Recreation Unlimited Journal

Unlimited Dreams for Individuals with Disabilities and Health Concerns Year Round

Spring 2020

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Recreation Unlimited Camps 2020…Travel Through Time!

“The Recreation Unlimited camps schedule is already in progress and yes, we would like you to come “Travel Through Time” with us at one of our 2020 summer camps! To date, we have already enjoyed seven Year-Round Respite Weekend camps that have taken place through early-April,” said Paul Huttlin, Executive Director & CEO, Recreation Unlimited Foundation. Eight more Year-Round Respite Weekend camps are scheduled, plus two weekend camps specifically for individuals with Autism scheduled for May 29 - May 31, 2020 sponsored by Huntington Bank and a Family Camp August 14-16, 2020, with scholarship funding pending at this time. The always popular Recreation Unlimited Summer Residential Camps begin with seven weeks scheduled between June 15th through July 31st and the Summer Day Camps run consecutively between June 29th and July 31st. A weeklong Specialty Camp has been scheduled for summer 2020 for individuals with Prader-Willi Syndrome the week of June 29-July 3, 2020. “We are pleased to offer multiple fun-filled summer camps,” said David Hudler, Operations Director, on behalf of Recreation Unlimited Farm and Fun, Inc. The Recreation Unlimited camp sessions will conclude with the Winter Residential camp scheduled for December 14-18, 2020.

If you are interested in attending a Recreation Unlimited camp and would like a complete list of 2020 scheduled camp dates and rates, or if you would like to download a registration form for any of these camps, please visit www.recreationunlimited.org, email info@recreationunlimited.org or call 740-548-7006.

Photo #1 Cut Line – “Having a blast at the pool!”
Photo #2 Cut Line – “I love fishing!”

Flavors of the Vine Wine Tasting & Auction – A Great Event!

On behalf of Board Chair Charles Ruma, the Board of Directors, Presenting Sponsor The Ginni Ragan Family, and the over 3,200 campers with disabilities and health concerns annually served through the Recreation Unlimited camp programs and mission-oriented user groups, we would like to thank all major and corporate table sponsors, individual ticket holders, auction donors and the eight wine distributors for their support to the 28th annual Flavors of the Vine Wine Tasting & Auction and making it the number #1 charity wine tasting event in central Ohio. This elegant evening at the Hilton Columbus/Polaris took place on February 7, 2020 and is one of Recreation Unlimited’s three major fundraising events of the year. We are pleased to announce that we had another record year raising almost $237,000 in gross revenue in support of the 2020 Recreation Unlimited camp programs.
The Results Are In…

Recreation Unlimited continues to be one of the largest providers in the country serving individuals with disabilities and health concerns in the area of sports, recreation and education. In 2019, 1,331 individuals participated in a Recreation Unlimited camp program including residential, day, weekend, specialty and family camps. All of the Recreation Unlimited camp programs are designed with both the camper and families in mind.

Each year, Recreation Unlimited distributes a survey to both camper and family/caregiver to receive feedback regarding the Recreation Unlimited camp experience. In 2019, 19% responded. Below are the top responses to questions asked:

From the Campers
97% - I received the right amount of help with activities of daily living.
97% - I felt safe.
97% - The nurses did an excellent job with continuance of medical care.
97% - I want to go to camp again.
95% - I received the right amount of help/instruction with recreation activities.

From the Family/Caregiver
99% - I believe my camper received great care.
99% - I am confident that my camper's medical needs were met.
98% - I believe my camper enjoyed his/her camper experience.
97% - I believe my camper received great care.
95% - I enjoyed time to myself.

The 2019 survey results supports the need for camper care to not only reflect programmatic activities, but the social, safety and medical well-being of each individual camper and the impact to their families.

Campus Building Renovation and New Construction Continues!

Over $8.3 million in campus renovations and new construction have taken place on the Recreation Unlimited campus since 2004. Recreation Unlimited is proud to be debt free and financially strong with a modern, accessible and beautiful campus. The most recent renovation projects that will be completed in May 2020 are the renovation of the Naomi Dempsey Softball Field, renovation of the amphitheater, and renovation of the pontoon boat dock. These renovation projects were made possible by a gift from the All Life Foundation. The next major new construction project will be The Guest House. The Guest House will be used for small camp group and mission development user groups and Recreation Unlimited fulltime and seasonal associate needs. The goal is to begin construction late 2020. If you would like to learn more or make a donation in support of this project, please contact Paul Huttlin at (740) 548-7006 or phuttlin@recreationunlimited.org.

Photo #4 – The Guest House Design
Expanding Camp Opportunities Statewide!

