



What's on the Horizon?

Association of Horizon, Inc.
3712 North Broadway # 335
Chicago, IL 60613
www.associationofhorizon.org

Spring/Summer 2016

A Super Theme

25 years ago there came a day, a day unlike any other. When Earth's Mightiest Heroes, people with and without physical disabilities found themselves united to create a place where they could form a common bond. Where they could fight the foes against diversity no single superhero could withstand.

On that day Horizon Summer Camp was born!

So answer the signal to celebrate the 25th Anniversary of Horizon with a Superhero Themed Camp Week! The only week where you can dress up or support your favorite fictional heroes and meet some real-life ones as well.

Spread the word on Social Media!
#HorizonSuper25



25 Years and 25 Themes

Over the years, each Horizon Camp has had its own theme. Reminisce over past camps (and past skits) with this list of themes:

- 1992 – Television
- 1993 – Infomercials
- 1994 – Neighborhoods
- 1995 – Horizon Goes Hollywood
- 1996 – Ports of Call
- 1997 – Wild, Wild, West
- 1998 – It's in the Bag
- 1999 – Games People Play
- 2000 – Decades
- 2001 – When Worlds Unite
- 2002 – Holidays
- 2003 – High School
- 2004 – Olympics
- 2005 – Lost in Paradise
- 2006 – Horizon Goes Hollywood, The Sequel
- 2007 – Horizon Goes Wild Animal Safari
- 2008 – Las Vegas
- 2009 – TV Shows
- 2010 – Horizon Tours the USA
- 2011 – Homecoming
- 2012 – Game Show Mania
- 2013 – Out of this World
- 2014 – Every Day's a Party
- 2015 – Horizon Goes Medieval
- 2016 – Superheroes

Annual Raffle

Our yearlong annual raffle is underway! Congratulations to our big winners thus far! We would like to remind anyone who has outstanding raffle tickets to mail them in ASAP! There are still plenty of chances to win!! A huge thank you to all of our supporters who have bought and sold tickets, we currently have about 3,400 tickets in! This fundraiser is crucial to ensuring we have the funds to keep camp running! Do your part and sell your tickets! If you would like to purchase tickets and are not sure how, please contact Katy Flynn today!

Upcoming Events

Pre-Camp Physicals Due	June 1
Golf Outing	June 11
Amateur Home Brew Challenge	June 20
Team Leader Meeting	June 27
Camp Set Up	July 16
Summer Camp	July 17-23
Visitors' Day	July 22
Horizon Family Picnic	August 15
Aluminum Can Recycling	September 12

Our Mission

An organization of people with and without physical disabilities that provides opportunities for individuals to challenge themselves, develop responsibility and grow through interacting and working together.





Don't Miss Out

As we head into our 25th summer we are eagerly receiving applications. The week of camp runs from Sunday, July 17th – Saturday, July 23rd and applicants must be available for the entire week of camp. Once again we plan on hitting our 100+ campers goal. In order to continue to share Horizon Camp with as many campers as we can, we need to find the best volunteers. If you have ever volunteered with Horizon and you are thinking of returning, this is the year to do it. We could not have become the organization that we are today without our dedicated volunteers. If you are not ready to join us for the entire week please share this with a family member or friend who you think might be a good fit for Horizon Camp.

Applications can be found on the Horizon website www.associationofhorizon.org. Volunteers must be

at least 16 years old, and will receive 144 service hours during the week of camp. All first time applicants must attend an interview and a pre-camp orientation. No previous experience is necessary – just a willingness to help. Each year we are especially in need of male volunteers.

If you are a medical professional looking to volunteer your skills, we want you to be part of making our 25th summer a safe and healthy one! If you have questions about joining our health team, please contact Jessica at jessicajc@att.net

Once you apply online please remember to finish up your application process by sending in your medical form, waiver, and copies of your insurance card. If you have any questions about the application process please contact Anna at anna.lopez@associationofhorizon.org.

Thank You HealTeam6

We would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to HealTeam6 for the amazing 007 themed fundraising event they hosted last November on Horizon's behalf. With the support they have given us over the past few years, we have been able to provide wonderful opportunities for so many deserving individuals.



Camp Wish List

Each year we produce a wish list for our summer camp program. By purchasing items from our wish list, you have a direct impact on summer camp, and help Horizon manage our expenses. The wish list can be found at the Horizon website by following the link below.

