

October 2019

Camp Knutson Volunteers Fall Newsletter



Greetings from our President

Happy Fall! The road to Camp Knutson is beautiful with red, gold, orange and yellow leaves highlighted by the beautiful pine trees! I hope you have had time to reflect and share your summer experiences at Camp Knutson. **You are very much appreciated!**

This newsletter is to keep you informed about CKV (Camp Knutson Volunteers), and all the planning that is happening for the summer 2020. We would like you to be part of the preparation for next summer at camp.



Our website will be updated in the next few weeks. Jean Jones will direct you in this newsletter on how to easily navigate our website. Our website is full of information, pictures and stories about Camp Knutson.

Please feel free to call me (612-644-3456) anytime with questions about Camp Knutson Volunteers. Thank you for being part of CKV!

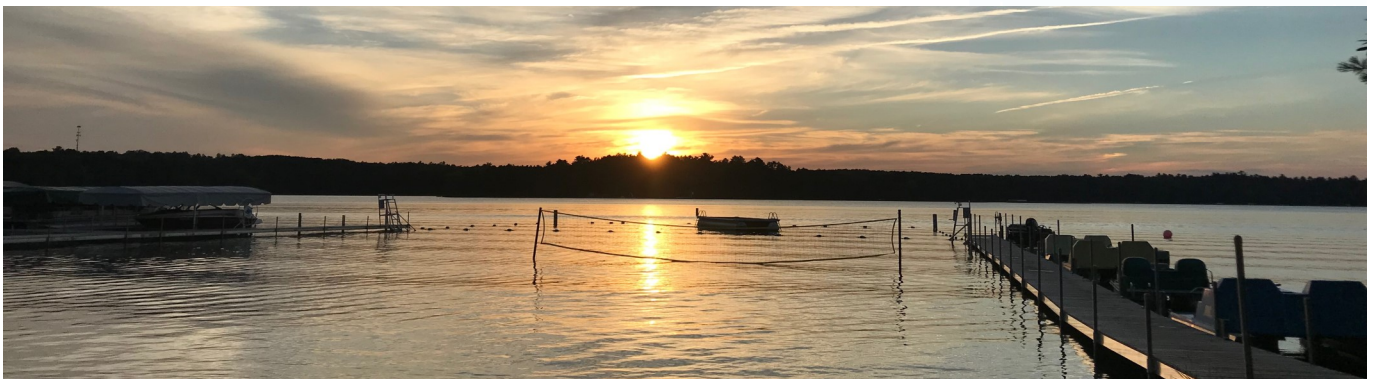
~Bonnie Benson, President of Camp Knutson Volunteers

Inside this issue

CKV Highlights	2
Camper Story	3
Sundae Funday	4
Night Under the Stars	4
Quilt Auction	5
Summer 2019 Volunteerism	6
Website Updates	7

Important Dates

- 05/31 Sundae Funday
- 06/04 Spring Volunteer Meeting
- 07/18 Night Under the Stars
- 8/08 Quilt Auction



2019 CKV Highlights

5/26 Family Sundae Funday – Games and food for the family served outside at Camp Knutson. Tours of camp were available. This was a special time for the community to experience Camp K.



Future campers and their families have taken this opportunity to learn about Camp Knutson. This increases the comfort level of the camper and parents when first-time campers attend camp. A fun time was had by all!

5/30 Volunteer Spring Meeting - Our CKV Spring Meeting was full of energy and excitement!

New members were introduced. Plans for Night Under the Stars were shared by Jeannine Acker, Chair. Volunteer opportunities were discussed including gathering auction items for the event.

7/20 Night Under the Stars “Luau At The Lake” was a terrific fundraiser and very successful - best yet! Thank you volunteers for talent and great participation!

8/10 Quilt Auction was a successful fundraiser! Many CKV members volunteered at the Quilt Auction. Thank you volunteers!

8/19 A committee of CKV members **reviewed the CKV BY LAWS.**

8/29 Fall CKV meeting and lunch – Members heard about a fun season at camp and Caitlin Malin showed pictures of campers, counselors, and volunteers. Report was given by the Treasurer Mardy Brodil about the money raised at Night Under the Stars. Election of new CKV Board took place, and was announced.

8/31 A fabulous **Pancake Breakfast** was put on by Camp Knutson for the community. Many CKV members and their families attended.

9/9 Volunteer Appreciation Picnic took place at camp and was well attended.



Good friends, good food and good times!

Kathy Morgan (our jewelry artist/bead lady) was given the LSS Volunteer of The Year Award! Jeri Schoonveer, Chief Service Officer for LSS presented the award and gave Kathy a beautiful quilt that she purchased at the Camp Knutson Quilt Auction. Kathy creates the beading projects and purchases beads during the winter. In the Spring she teaches the projects to Camp Knutson Volunteers who want to do beading with campers. Usually beading with campers takes place on tables at the beach during water front time. Kathy is a wonderful Camp Knutson Volunteer and a great person. Thank You Kathy!



