

CAMP KNUTSON VOLUNTEERS

Spring Newsletter

GREETINGS FROM THE PRESIDENT



Greetings and wishing you a happy spring! My heart is filled with joy as I see all the wonderful friends coming together to support Camp Knutson. I see many familiar friends joining the team, but I also see several new people starting to dip their toe in the volunteer pool. It is so inspiring to hear new ideas and plans. It is this constant building of community and fresh perspectives that is the lifeblood of our volunteer team.

I have been blessed with the opportunity to winter in south Texas and while I was there meeting new people, I also had the opportunity to discuss Camp and to educate them on what Camp Knutson is all about. In fact, I would not be surprised to see them taking part with the online auctions we now offer. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Camp Knutson staff for their support in my President journey. I really appreciate their support as they work to provide the framework for volunteers to interact with the campers at Camp. United we can accomplish anything.

Thank you for your continued support of both myself and Camp Knutson.

Cindy Melsby

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Greetings from the President.....	1
Volunteer Coordinator Message.....	2
Volunteer Coordinator Message Cont.....	3
CKV Membership Report.....	4
Sundae Funday.....	4
Gardening at Camp K.....	5
Beading Update.....	5
Quilt Auction Update....	6
Night Under the Stars... 7	
Silent Auction Details... 8	
Camp K Director Letter.....	8
CKV and Camp K Dates.....	9



Camp Knutson

www.campkfriends.com

VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR MESSAGE



My name is Laurie Noll and I'm excited to be serving as the Volunteer Coordinator at Camp Knutson this year. Like most folks up north, I enjoy the outdoors which includes flower gardening, working in the yard, boating, and fishing. I feel my passion and mission to help serve others is what drives me to be the best I can be for our campers. But I can't do that without the help of all the volunteers, so I thank you for your dedication and hours of service to our campers.

It was wonderful to get back to a more normal routine at Camp Knutson last year with Covid firmly in our rearview mirror. I can't begin to express my appreciation for the many volunteers that stepped up to help with approximately 1500 volunteer hours to keep everything running smoothly. Of course, we couldn't be successful without guidance and firsthand assistance from all the staff at Camp K. From the Directors, to the Counselors, to the Office and Kitchen Staff and to everybody else that lends a hand.

We are blessed to have so many talented and dedicated volunteers that are willing to help with the many camp activities from Tailgating, Jewelry Making, Fishing, helping with the Bikers, and more. We are also so thankful for the volunteers that spend hours cleaning the cabins, managing the yard maintenance and in general, with everybody coming together to make this experience for our campers special.

Our fundraisers were a tremendous success with Sundae Funday, Night Under the Stars (NUTS), and our Quilt Auction. There were amazing teams of individuals that donated countless hours in organizing, preparing, and managing these events with flawless expertise and unending energy. Without you, our volunteers, we would not be able to provide our campers with the unique and rewarding experiences they look forward to.

CKV ANNUAL DUES

CKV 2023 Optional Dues are \$10, as in the past. The dues help defray CKV mailing and print costs, as well as supporting the "fairy fund" for campers that do not have spending money at camp. We greatly appreciate your interest in and support of the CKV.

Easy Options for Dues:

1. Mail your \$10 check payable to "Camp Knutson" to camp.
11148 Manhattan Pt Blvd
Crosslake, MN 56442
2. Pay your dues (check preferable) at the Spring Meeting on June 1st.
3. Pay dues online at campkfriends.com (click on "membership info")
4. Drop off a check in the CKV drop box in the lobby of Pauly's Place at Camp Knutson .

Thank you!



VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR MESSAGE CONT.



Something new and exciting is happening.... We're excited to be introducing a new on-line program that will allow you to fill out your annual forms and sign up for volunteer activities and dates right from the comfort of your home or anywhere you might be because it's easy to access on either your phone or computer. This on-line program will assist with the coordinating of volunteers' activities as well as making it easier for each of you to sign up and keep track of your volunteer calendar.

We'll be rolling out this new system very soon. At our Spring Meeting we will provide a complete tutorial. Not to worry, several volunteers will be available to assist you if need additional help. Once you've worked with the system, it will become second nature but if you still find you need assistance, please contact Caitlin at Camp Knutson or me, Laurie Noll. I can be reached via email at labonoll@gmail.com or my cell phone at 952-452-0259. While this system will help with all our volunteer organization, please do not let it be a barrier to volunteering. We will be here to ensure you can still sign up for activities. Just give us a call.

With the rollout at our Spring Meeting, I urge you to mark your calendar for Thursday, June 1st starting at 10:00 a.m. In addition to learning how to navigate our on-line volunteer sign-up system, our Spring meeting is an excellent opportunity for you to meet new volunteers while at the same time, connect with volunteers from previous years. Everyone is welcome and we encourage you to attend. We will provide a social lunch following the meeting.

