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Childhood Cancer Facts

- Cancer is the #1 cause of death by disease in children in the United States
- 1 out of 5 children diagnosed with cancer dies
- Every school day, 46 children, or two classrooms of students, are diagnose with cancer
- Research cures cancer

WHERE YOU AND SAM HAVE BEEN IN THE PAST YEAR

It has been a busy year to say the least. You and Sam have traveled all through the Southeast again. All through NC, SC, VA as usual, new stops in Tuscaloosa, AL - Nashville, TN - Atlanta, GA as well as many other towns and cities, too many to mention.

The networking of people that have been brought together through Sam still amazes me. But I should not expect any less. Sam told Charlotte one night at bedtime that he thought he is very impressive and she had to agree that he was and still is very impressive indeed. As I try to figure out how will I get enough information to do a newsletter, I quickly realize that this is only a few of the highlights of the year. If you receive this and you did some sort of CureSearch promotion and you are not recognized, I



AVMS on the campus of The University of Alabama
Paul "Bear" Bryant Museum in the background

apologize. Thanks to Applebee's in Monroe & Matthews for their donations to support the Milestones Walk; 2 new annual sponsors on Sam's truck; Bed, Bath, and Beyond for allowing kid's to handout literature and accept donations for CureSearch; The Reese Thomas Family, Love ya' Brother; Mill Grove Cancer Awareness Run; Hillcrest Baptist Youth Walk; The countless donors of products and services that support all of the events listed. Without you none of these events would be possible. Thank you will never be enough.

Sammy, Charlotte, Ashlyn, & Sam



LOSS OF A TRUE CANCER WARRIOR

This past year we lost a dear friend in a tragic helicopter accident. Mark Bartlett never met Sam, but he loved him as much as anyone. Every billboard you have ever seen concerning CureSearch is because of Mark. When Mark would call and say "I gotta' idea" you better hold on. Mark spread CureSearch's message in both Carolina's, the Pocono's of PA, Chicago & Champaign, IL as well as encouraging all he came in contact with to support the cause. Last year Mark had the idea to give helicopter rides a the annual shoot as a fund raiser, I had my reservations as to how it would go, but go it did. Mark flew all day long stopping only for fuel. Mark made it a point to fly everyone over Sam's spot at the cemetery to remind them of why they were there. Mark never met a stranger and his infectious personality would make you feel as if you had known him all your life.

The Bartlett family still owns the helicopter Mark flew in 2008 at the shoot. They took it upon them selves to put a pilot in the seat and fly rides again at this years shoot. The entire Bartlett family are committed to carrying on Mark's legacy to conquer childhood cancer. Mark is survived by his Mom and Dad, 3 Brothers, His Wife Kathy and 11 year old Son Clint. Please keep the Bartlett family in your thoughts and prayers. To leave a message for the family visit www.markbartlettforever.com.

MILESTONES WALK



On November 15, 2008 at Freedom Park , in Charlotte, NC was the site for the first Milestones Walk in NC. For those unfamiliar with this event, it is the event that CureSearch is building across the USA as its signature fundraising and awareness event.

When Charlotte and Sam would take Ashlyn to school he had a lot of loyal friends that loved seeing him everyday. Two of these are Sharon Sullivan and Kim Green. In the spring of 2008 Sharon and Kim contacted CureSearch about hosting a Milestones Walk in Charlotte. Sharon and Kim quickly recruited their "dream team" to pull this off. For those who have never planned and run an event of this size, you have no idea of the hundreds of hours that it takes make everything run as smooth as this one did. Molly Grantham with WBTV news in Charlotte was the emcee and master of ceremonies for the walk. Sir Purrr from the Carolina Panthers was also on hand staying in shape for upcoming football season.

Plan all you want for an outdoor event. But we all know the one thing we can't control. Sharon was worried all week about the threat of rain. I told her I knew it would rain she had just better be prepared. As much as Sam enjoyed stomping mud puddles and playing in the rain, if he could pull some strings he would make sure we all got soaked.



Molly and Sir Purrr pumping up for the walk

15 minutes prior to walk time Sam got his laugh. It poured. But at walk time we had sunshine, as you can tell by the pictures.



A goal of \$60,000.00 was set for the walk. As we have seen in the past with Sam's friends, a goal is just a number you set to see how fast you can spin it around as you blow by it. **\$114,919.58** was raised by the walk to help cure childhood cancer!!!

This year's walk will be held again at Freedom Park on November 7, 2009. Registration begins at 9:00 AM and the walk starts at 10:00 AM. Go to the CureSearch website and click on events and join the Sam The Man's Team or have your Church, business or other organization form your own team. This year's goal is \$150,000.00 so please support a walker or join a team.

Molly Grantham will be the Master of Ceremonies again this year and US Representative Sue Myrick will be the honorary chairperson. If you have any questions contact Sharon Sullivan at B9sllv@aol.com or Kim Green at KimGreen2@yahoo.com. Please make plans now to be a part of this years walk.



NCVMA Casino Night for CureSearch



On Dec 4th 2008 the North Carolina Vegetation Management Association (NCVMA) hosted its first fundraiser for CureSearch. NCVMA chose to involve the entire membership in a fundraiser for CureSearch in lieu of a monetary donation. Participants got play money in exchange for cash, which went to CureSearch. Once participants got their play money, they were able to choose from a variety of different Casino games such as Poker, Roulette, Black Jack, and Texas Hold'em. The individual tables were sponsored by different vendors so that all money raised went towards CureSearch.