See you next year for another great summer at Camp Knutson!

Bonnie Benson, President

Camper Story

This past summer we had so many super sweet happenings at Camp K that we had to share at least one with you in this newsletter. Jacob is a camper with autism who just loves everything about camp. He is quite the conversationalist and enjoys interacting mainly with just staff telling them all about his parents, dog, aunts, uncles, and pretty much the rest of his life story if you have the time. This summer we witnessed something very new and exciting about Jacob. He was starting to interact more with other campers, mainly his pal Willie. Jacob raved about how great Willie was and what good friends they were. Although Willie may not have realized how much Jacob loved him, the time they shared together was beautiful. At the weekly talent show Jacob brought Willie up to the front and danced with him. That very special moment brought tears to the eyes of many of us as Jacob grabbed Willie's hands and Willie followed his every move.



On behalf of all of our campers and staff, thank you for helping make these precious moments possible for our campers like Jacob and Willie and all the 1,260 individuals whose lives were touched this summer because you opened your hearts to them. We are so happy and grateful you decided to take camp's hand like Jacob did for Willie and dance (or walk with style) beside us on this journey. Thank you so very much for all of your service and for believing in camp's mission to help our campers live fuller and more abundant lives. We are already looking forward to teaming up with you again in 2020! Till then rest easy and enjoy life this fall and winter. Many blessings to all of you, your friends and families.

Gratefully,

Jared, Caitlin, Josh, Dennie and the rest of the Camp K staff



Sundae Funday—May 31, 2020



Camp Knutson Volunteers will host a free community event at Camp Knutson on Sunday, May 31, 2020 from 11 am -2 pm. This event is for all ages, a festival of fun and games and tours of the camp. Free food such as walking tacos and ice cream sundaes have been the hit for the past three years. The goals of this event are 1) to raise awareness in the local community of Camp K and 2) to give first-time campers and their anxious parents a closer look at camp.

Our food chairs, Susan Derus 612-209-9454, Carolyn Forney 612-817-5830 and Cheryl Evenson 763-478-8562 are looking for volunteers to help serve food the day of the event. Please contact one of these chairs if you are interested. We will have more volunteer needs closer to the event in May.

Please feel free to contact the Co-Chairs with any questions:

Lori Nelson 651-246-7292 lorinelson@brainerd.net

Linda Gates 507-202-9374 Gates.lb@hotmail.com

Thank you and Save the Date for NUTS 2020!

Thanks to our wonderful volunteers and the many friends of Camp Knutson who attended and donated to the **2019 Night Under the Stars**, this was our most successful event to date. We not only enjoyed gorgeous weather and a fun *Luau at the Lake* – we also netted over \$183,000 for Camp Knutson! Since there are no capital projects in the pipeline this year, most of these funds will go directly toward defraying the Camp tuition costs for our campers. The remainder will be set aside for unanticipated expenses throughout the year.



Planning is already underway for our **2020 Night Under the Stars – That's Amore!** You guessed it – our theme will be Italian and we are thrilled to announce that Maucieri's Catering will be providing a wonderful dinner for the evening.

Beginning in May, we will be looking for Volunteers to assist with this event. Stay tuned for more information in our Spring Volunteer Newsletter!

Also, I encourage you to think about possible items or experiences you could donate to our Silent and Live Auctions on that special evening.

In the meantime, **SAVE THE DATE!** Our next **Night Under the Stars** will take place on Saturday, July 18, 2020 at Camp Knutson.

Ciao!

Jeannine Acker 763-233-1937 jkacker@comcast.net
2019 Night Under the Stars Chair

Greetings from the new Quilt Auction Chairs

Planning is already underway for the 34th Annual Quilt Auction to be held on Saturday August 8th, 2020. Please mark your calendars!

After 33 years of service, the Paul Bunyan Auxiliary is handing off the Quilt Auction to Camp Knutson Volunteers. Additionally, Kathe Lemmerman and Marie Fischer are ready to retire their leadership positions. We are so thankful for the countless ways they have contributed their time and talent to Camp K!

We are asking for your help in the following ways:

Each year the number of items donated to the auction grows - we need to expand our list of attendees/bidders. Many of our Camp K volunteers leave for the season so please spread the word about the quilt auction wherever you spend your winters. If you know of a business, organization or church that would be interested in promoting the Quilt Auction, please let us know and we'll supply you/them with posters and handouts.



We are currently looking for help with the following sub committees - please contact us to learn more or share ideas - no quilting experience necessary: Live Auction (quilts), Silent Auction (quilts and other sewing related items), Concessions, Parking, Publicity & Marketing.