See you at the Spring Meeting!

I'd like to close with a quote from Booker T. Washington:

Those who are the happiest are those who help others!

I believe this to be true!

Laurie Noll



CKV MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Spring is here and I am excited to share some opportunities for our new and returning members alike. First of all, there will be monthly socials for volunteers to get together to relax, eat and socialize. The dates and times will be announced at the CKV Volunteer Spring meeting which is scheduled for June 1, 2023 at 10:00 am.

Next, we are going to continue our Volunteer Mentor program again this year. The goal with this program is to identify new Camp Knutson volunteers and connect them with a long-time Camp Knutson volunteer. We will be gathering information on who would like to **BE** a mentor and who would like to **HAVE** a mentor. We want to offer an opportunity for new members to ask questions via email, phone or over coffee/wine with a veteran volunteer. The ultimate goal is to make new members feel welcome at Camp Knutson when they volunteer.

As always, please consider inviting someone you know to become a volunteer at Camp Knutson. You can invite them to the CKV Volunteer Spring meeting on June 1, 2023.

Remember, your support to Camp Knutson is so appreciated! Let's make the summer of 2023 the "Summer to remember"! Lori Lee: loriandronlee@comcast.net 952-457-6746



SUNDAE FUNDAY - MAY 28TH, 2023

Camp Knutson Volunteers will be hosting a free community event at Camp Knutson Campus on Sunday, May 28th from 11:00 – 2:00. The event is for all ages!! Fun games and tours of the camp will be available to enjoy. Free walking tacos and ice cream sundaes will be served and has been a hit for the visitors in the past. This event allows the community to be aware of the camp's purpose and to get a better idea of what happens during the summer for the campers. It is also helpful for new campers to see what the camp looks like, for the parents to be able to directly see the campus and to meet some of the staff.

The Team Leaders for Sundae Funday are:

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

Laurie Ridgley - 612-790-0538 – laurieeridgley@gmail.com

Please contact us with questions or to put your name on the list to volunteer!



GARDENING AT CAMP K

The gardeners were busy this last summer & fall! We had some great Wed. AM's weeding, deadheading, watering, moving plants from one area to another. We planted & cared for the many potted plants around the campus to keep the camp looking colorful for campers, visitors and staff to enjoy. Fun information is gathered from our fellow gardeners during coffee/treat time after the work is done. This is a great group and there is a lot of laughter! Ladies & Men are invited to join us. The gardens looked beautiful last summer and we look forward to seeing them grow in 2023. If you are interested in joining us, we meet every Wed. AM at 8:30 for 1-1 ½ hours. We are flexible and you can join in when you are available. Please add your name, phone # & email to the time & talent sheets or mark on your new online profile and we will be in touch with you.

Chair Persons, Sharon Elmquist and Linda Gates



BEADING & JEWELRY MAKING OPPORTUNITIES WITH CAMPERS

One of our longest running volunteer activities continues and we are so excited to offer it more this summer! Join us for a variety of different afternoons, from about 2:00pm – 4:30pm, to help create beading and jewelry projects at the waterfront. Campers love to get to know the volunteers and create beautiful projects for themselves or to give as gifts. This is a great time to engage in meaningful conversations with many of our campers and staff. There will be project training dates for volunteers prior to the first couple beading days. Volunteer dates will be released at the spring meeting on June 1 at 10am. Mary Nielsen and Mary Knight will be heading up the art projects so if you have additional questions, please let them know. You will be able to sign up for the activities through them or through the new online sign-up platform! We look forward to welcoming back all the beaders and jewelry makers!

Mary Nielsen: 859-816-3163 marynielsen88@gmail.com

Mary Knight: 218-851-5155 jkmk1152@brainerd.net



QUILT AUCTION UPDATE

Spring has arrived and we are excited to get to work on the 37th Annual Quilt Auction! The auction will be held on Saturday, August 12th and we plan to have a hybrid event again this year, with both live and online events. The “QAC Squad” needs your help!

If you are interested on being on our team, there will be sign up sheets at the spring volunteer meeting on June 1st. Again, no quilting experience is needed!

If you or anyone you know is planning to donate an item for the Quilt Auction, we will be accepting donations from May 1st through July 10th. Mail or drop your donations at the Crosslake Log Church or contact one of us.

Please reach out to one of us if you have questions, suggestions, or would like to discuss volunteering opportunities. We thank you for your support!

