

# The Compass

## CISV Greater Springfield Chapter Newsletter



**CISV educates and inspires action  
for a more just and peaceful world**

## Upcoming Events

Check the web site for more details

- |            |  |
|------------|--|
| 5/23/2014- | National Mini Camp-                    |
| 5/26/2014  | Dallas                                 |
| 6/14/2014  | JB Car Wash- East<br>Longmeadow Rotary |
| 6/21/2014  | Pre-Camp Fun Day                       |
| 6/21/2014  | Bon Voyage Party                       |
| 9/7/2014   | Annual Meeting/Debrief                 |
| 10/9/2014- | CISV USA in Motion                     |
| 10/12/2014 | National Meeting                       |
| 10/18/2014 | Day in the Life                        |
| 12/2014    | Winter Mini Camp                       |
| 1/15/2015  | 2015 Applications<br>Due               |

To get the most up to date information on times, locations and dates follow us !



@CISVSpringfield



CISV Springfield

## From the President

Dear Friends;

We are founded on the belief that peace is possible through friendship- and that the real difference can be made by starting with children. So what might the result be of participating in a CISV program and making friends with different people? You might experience trust and cooperation. These are 2 of the most important qualities that leaders establish in their group, organization or Nation according to Simon Sinek , who wrote, " Start with Why: How great Leaders Inspire Everyone to take Action." Leadership is a choice and CISV alums choose it more often than not in a variety of arenas. That is why I am so happy that this summer we are sending 30 delegates, JC's and Leaders to programming around the world to experience a rigorous and fun peace education curriculum that will percolate ideas and ways of pursuing their lives for many years to come. We also had great JB participation in local and regional programming this year. I can assure you, we will all benefit from these young peoples' CISV experience. We look forward to sharing CISV programming with the Springfield Parks Department this summer and planning for the coming year. We invite you to join our chapter in a way that is meaningful for you and that helps us educate and inspire action for a more just and peaceful world.

Yours in Friendship,

Jennifer P. Metsch

CISVUSA greater Springfield Chapter President, 2012-2014

## CISV youth meeting

December 27, 2014- January 3, 2015 Ages 16-18

**We are still seeking an applicant for a Youth Meeting in Graz Austria.** This short regional camp features individual themes that allow young people to explore intercultural issues in a regional context. The program reinforces core CISV values, builds leadership and organizational skills, while promoting continued CISV involvement. Delegates travel without a leader. Send applications by July 1.



# Setting the Pace for Peace 5K and Family Fun Walk is a success!



## Were there more cupcakes or smiles?

Our second annual CISV 5k race and fun walk in Forest park definitely made the most of a cold rainy day. Capturing our theme, 'Setting the Pace for Peace', we had 100 participants and almost that many volunteers, braving the elements. Led by Ann Most and Sam Edwards, the organizing and fund raising efforts were first rate.

The pre-race preparations started at the home of the Peluso's where 175 cupcakes were baked and wildly decorated by our Junior Branch. Delicious and fun, even the Cake Boss would be proud. (Diane, I'm not sure your house will ever be the same) Our volunteers included, 'Villagers' past and future, the LHS National Honor Society and Key Club, the CISV international president, and a fund-raising and organizing committee that really made this entire event first-class. They stood at every course turn, shivering and cheering, and as a runner I was very proud of CISV.

Doing double duty, at the registration table and as the first female finisher was Pauline Cravens. The first male finisher was 13 year-old Jake Goodman. Congratulations to both of you. First in their respective age groups were (young to older, ladies first) ages 1-12, Rachel Goodman and Ian Kelly (traveling to Spain), ages 13-18, Gabriella Humphries and Jack Peluso (traveling to Germany), ages 19-29,

Carolyn Hoff (former CISV traveller) and Mark Devlin (juggling between sons Jack and Paul), ages 30-39, Jessica Maruco and Toby Snedecor (in costume, and leading to Germany), ages 40-49 Nicole Brackman and David Edwards (Sponser), ages 50-59, Lisa Patnode and Daniel Grow (sponser), and 60+ Nancy Mangari.