Through the support received from Alternative Residences Two, Inc. (AR2) these past three years, the goal of having more individuals with disabilities attend a Recreation Unlimited Summer Residential or Winter Residential camp is continuing to show positive results. Campers from Belmont, Harrison, Noble and eastern Ohio counties have a camp opportunity that they did not have before. The 2020 grant has been approved with the goal of giving more individuals from these counties an opportunity to attend a Recreation Unlimited Summer and/or Winter Residential camp. “We are pleased that more campers from underserved geographic areas in Ohio have an opportunity to attend a Recreation Unlimited camp,” said Paul Huttlin, Executive Director & CEO. “Thank you AR2 for this continual support.”

Photo #5 – AR2 scholarship recipient Nickeia at outdoor cooking.

Star Light, Star Night – An Exclusive Experience!

Recreation Unlimited Foundation and presenting sponsor The Ginni Ragan Family is excited to announce the 7th annual Star Light, Star Night, an exclusive dinner and wine tasting experience, has been scheduled for Wednesday, June 10, 2020 at Scioto Country Club. With support from Vanguard Wines, the event will feature a renowned wine celebrity, an exclusive dinner and wine tasting experience, and a special live auction of fine wines in support of the Recreation Unlimited camps and camper scholarship fund. For more information regarding purchasing a premier table of ten or individual tickets, contact Special Events, Recreation Unlimited Foundation, 7700 Piper Road, Ashley, OH 43003, by email phuttlin@recreationunlimited.org or by phone 740-548-7006. You can also access an order form on our website at www.recreationunlimited.org Special Events page.

Photo #6 Cut Line – Bob Foley (Wine Celebrity), Clare Connor, Hunter Wright and Ginni Ragan at the 2019 event.

Hull’s 20th Annual Charity Memorial Golf Outing

We are very pleased to announce that Recreation Unlimited Foundation was once again selected by Hull & Associates to be the charity recipient of the 20th Annual Charity Memorial Golf Outing scheduled for Thursday, June 4, 2020 at The Club at Tartan Fields. 100% of the proceeds will support the Recreation Unlimited camps and camper scholarship fund and Nationwide Children’s Hospital Heart Camp. If you are interested in details and sign-up information for this event, please email Vicky Murnane at vmurnane@hullinc.com or visit the Recreation Unlimited website at www.recreationunlimited.org.

Photo #7 Cut Line – Julie Kasper, Courtney Hine (Camper Ambassador), Paul Huttlin and Craig Kasper at the 2019 event.
CAMPUS NEWS

Recreation Unlimited Camper Holiday Party

Over 250 campers, families, caregivers and friends attended this fun filled party at the Recreation Unlimited campus on Sunday, December 8, 2020. Special thanks to Westerville Alumni Golf & Friends Committee for their donation of dozens of baked cookies, Jones Potato Chip Company, and Don Boger, Rightway Food Service for their food donations. In addition to the exciting entrance of Santa Claus, entertainment was provided by The Academy of Rising Stars from Cardington, Ohio directed by Tracy Williamson and Rufus, Whistles and Pockets, three very funny clown magicians who entertained the crowd as well.

Photo #8 Cut Line – Campers Gabe and Liz with Santa at the Holiday Party.

Butch Bando’s Fantasy of Lights – Making the Holiday’s Brighter!

The 2019 Butch Bando’s Fantasy of Lights Show and Santa’s House was pleased to announce another major contribution to Recreation Unlimited’s camps and camper scholarship fund. “We are excited that we had a fantastic holiday light show, while supporting such a well deserving charity,” said Kelley Chaffin, VP of Operations for the light show. Over the past 20 years, this event and Santa House has given almost $240,000 to Recreation Unlimited. The Recreation Unlimited light display created by the welding students from the Delaware Area Career Center in 2018 was a highlight of the show again this year.

Photo #9 – Recreation Unlimited’s Fantasy of Lights Display

#GivingTuesday Gifts Support Arjohuntleigh Maxi 500 Power Patient Lift and Accessories

On #GivingTuesday, December 3rd, individual donors had an opportunity to give back and make dreams come true for individuals with disabilities and health concerns. In 2019, our shopping list included the purchase of an additional Arjohuntleigh Maxi 500 Power Patient Lift with 2-Point Hanger Bar, plus small, medium and large slings and an amputee sling. These lifts allow our service team to transfer individuals with physical disabilities safely from their bed to a wheelchair, shower chair or chair. As a result, this gives the individual with a disability a feeling of safety and security, while the service team is able to maintain proper body posture and avoid injury. Thank you to all who supported the Arjohuntleigh Maxi 500 Power Patient Lift with 2-Point Hanger Bar and accessories on #GivingTuesday and made this project possible.

Photo #10 Cut Line – Camper Courtney with the Arjohuntleigh Maxi 500 Power Patient Lift.

Better Together – “On Belay, Climb Away!”