<http://associationofhorizon.org/wordpress/fundraising/donate-now>

New this year, we also have an Amazon Smile wish list. By shopping on Amazon Smile, you can designate the Association of Horizon as your charity to receive donations from Amazon based on your shopping. The Amazon wish list is a publicly available wish list. On Amazon Smile, search the lists for Association of Horizon. The list for camp is called "Camp Wish List".

Another way you can help is by purchasing gift cards that can be used to purchase perishable items while we are at camp. Gift cards from Walmart and Jewel are very helpful.

For further information or questions, please contact: jim.novalinski@associationofhorizon.org

Help Horizon when you shop online at AmazonSmile.

Choose Association of Horizon as your charity of choice, and at no extra cost to you Amazon will donate 0.5% of your purchase price to Horizon on any products marked

"Eligible for AmazonSmile donation" on their product detail page.

You can use your existing Amazon.com account.

<http://smile.amazon.com/ch/36-3814090>





14th annual Golf outing and banquet

Blackhawk Trace Golf Club at Indian Lakes Resort

Golf the finest course in the western suburbs while supporting Horizon.
1:00 pm Shotgun Start - Full Scramble

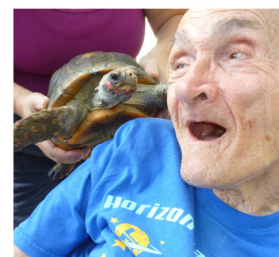
Saturday, June 11, 2016

The Day Includes...

- 18 holes of golf
- Driving range privileges
- GPS equipped golf cart
- Professional scoring
- Shower and locker room privileges
- Goodie bags
- Banquet buffet
- 4 hour open bar
- Raffles
- Silent Auction



Funds raised from this event will support Horizon Camp. We have been providing camp free of charge for 25 years because of generous donors like you.



Live musical entertainment by Sunset Strip




Register online at www.associationofhorizon.org/wordpress/golf

Golf & Banquet	\$160.00	Golf & Banquet Foursome	\$640.00
Banquet Only	\$70.00	Register by 4/18 to see early registration discounts.	

For More Information:

E-mail: golf@associationofhorizon.org Phone: Clare Westley (773) 477-5170

The Association of Horizon, Inc. is a not-for-profit corporation registered in the State of Illinois exempt under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.





Horizon's 25th Anniversary

As we celebrate our 25th Anniversary of Summer Camp, we'd like to reflect on our beginnings and why Horizon was formed. We'd like to take this opportunity to thank all of the founding members of Horizon and everyone that's contributed to our mission and vision over the past 25 years. Some of our original members shared their early memories of Horizon.

"When we heard that summer camp would be ending for folks over 21, my camp friends and I knew we needed to take action. After quickly raising the necessary funds and securing our beloved Hastings location, the first Horizon Camp was born in June of 1992. Little did we know that camp would continue to grow stronger every year. I'm always amazed at the people I meet at camp and how everyone works together to continue our strong tradition."

Kathy Kingston

"In my teens and early twenties, I was blessed to be able to be a part of this budding organization. In my interactions with persons with disabilities, I learned early to not judge someone from the way they look or their physical abilities. We are all on this earth for a short time, and kindness and thoughtfulness goes a long way towards our fellow beings.

Friends from Horizon: WOW, here I am truly blessed! When I meet someone new, and describe Horizon to them (because it usually happens pretty quick, as I am proud to be a part of this organization) one of the first things I mention is the amazing long term, deep and meaningful friendships I have made. Through good times and bad I can count on my Horizon family to be there for me. Conversely, I am there for them. I have made life-long friendships with people from Horizon, and continue to do so as I meet new people at events.

Leadership Roles: Over the years, I have watched as young adults (able bodied as well as persons with a disability) have taken on leadership roles with the organization. It is great to see, as these roles allow people to develop interpersonal skills, ability to direct groups of people, and become leaders and good communicators. It is rewarding to watch people step outside their comfort zones, volunteer for an event, or even begin and run an event. Another positive benefit of the organization.

Most of all, I enjoy watching the inclusiveness of all people at Horizon summer camp, and how it translates into our daily lives. The overwhelming love I feel at camp and with our Horizon family is with me at all times!

Mark Rozdolsky



Kathy Kingston and Mark Rozdolsky pictured above at a recent fundraiser for Horizon.



