

Hello Dan,

Months have passed since the Order of the Blue Goose event at the Riverhouse at Goodspeed Station, yet I still remember the warm welcome followed by an outpouring of support after I shared the importance of the Children's Burn Camp for our family.



You may recall that I pulled my own ticket winning \$680 in the 50/50 raffle. Since I mentioned that I would pass the winnings on to my daughter Kelsey for use at the Burn Camp, you had asked me to share how those winnings were spent. I am thrilled to say that exciting new additions were made to the programming at this July's Burn Camp because of the generous 50/50 raffle!

First, below you will find Kelsey's words of appreciation for the continued support of the Hartford Pond.

Dear members of the Hartford Pond, Order of the Blue Goose,

I want to take a moment to personally thank each of you for your generous contribution to the Arthur C. Luf Children's Burn Camp. This camp made an incredible difference in my life and helped me on my road to recovery in ways the hospital, counseling, and physical therapy simply could not. Peer support, encouraging counselors, and life-long mentors & friends have taught

me to believe in myself, feel confident and comfortable in my skin, and treat everyone with love and respect. Being a counselor for the past four years has been a blessing in my life, and I look forward to continuing my work to support young burn survivors as others once helped me.



Your generous contributions make that possible. Thank you, thank you, thank you!

*Sincerely,
Kelsey Pandiani*

Kelsey - top right with campers

With the 50/50 winnings, Kelsey was able to enhance an existing program at Burn Camp and also introduce new activities related to the theme for this year's camp - Harry Potter!

For 2 summers, Kelsey and I have distributed books to all of the camper's cabins as The Children's Burn Camp "Giving Library". These are gently used books mostly donated by a local school district who was consolidating schools and therefore had duplication and excess in their libraries. Campers were encouraged to bring books home for themselves and their siblings. Because of the 50/50 winnings we were able to provide camper-sized reusable book bags with our Giving Library logo!



Book bags for the Giving Library

In keeping with the Harry Potter theme, Kelsey used a portion of the 50/50 winnings to book the nationally ranked Quidditch Team from Boston University to spend an entire day at Burn Camp teaching each group how to play. This activity took place on the very first full day of camp leading to fantastic team building opportunities in which our new campers, counselors, and returning campers had a chance to get to know each other, build confidence, surpass their "limits", and have an overall awesome time! With the remaining 50/50 winnings Kelsey organized a Harry Potter inspired Tri-wizard Tournament!



This was a full-camp activity in which the age groups were mixed up. The younger campers had an opportunity to hangout with our older campers who serve as fantastic role models and mentors. Campers competed in three different tasks. The first was the Human Knot, an activity that involves team work and communication to solve. When teams finish, they were given a golden egg with the directions to complete the second task. The second task was a Fun Run through the Forbidden Forest. Campers were outfitted with flag football belts. Their flags represent their life bar, and campers had to run, jog, or walk a small course with counselors waiting along the way to try and steal their flags. Once at the waterfront the campers had a water balloon team activity which they LOVED!

As you can see, the 50/50 raffle helped to make Burn Camp even more special this year! Please share as much of the content and attached photos as you feel is appropriate to express our immense gratitude for the continued support of the members of the Order of the Blue Goose, Hartford Pond.

Enjoy the day!

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"...do small things with great love." Mother Teresa