While playing, members and friends were able to fellowship and eat from a gourmet selection of h'orderves provided by NCVMA. At the end of the night, the "High Rollers" were awarded a gift certificate for winning the most play money. The winners then selflessly offered the certificates back to be auctioned off at the conference the next day for more than face value. All in all, the total funds raised came to **\$4,051.25**. Thanks again to NCVMA for helping to support the search to cure childhood cancer. For more information on the NCVMA visit www.NCVMA.net.



THIRD ANNUAL SAM KEZIAH MEMORIAL SHOOT FOR CURESEARCH



Curtis Getting It All Started

On May 31, 2009 The Fairview Shooting Preserve was the site for the 3rd Annual Sam Keziah for CureSearch. Friends from 8 states traveled to Union County to not just support, but to be a part of this event. It would be hard to go to work on the following Monday and not tell a friend or co-worker about what you were a part of on a Saturday in a corn field in Fairview, NC. So many times we go to events wondering what we are going to give and come away realizing that we received was much more valuable than what we gave. This is one of those events. From the invocation by Rev. Dale Brooks, raising a 20'X30' American flag 120' in the air, and watching as thousands of dollars of donated items bringing sometimes over 10 times what you could purchase them for in a store, as Troy Goldsby said " it has truly been a blessing to be here." **Grand Total \$39,000.25**



A "Motley Crew" From Fairview



CMI Contracting and Friends, provided chopped pork BBQ lunch with all the trimmings again this year. CMI has done this for three straight years. The only thing they ask of Curtis is "tell us how many, and we'll be there". The huge hearts of so many especially in tough economic times proves what an impact Sam's story has had on so many.



These young ladies could put Ben and Jerry's out of business anytime they want to.



Songwriters from Nashville provided an evening of entertainment that was remarkable. From left to right Donny Lowery, Lisa Carver, Walt Aldridge, and Troy Goldsby gave the stories that inspired the songs. Alabama's Old Flame by Donny Lowery, Sugarland's Everyday America by Lisa Carver, Heartland's I Loved Her First by Walt Aldridge. Troy Goldsby sang some of his own songs as well songs written by Donny and Walt. Monroe's own song writer, Tony Thomas on the far right, provided the sound and lighting that made the music never miss a beat all night.

Walt explained why this event was so personal to him as he is a cancer survivor. Tentative dates for next year's event are a cookout and shoot kick-off with entertainment on Friday night June 4, 2010 and the shoot and auction starting Saturday morning June 5, 2010. Hope to see you there.



Phil Hill and Lewis Springfield cooked up gumbo and a low country boil for supper that was so bad, Walt Aldridge said he "had a hard time getting that 4th bowl down".



Mary Payne, CureSearch board member, on the left and Natalie Cole, National Events Manager for CureSearch, on the right, explain the significance of you being here.



If you want it, you better bid fast.



New tee-shirt designs were a must have for everyone.



Don't look for this on a billboard in the future. The Chick-Fil-A Cow packing heat.

CALIFORNIA TO CAROLINA IN 2010



"Bringing hope and help to children with cancer and their families."

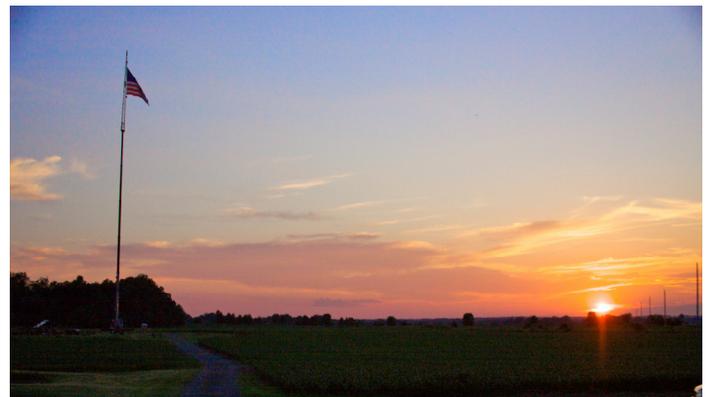
Those who received the first newsletter remember the article on Team Will. Team Will is a group of cyclists in the Sacramento, CA area that ride for childhood cancer awareness. In June of 2010 they will do another ride across the USA in less than 10 days to the east coast. We are honored to be a part of that ride. They will be arriving at Kitty Hawk, NC on June 24, 2010 at the Hilton Garden Inn at mile post #1 on the Outer Banks of NC. If you are planning a vacation on the coast of NC try to make plans now to be there. We are planning beach activities for the whole family.

There will be stops all across the USA with one in Charlotte tentatively scheduled at The Levine's Children's Hospital. We will be posting more information on Sam's CaringBridge site as information becomes available at www.caringbridge.org/visit/samkeziah. Also please check out Team Will's site at www.team-will.org.



Sometimes a picture just does not do things justice, but this is as close as we can come.

This was the last picture of the day at the 3rd Annual Sam Keziah Memorial Shoot.



Even the military needs Sam's Duct Tape Band-Aids
Note Band-Aids on Soldiers uniforms and faces.



One of Mark's catch phrases



St. Patrick's Day Parade 2009
Charlotte, NC



Hauling Christmas trees with the Hometown Heroes of Union County



Members of the Delta Sigma Phi Fraternity of Wingate University, sponsored a "Swing For The Cure" golf tournament in memory of Mark Bartlett, with all proceeds benefiting CureSearch.



Mark's legacy still lives through his family at Adams Outdoor Advertising

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