"Between Dec 1 and June 15, a diverse group of people, all of whom were busy with full time jobs or school, banded together and made it happen in our 'spare time.' All ages and demographics were involved. Every decision was made with equal rights for disabled people in the forefront, no exceptions. Anna Lopez's acronym, BNOL (be nice or leave) was our unofficial motto. When, as the week of MDA camp ended (I was MDA's volunteer physician for the first week for many years), and the first Horizon volunteer appeared at the Hastings health center, we were giddy with disbelief that we had actually pulled it off.

It was a wonderful week of solidarity and friendship."
Dr. Maria Brown

Dr Maria Brown pictured with Tim Sullivan

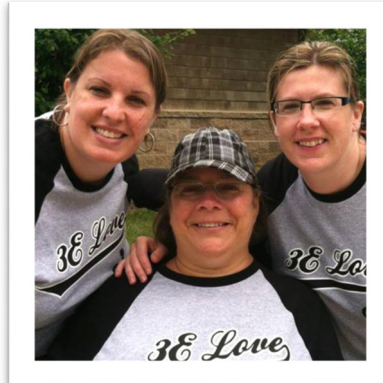


"I was not part of the original Board of Directors but I feel I was a part of Horizon from the beginning. When I received the letter informing me of MDA's decision to cut the age limit for camp I was beyond disappointed. I only attended one week of camp but during that week I quickly learned the importance and impact it had on the campers. Needless to say, when I heard about this group forming to continue camp for adults, I knew I had to do what I could to help. With the help of my amazing family and friends, we held the first Horizon Candlelight Bowl. Fundraising for Horizon became a big part of my life ever since.

I'm really proud of the organization we have become. It's really impressive to me to see how much we have grown, to the point of having over 100 campers alone! I don't think we had a 100 total of campers and volunteers the first year.

I'm not sure I would have believed we would still be doing this 25 years later but I'm sure glad we are."

Geri Skudney



Geri Skudney (center) pictured with the Dream Team, Lori Moore (left) and Brenda Bokowski (right).

I want to thank you for sponsoring a summer camp program for adults with physical disabilities for the past twenty-five years. It has put great joy and meaning to my life meeting new people who have become friends for life and the chance to enjoy the outdoors is good for my well-being. Your camp program allows me a vacation and a reprieve from everyday life that would not be possible otherwise.

Below is a poem I wrote that sums up my experience having attended your summer camp since it started.

Michael Engels



Mike Engels, pictured above, taking a moment to enjoy the great outdoors.

"What A Place"

Think of a place where people of different ages, ethnic backgrounds and a variety of physical disabilities all get along.

Think of a place where you can try something new, hear words of encouragement, the sound of laughter.

Think of a place where people look at you and not your wheelchair.

Think of a place where life long friendships are established.

Think of a time when you close your eyes to recall a favorite memory that takes you to a place that warms your heart and soul.

Think of a place that you can go to for six days that lifts your spirit so high it lasts a year.

That place is Camp Horizon.

On the grave of Oscar Schindler is the following inscription, translated from Hebrew:

"He who saves one life saves the world entire."

Danny Martin





Congratulations Horizon—25 Years

When I started attending Association of Horizon summer camp it was the very first one. It was set up because MDA aged out all of their participants age 21+. Initially this was very sad news but after the first week of Horizon Camp, the decision MDA made was the best for Horizon. The members of Horizon devote their free time throughout the entire year to get 7 days of camp set up and running. It's no easy feat as it takes phone calls, letter writing, fundraisers among many other events.

For a time I was a part of the Board and co-chaired the Recruitment Committee. Being on the Recruitment Committee was especially fun because I was able to meet and interview all the many people interested in attending camp. An even more terrific feeling was when those 1st year attendees returned the following year. That, to me, spoke volumes that I represented very well Horizon's vision and mission. Also letting people know how much fun and how important Horizon Camp is to what is now a population of well over 200 people. Horizon is important because for many of the attendees this is their one time of the year to go on a trip of this kind. In my case it's not only a time to see friends and just let my hair down, it also is a time for me to get an

extra hand to enjoy some activities that are regularly not available throughout the year.

Throughout the 25 years Horizon has had some amazingly fun fundraisers and annual gatherings, from Night at the Races and Golf fundraisers to watching Wolves games, Shopping with a Friend and of course Fall Weekend.

As a member of Horizon since the beginning (25 years!!) it feels like family. It's home away from home. Even though all 200 (and growing every year- Yay!!) come together for that one summer week, it always feels like just yesterday.