New this year - We will be collecting "Fat Quarters" to sell at the Quilt Auction. (*FYI - a Fat Quarter is a 22"x18" piece of fabric that can be cut into various sizes to be used in the making of a quilt.*) Please keep this in mind and encourage your quilting friends or quilt shops from around the country to donate.

Drop off for quilt and fat quarter donations will be at Camp Knutson or The Log Church between May 1st and July 20th.

If you have any questions, please email us at CampKQuilts@gmail.com.

Penny Bryce, Cindy Melsby and Beth McConville



"The more I get involved with camp, in many different ways, the stronger my love grows for the camp itself, the people and the experience it provides. I have gained a wealth of experience volunteering at camp, whether it is hands on with the kids, behind the scenes work, fundraisers and/or committees."

~Quote from 2019 fall volunteer survey

Volunteers are amazing

Thanks to all volunteers for sharing your time and effort in the many various opportunities at camp this summer.



There were 80 different CKV members who recorded over 312 volunteer opportunities this summer on the camp grounds including Biking, Cleaning, Jewelry, Tailgating, etc. 312!!! And this does not include the weekly opportunity to Garden which alone contributed 350 hours of loving labor to make our campus beautiful. Together we contributed to almost 900 hours of volunteering during camp weeks! Over 30% of the tasks were filled by volunteers NEW THIS YEAR! WOW!! Thank you, again, for sharing your busy summer with Camp K.



Fundraising Chairs reported over 130 volunteers (many who served in more than one event) donated hundreds and hundreds of hours, planning, serving, parking, collecting for Silent Auction, and even set-up and clean-up!



Finally, a special thank you to Jean Jones and Caitlin Malin for all their work on our new web site which helped us communicate like never before. We tried hard to keep it accurate and timely each week. We hope you found it easy and helpful to use. We look forward to seeing some of you over the winter and a return by all to the Spring Meeting in May 2020!!

Ginny Hersey, Volunteer Coordinator

218-821-7801 herseyonfox@emily.net

Website Updated

About this time last year, we began work on revitalizing and improving the *CampKFriends.com* website. Through our research, we learned that you felt the most important purposes of our website to be: **information, communication, registrations, calendar, volunteer schedules, and address contact**. These became our central focus.

While we believed that most of the volunteers did appreciate and utilize the tools we incorporated, there were some that offered important insight into improving areas of the Website, and one was to “offer a GUIDE”, that could give you **Menu links** to help find answers to some questions you might have, like “where are the minutes of the Spring Meeting?”

We have created a website guide for you to access. This Guide lists the Menu Category and sub-category you’ll need to click on. We will add this information as well as a detailed “Menu Categories” page to the website. Any suggestions and ideas that will improve your experience are welcome. Please contact Jean Jones or Caitlin Malin if you have questions or concerns. (“Contact info” on the Website!)

Jean Jones, Communications/Marketing Coordinator

<https://www.campkfriends.com/>

GUIDE TO CAMPKFRIENDS.COM Website

Home Page

****Green Banner for BREAKING NEWS** Across the top

****Menu**

**** Videos**

Menu Headings (Top Right side of the page)

About

Volunteers

Events

News

Contact

Where do I go to find what I need?

Question

Where is our Mission Statement?

What Opportunities to Volunteer are available and how do I Sign Up?

Is there a Camp Map?

How many Campers do we serve?

Partner Camps and Dates at Camp

How do I sign up?

Where are the forms I need?

Where are the schedules for volunteer signup?

Where is the Address book?

Where is the Calendar of events?

Other Events at Camp K?

Where is information on Night Under the Stars?

Where do I register ONLINE for NUTS?

Where are the current Newsletters, Agendas, Minutes, ByLaws and Archives?

Who do I contact to change my address?

Where is contact information for Camp?

Menu Heading/Sub

ABOUT/Overview

ABOUT/Overview

VOLUNTEERS/Opportunities

ABOUT/Camp Map

ABOUT/Our Impact

ABOUT/Learn More

VOLUNTEERS/Opportunities

VOLUNTEERS/Forms

VOLUNTEERS/Schedules

VOLUNTEERS/Addresses

EVENTS/Calendar

EVENTS/Additional Events

EVENTS/NUTS

EVENTS/NUTS

NEWS/Featured News

NEWS/Archives

CONTACT/More Info

CONTACT/Bottom of webpage



Camp Knutson 2020 Wishlist

- Convection ovens
- Picnic Tables
- Archery Course Supplies
- Nature Adventure Trail
- Tree planting
- Waterfront basketball court
- Bathroom updates around camp

Camp Knutson also has an
Amazon Wishlist! Check it
out at:

<http://a.co/fGRcUM2>



Thank you for all of your time, talents, energy, creativity and love you share
with everyone in the Camp Knutson Community! We are grateful for YOU!!

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