The post-race celebration was in the shelter of the baseball stadium bleachers. We ate cupcakes supporting peace symbols in addition to the standard bananas and oranges. It brought together parents already sharing their anxieties around their children's summer travel plans, (Spain, Germany, Japan, Ecuador, and Austria) and leaders sharing what they learned at CISV training this spring. Most of all, it brought together almost 200 people really proud of what CISV stands for, and happy to be part of it.

This event raised approximately \$4,500 to support of programming costs. Thank you to our sponsors.

### We'd like to thank our sponsors

Global Citizens: The Grow Family  
Navigators: The Edwards Family

#### Crew:

Fontaine Bros, Inc  
The Vottero Family  
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*Plus First. Then Invest.*  
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The Sadowsky Family Foundation





## Spotlight on a Volunteer: Fran Johnson

Fran Johnson's favorite aspects of CISV are the lessons taught to children to live in peace and celebrate diversity. This is what lead her to talking about CISV to the people of Western Massachusetts, coordinate the JC shop for all four villages, and help establish our local chapter. Fran originally became interested with CISV when her son-in-law talked about his childhood experiences with the organization. At the beginning of Frans retirement, she accepted an opportunity to serve the local community - and she chose to do so through talking to the district about CISV and the newly founded Springfield chapter. As she became more involved, she founded and coordinated the JC shops for all

four Springfield Villages.

Fran's favorite memory of her CISV involvement was seeing her granddaughter Grace grow, excel, and flourish from CISV.

Fran even feels she got to experience being a CISV Villager and delegate through watching her granddaughter Grace! When the 9/11 tragedy occurred, Grace received many emails from her fellow Village delegates from around the world, asking if she was okay. This showed Mrs. Johnson how CISV unites and creates special bonds that link children across the world. Recently, Grace has gone on to serve on the Chapter Development Committee and represent the Junior Branch nationally.

CISV brings Fran the most enjoyment through seeing children from all different cultures form friendships and bonds regardless of language barriers or separate nationalities. She loved seeing the camaraderie and unity among all the children, even if they did not speak the same language. Mrs. Johnson believes that CISV is a most wonderful organization, and that every participant gets an enormous amount out of the programs. In the future, Fran hopes the Springfield Chapter will continue to thrive, expanding to multiple chapters that can learn from the wonderful job being done in Springfield.

*Interviewed and written by  
Katie Santarelli,*

*JB member and Interchange  
delegate to Graz Austria*



Fran Johnson and her husband, Tom, were a few of the first volunteers for the CISV Greater Springfield Chapter. They helped stock the JC shop at our first 'Our House' Village.

# Mini Camp- What is it?

A big part of CISV is Mini Camp. Mini Camps are incredible weekends that are jam-packed with fun CISV activities, top notch educational content, awesome people, energizers galore and so much more. This is a chance to participate in a CISV program without the time and financial commitment of an international program. The core CISV values of friendship, engagement, enthusiasm, cooperation and inclusiveness are an essential part of mini camp- just like an international program.

Youth that participate in Mini Camps will get to know other people from their chapter, region of the country and even people from other countries or regions. Usually, everyone ages 10-25 are invited.

2014 has been a stellar mini camp year for the Greater Springfield chapter. We started the year off strong with a local mini camp at Academy Hill School. This was our third year of hosting a winter mini camp between Christmas and New Years.

March is Regional Mini Camp (RMC) month. RMC is coordinated by all the JB presidents in the Northeast Region of CISV (Greater Springfield, Maine, New York, Washington DC, Brandywine and Philadelphia). By coordinated I mean that the JB does all the preparation and planning. They only need adults to chaperone and sign the contracts. We sent 13 youth and 4 chaperones to RMC in Horsham, PA this spring. This group included first time participants, experienced CISV leaders, first time adult participants and seasons CISVers. Judging from the look on their faces they were having a good time.