To another 25 years Horizon Family!!!!!!
-Simonette Bustos



Pictured above: Sim posing with her catch of the day.

Enjoy some flashback photos from over the past 25 years.



Horizon Merchandise

It's been a successful year for Horizon merchandise! 2015 saw the debut of new hoodies, hats, pens, and buttons. 2016 promises to be even better! Heather Somerville has joined the merchandise team and brings with her plenty of fresh ideas. We are working closely with Stevie Hopkins at 3E Love on the design and production of new merchandise to celebrate Horizon's 25th Anniversary. Be on the lookout for 25th Anniversary hoodies, t-shirts, accessories and more! Your suggestions for future Horizon merchandise are always welcome!





What's New on the Horizon?

A lot of exciting things have happened this year! The GLASA Chicago Fire, the power soccer team that **Gerry Walsh, Joel Rodriguez, and David Rodriguez** play for, finished runner-up at the national tournament last season, which promoted them to the Premier Conference, the top conference in the country. **Elaine and Chris Ballantyne** celebrated 30 years of marriage this past February. At the end of last summer, **Dan Persak & Heather Vinci** and **Dawn Burns & Zach Gadson** got married. **Erica Andres** became the President of With A Little Help, Inc. **Jamie Sutton** moved to South Carolina. **Johnny Meneghini** accepted a teaching position in the Burbank School District. **Madeeya Stovall, Jasmine Carter, Tarik Hurt, and Nichole Russ** are the executive members of the Resident Council at STRIVE. **Sawsan Abuosbie** took a job working for MDA. After passing the bar exam last fall, **Jeff Pickert** is now practicing law in Chicago. **Mark Schreiner's** work picked up five first place awards in 2015 for his excellence in investigative reporting and journalism. **Jim and Dave Novalinski, Johnny Meneghini, Jessica Janes-Crowley, Jeff White and Hyun Woo Lee** climbed to the top of the Sears Tower to raise money for the Rehabilitation Institute of Chicago and Horizon.

A lot of exciting things are happening soon! **Slaw Jedryczka, Josh Kain, and Chris Viau** continue to play bocce ball and we wish them luck on their upcoming tournament. The GLASA Chicago Fire is hosting a day of games on April 2nd in Deerfield so please contact Gerry Walsh if you would like to help cheer them on! **Dan Schmidt** continues his Across the Airwaves weekly podcast (acrosstheairwaves.com) reviewing TV shows and movies. **Ellen [Westley] Brace** and her husband, Dave, are expecting a baby this summer. **George Czerwionka** and **Sheila Caplis** got engaged and will be getting married in May. **Shannon Jania** is getting her driver's license soon. **Jess Serrano** will soon be certified as a Personal Trainer. **Ryan Anderson** and **Liz Meehan** will be graduating with their undergraduate degrees and **Lori Moore** will be graduating with her Master's degree in Curriculum and Instruction.

As we celebrate Horizon's 25th anniversary, we are excited for all of the accomplishments and life changes that have occurred not only over the last year, but over the last 25 years!! We can't wait to see what's next!



Association of Horizon, Inc.

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Chicago, IL 60613

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

Board of Directors

Sheila Caplis, President

Jim Novalinski, Vice President

George Czerwionka, Treasurer

Kathy Kingston, Secretary

Kathy Colunto

Steve Nostro

Katy Flynn

Dave Novalinski

Geoff Jania

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Mark Schreiner

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Heather Somerville

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Gerry Walsh

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Geri Skudney

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Come Celebrate With Us

Twenty-five years. Wow.

Can you believe that the Association of Horizon is celebrating its 25th anniversary this year? We've done so much over a quarter of a century: hundreds of campers and volunteers banding together at two different campsites, dozens of events that have raised thousands of dollars for our work, and millions of stories.

This year is going to be, dare I say it, super(heroic), and we'd like you to share it with us. Even if you can't attend camp for a full week, we'd like you to join us for Visitors Day on Friday, July 22nd.

Whether you last attended camp in 1991 or 2015, please come out to Timber Pointe Outdoor Center in Hudson, IL. It's a chance to see old friends, make some new ones and get a reminder of what an amazing family Horizon is.

Stop by anytime on July 22nd, or if you'd like to join us for dinner, please RSVP to our hotline at 773-477-5170 and let us know the number of guests.

So please join us for Visitors Day and let's celebrate 25 years of Horizon. I hope to see you there!