

Charities Committee

Joan Bradbury, Chairperson



The RISAA Charities Committee exists to lend a helping hand to others in need. We have an operating budget, approved by the RISAA membership at the Annual Meeting.

During 2008, the Charities Committee has embarked on a "Gift A Month" Program, and each member of the committee is responsible for selecting and investigating the charity of his/her choice and then presenting it to the whole committee for consideration.

Thanks to all RISAA members!

The Charities Committee is proud that you, the RISAA membership, make these donations possible. If you would like to be part of the RISAA Charities Committee, you can contact us at 401-647-5305 or by e-mail at: jbradcps@intap.net

The Lazarex Cancer Foundation

report by Steve Medeiros

A few weeks ago I received a letter from **Rose Lavallee**, the mother of **Christopher Wree**, a young man who's high school portrait I had done in 2002. Three years ago, Chris had been diagnosed with Metastatic Osteosarcoma, a bone cancer, and had spread to other parts of his body, primarily his lungs. After seven different standard chemo drugs, three major surgeries, and radiation had failed, Chris was given hope by participating in research for a trial drug called Rexin-G.



Chris Wree

"If there is one word to describe Chris, it is 'courage,'" said Rose. Chris volunteered to participate in research trials to help find a cure for this very rare cancer. Osteosarcoma is primarily a childhood disease, affecting less than 1% of the

population.

In January of this year, with the sponsorship of the Lazarex Cancer Foundation and a supportive local community, Chris traveled to Southern California for treatment.



Lazarex
CANCER FOUNDATION

On February 13, 2008, although medical documents showed the drug was working, it was too late for Chris. The aggressive cancer had consumed his lungs and other parts of his body. The complications associated with the cancer and the stress put on Chris' body had been insurmountable.

Chris' mom Rose has many good things to say about the Lazarex Foundation and plans to do all she can to help them to help other people the way they did for Chris.

The Lazarex Foundation is an organization dedicated to bringing hope and life to endstage cancer patients and their families. Currently in their inaugural year, they have served dozens of cancer patients, many of whom are alive today against medical odds. They provide patients with access to and financial assistance for cutting edge treatments approved by the FDA for clinical trials in the United States.

The Lazarex Cancer Foundation seeks your help to continue their efforts of serving the endstage cancer community.

You can find out more about the Lazarex Cancer Foundation at their web site www.lazarexfoundation.org. Better yet, make a donation in Chris Wree's name! The RISAA Charities Committee did!



RISAA President Steve Medeiros presents \$100 check to Rose Lavallee for the Lazarex Cancer Foundation

Great Selection of
Fishing Kayaks
The KAYAK
CENTRE
of Rhode Island

Native - Ocean - Heritage
1.888.SEA.KAYAK
www.kayakcentre.com



Member

Wickford Rodworks

BAIT & TACKLE • CUSTOM RODS • REEL REPAIR
401-667-7363 7 MAIN ST. WICKFORD RI

www.wickfordrodworks.com



Member