Recreation Unlimited is pleased to announce that through the Better Together program of The Columbus Foundation, our “On Belay, Climb Away” social media campaign was a success by raising $8,580 in support of Recreation Unlimited’s 50-foot Alpine Tower program. These funds will replace and upgrade safety equipment, including harnesses, helmets, and elbow and knee pads for the 50-foot Alpine Tower, a climbing structure specifically adapted for individuals with disabilities. Thank you to all donors who supported the Better Together Program.
Photo #11 Cut Line – “The tower is my favorite program.”

FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR & CEO

Dear Friends,

This is an exciting time for the campers of Recreation Unlimited. As mentioned in the article, “Campus Building Renovation and New Construction Continues”, over $8.3 million in campus and program renovations and new construction have taken place on the Recreation Unlimited campus since 2004. Recreation Unlimited is proud to be debt free and financially strong with a modern, accessible and beautiful campus. This is an important component in making sure that the mission of serving individuals with disabilities and health concerns continues now and into the future at such a quality level.

Photos #12 Cut Line – Recreation Unlimited Campus Aerial View.

Thank you to all who have assisted Recreation Unlimited throughout the years in making our campus and camp programs “the best of the best.” We welcome you to visit Recreation Unlimited to see what we are achieving together. Please call us anytime at 740-548-7006 or email info@recreationunlimited.org to schedule a campus tour.

Wishing you the very best in 2020,

Paul L. Hutlin
Executive Director & CEO
Recreation Unlimited Foundation
Recreation Unlimited Farm and Fun, Inc.

Generosity is Abundant at Recreation Unlimited

Thank you to all of the individuals and organizations who support Recreation Unlimited camps and camper scholarship funds throughout the year through donations to the Recreation Unlimited Foundation. Without your generosity, the mission of serving individuals with disabilities and health concerns would not be fulfilled. The following are some of the major gifts that were received since fall 2019 newsletter and not specifically mentioned in an article in this newsletter or received through special events:

- Greif Inc., Greif Week (July 13-17, 2020) Camper Scholarships
- Anonymous Donor, Operational Support
- Anonymous Donor, Camps and Camper Scholarship Fund
- Shannon Diener, Michael Dempsey Endowed Camper Scholarship Fund
- The Greer Foundation, Camps and Camper Scholarships
- The Columbus Foundation, Anonymous Donor, Camps and Camper Scholarship Fund
- Associates of Germain Lexus of Dublin, Rick Germain Music Fund
- Cindy Owens, Stewart Owens Endowed Camper Scholarship Fund
- Make It Fit Foundation, Autism Camps and Camper Scholarship Fund
- John McNamara, Camps and Camper Scholarship Fund
The Columbus Foundation, Summer Camp Maintenance Grant
David and Sarah Effler, Camps and Camper Scholarship Fund
Pete and Linda Watson, Camps and Camper Scholarship Fund
Phyllis Nicholson, Camps and Camper Scholarship Fund
Victoria Sherman, Camps and Camper Scholarship Fund

For information on creating your own endowed individual or family scholarship fund, please contact Paul Huttlin at 740-548-7006 or email phuttlin@recreationunlimited.org. In addition, endowed funds can be created for program support.

MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of Recreation Unlimited is to provide year-round programs in sports, recreation and education for individuals with disabilities and health concerns while building self-confidence, self-esteem and promoting positive human relations, attitudes and behaviors.

Mailer Page

UPCOMING MAJOR FUNDRAISING EVENTS

Star Light, Star Night
Location: Scioto Country Club
June 10, 2020

Join Presenting Sponsor, The Ginni Ragan Family, with support from Vanguard Wines, at this exclusive dinner and wine experience with a special live auction in support of the Recreation Unlimited camps and camper scholarship fund. The event features a renowned wine celebrity and wine tasting.

For details, call 740-548-7006 or email phuttlin@recreationunlimited.org. You may also order premier tables of ten or tickets by visiting www.recreationunlimited.org.

Recreation Unlimited Invitational Golf Tournament
Location: Scioto Country Club
September 27-28, 2020

Due to the Muirfield Village Golf Club greens construction, this year’s tournament will be held at Scioto Country Club. From its inception Scioto Country Club has always been an important part of the history of Upper Arlington and the city of Columbus. Opening in 1916 as a centerpiece of Upper Arlington, the Club is the focal point of a community that is one of the finest in the country.

For details, call 740-548-7006 or email phuttlin@recreationunlimited.org or HNS Sports Group at 419-494-1417 or email arapple@hnssports.com.

Please help us to make dreams come true for individuals with disabilities and health concerns year-round through your donation to Recreation Unlimited. Please send your donation in the envelope provided.
Charles Ruma, Board Chair
Joe Patrick, Treasurer
Michael J. Barren, Secretary
Paul Huttlin, Executive Director & CEO

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