Maine Mini Camp is  
2014 was

hosted by CISV Maine every April.  
the 11<sup>th</sup> MMC and the theme was 'Dumbledore and the Magical Mini Camp of Peacecraft and Diversity'.  
Springfield has participated in this Mini Camp almost every year since it started. This year, we were excited to send a special chaperone- Stephen Russell. Stephen was a Village staff at WMA last summer and participated in the first ever Maine Mini Camp. It was a sweet reunion.

Finally, the National Mini Camp is coming up on Memorial Day Weekend. Although we don't have anyone participating in the camp in Dallas we are still involved. Mary Kate Grow, former JB President, was selected by her peers in the National JB to be on the committee. She has been planning the activities via Skype and will be for the weekend.

planning  
be jetting off to Dallas

Mini Camps provide a wonderful opportunity to grow. This is true for participants, leaders, chaperones and planners. Is this Peace Education or Leadership Development? Yes!!

**Sarah Metsch reported on Maine Mini Camp:** *On April 25-27 our very own Springfield chapter sent 9 people to participate in MMC (Maine minicamp). This was one of the best mini camps I had ever attended. I loved that there were so many people there (93), most of whom had already done CISV or were completely on board for trying it. It was awesome to see everyone participate and share their ideas in debriefs. All the activities revolved around diversity, not just explaining it but showing different types of diversity, isms, and advantages that some groups of people may have. Not only did this camp have great knowledge opportunities but also a lot of really great people in an awesome setting. Also the theme of Harry Potter was nicely tied into a lot of activities like steps to help raciest wizards, and of course a yule ball! Over all Dumbledore's School of Peacecraft and Diversity was a big success in my eyes and hope to go back with even more people joining us.*

# GOT TRAINING?

**IS CISV about Leadership Development or Peace Education?** We debate this all the time but either way we have it covered. Training is a big part of what we do in CISV. In our chapter we are proud to train adults and teens and a significant part of our local budget and the CISV USA budget is for training. Here is some of the training our Chapter Members have participated in since the start of 2014:



Leaders and JCs took a selfie before boarding the plane for NLT

- Local Leader Training- 5 Leaders and 2 Junior Counselors- 49 hours
- National Leader Training- 3 leaders and 2 junior Counselors- 100 hours
- Regional Training Forum- Risk Manager and Communications- 40 hours
- Chapter Development- 2 Adult Board Members and 2 Juniors Branch - 80 hours

This is a total of 13 distinct people and 269 hours of training. Those hours don't include travel time.

Thank you to everyone that participated and donated your time and talents: Talia Hirsch, Jeff Cirillo, Patrick McGowan, Elizabeth Metsch, Grace Bianco, Jamie Kreiger, Maurice Powe, Jane Johnson Vottero, Marie Lachenmeyer, Lisa Kelly, Zach Holland and Michael Lachenmeyer.



## #CISVSWAG



For those of you that are not up on the latest social media jargon, CISVswag means 'CISV Stuff We All Get'. It seems that Springfield SWAG is better than ever. The JB has developed a new sweat shirt and a new T-Shirt design that has sold out. They will be restocking for the summer travelers. They also have a new Nalgene bottle design and will be rolling out another new T-shirt design. They anticipate the new T-shirt will be a national best seller!!

Just a few more things... Everyone should bring a lunch. The annual chapter Bon Voyage party will follow this event!

A special prize will be awarded to the delegation (delegates and friends included)!

The perfect chance to show your friends what CISV is all about!

**PRIZE!!**

Who? The entire JB is invited!  
Rsvp to elizabeth.metsch@us.cisv.org

When? June 21st, from 10-4  
Wilbraham United Church,  
500 Main Street, Wilbraham,  
MA 01095

**JB Summer Kick-Off Event**

**CISV**  
usa  
building global friendship  
greater springfield chapter



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