some steps and asked our daughter, Kabi, 12 years old, to make her own doctor appointments, call in prescriptions and we have even added on some household chores to the list. To our surprise, she has risen to the occasion and was very excited to do so. It has even given her self-esteem an unexpected boost."

Camp del Corazon would like to extend our gratitude to the American Heart Association for helping make this event possible for the past 3 years. We understand just how important it is to provide these types of opportunities and environments for these families to get together and meet others who are experiencing similar situations to their own, as well as learning about new developments in the medical field. We are looking forward to being able to provide many more opportunities and programs such as these in the future.

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