2023 Quilt Auction Co-chairs:

Wendy Bares - 763-670-4427 - wendybares@yahoo.com

Jan Larson - 507-276-9063 - Jlars612@gmail.com





NIGHT UNDER THE STARS

It's a '70s Party! And Camp Knutson's 70th Anniversary!

Join us at Camp Knutson on Saturday, July 15 for the 20th annual Night Under the Stars! All the fun starts at 4:30 pm! This year's event will feature: a Silent Auction, Dinner, Program and Live Auction.

Dinner attendance is limited to 210 guests, so buy your tickets soon! Additional tickets for the Auction and Wine Bar are also available. Please click on this link to register: [Night Under the Stars](#). Prefer to participate remotely? You may register to participate in Camp Knutson's Night Under the Stars online auction by clicking the link above.

Volunteers are essential to this event! Perhaps you are interested in helping with décor, setup, guest check-in, parking or the silent auction? Sign-up sheets will be available at the Spring Volunteer Meeting on June 1 at Camp Knutson. If you are not able to make it to the spring meeting, contact Jeannine Acker at jkacker@comcast.net.

Proceeds from this event go directly to supporting the camp experience for our wonderful campers! Please join us on July 15 as we celebrate Camp Knutson's 70th anniversary and toast our campers, staff, volunteers and supporters at Night Under the Stars 2023!



NUTS SILENT AUCTION DETAILS

Many Camp K volunteers are purchasing gift certificates from local businesses to support the community and Camp Knutson. These gift cards will then be incorporated into silent auction gift baskets.

If you are attending the all-volunteer meeting on June 1, you may drop off baskets, wooden boxes, or anything we could use to create gift baskets for the Silent Auction. If you are unable to attend, we will provide a drop off time and location later this month. If you need help with ideas for donations, please contact Gretchen Sebald: gasebald83@gmail.com, 612-310-4405



CAMP K DIRECTOR LETTER

Greetings Camp Knutson Volunteers,

Last year served as a homecoming for many campers, staff, volunteers, and supporters; this year will be a celebration of 70 years of Camp Knutson! It's incredible to think of thousands of lives that have been forever changed because of Camp K. I want to express my appreciation to all volunteers past and present for their service. Please know that you are a blessing in so many ways to the campers and families we have the honor to serve. We are so lucky to have so many extremely dedicated volunteers that help create the culture of care that truly makes each camper's time with us so special. The things you do, no matter how big or small really do matter. Thank You!

This summer I am very excited to open the doors to the newest improvement to Camp K: "The Fischer Cabin". We are so grateful to all those that contributed their time, talent, and treasure to helping us create this worry-free home away from home for our campers. Because of the support of volunteers like you this year we will be able to welcome even more campers and partner groups. This camping season we will be hosting at least 14 camp partners and anticipate having over 1000 total campers. Our camping services continue to stretch and grow beyond our summer now because of your efforts. There are already some amazing stories to tell about the impact that is being made and I look forward to our spring meeting to share a few of them with you. I look forward to a safe, healthy, and fun summer ahead. Thanks for choosing to be a part of the life-giving mission of Camp K!

With heart felt gratitude,
Jared Griffin
Camp Knutson Sr. Director





SUMMER 2023 SCHEDULE

May 22 Staff Training Begins

May 28 Sundae Funday

June 1 Spring Volunteer Meeting

June 5 – 8 Camp Benedict

June 10 – 14 Down Syndrome Camp

June 16 – 19 Camp RED

June 21 – 25 Camp Odayin 1

June 27 – July 1 Camp Hand in Hand 1

July 3 – July 7 Camp Hand in Hand 2

July 7 Music on the Docks

July 10 – 14 Camp Odayin 2

July 15 Night Under the Stars

July 17 – 21 Camp Odayin 3

July 23 – 28 Camp Discovery 1

July 30 – August 4 Camp Discovery 2

August 7 – 11 Camp Hand in Hand 3

August 12 Quilt Auction

August 13 Camp Knutson Sunday

August 13 – 17 Camp Hand in Hand 4

August 19 – 23 Camp Norden

August 24 Volunteer Fall Meeting

August 25 – 27 Bridging Hearts

August 28 – 30 Youth Experiencing Homelessness

September 2 Pancake Breakfast

September 4 – 8 Minneapolis Community Group

September 11 Volunteer Appreciation Picnic

CAMP WISHLIST

With your help, we can provide all the parts and pieces that make the camp experience truly magical for our campers. Right now we are seeking the following items, as well as more listed on our website and Amazon wishlist linked below:

- New pontoon lifejackets
- New tri-pontoon
- Commercial paddle boat
- Camperships
- Fresh fruits and vegetables each camp week
- Minivan
- Loads of black dirt
- Sleeping bags

Website wishlist

Amazon wishlist

