

October 2021

Camp Knutson Volunteers Fall Newsletter



Greetings from the President

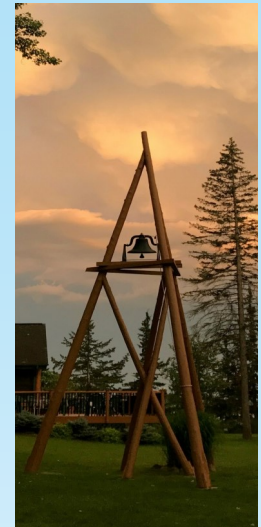
Greetings from the President and wishing you all a happy fall! I am so excited to be the President of the Camp Knutson Volunteer board this year. Cindy Melsby is the Vice President, and has much more experience with the Quilt Auction than I do, so we work well as a team. I have been involved with Camp Knutson for over 5 years, and ran a preschool with 6 spots for children with Autism diagnosis for the last 20 years of my career. Being an educator and having a son with an Autism diagnosis led me to Camp Knutson.

My goal for this year will focus on building a community that is excited to support Camp Knutson. When I am playing in my golf league, people who are interested in Camp Knutson seek me out and ask questions. That is an example of "spreading the word" in my community. My hope is that this year all volunteers will help "spread the word" about how wonderful Camp Knutson is and the space they create to allow all the different campers to come enjoy life and heal their souls. When I first came to Camp Knutson, I did not know the variety of Camps that are available for guests to enjoy. I have beaded by the lake with campers that have skin conditions, scars from a fire and campers with a heart condition. I have watched campers with Autism ride bikes at camp, and enjoyed the many jokes and stories they shared. We hope that volunteers will be allowed to come and interact with the campers in 2022, but time and the pandemic will tell. If volunteers are not actually beading with the campers, then they can help build community and raise funds to support camp. I love the fact that I still can utilize my computer skills while volunteering, and the new friends I have made nourish my soul every day.

I want to encourage you all to get involved with Camp Knutson. Build community by spreading the word that Camp Knutson is a warm and inviting space for all. As volunteers we strive to work together as a team and resolve our conflict in a professional manner and most of all have fun!

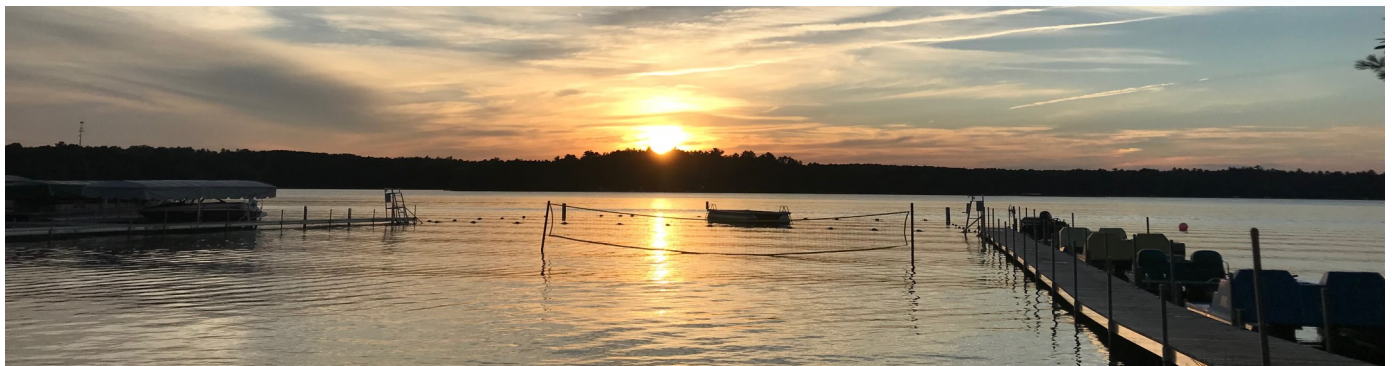
Thank you for your support!

Kristie Roedl, President



Inside this issue

Greetings from the President.	1
Happy Camper Market	2
Gardening.....	2
Hello from the VP	3
NUTS Recap	3
Sundae Funday	4
Note from Camp K Staff	4
Volunteer Review	5
Quilt Auction Recap	6



2021 Happy Camper Gift Market

Online Auction

October 15th to 20th, 2021

The 2nd Annual "Happy Camper Gift Market" is an online auction of over 100 skillfully handmade items, such as table runners, pillows, greeting cards, dish towels, placemats, and so much more. Great gift ideas for the holidays or birthdays. Many seasonal items as well. Auction opens at noon on October 15th and closes at noon on October 20th. Register online! You will receive a phone call after the auction closes on the 20th with instructions for pick up at the Log Church in Crosslake or we can ship it to you.



Bid Big and Bid Often, it's for the KIDS!!!!

Organized by:

Penny Bryce, Beth McConville, Cindy Melsby

Questions: Please call Cindy at 612.723.0342

Gardening in 2021

The gardeners were busy this summer! We had some great Wed. AM's weeding, deadheading, and moving plants from one area to another. We cared for the many potted plants around the campus to keep camp looking alive for campers, visitors and staff to enjoy. We planted a new refreshed area along the craft building. This area was dedicated to our friend and fellow gardener Linda Carpenter who passed away. We helped with trimming, watering and gathered fun information from our fellow gardeners. After we worked, we enjoyed coffee, treats and much laughter! We will be putting the gardens to sleep very soon so they are ready for Spring in 2022. This is a great group of ladies and **Thanks** to each of you who were able to help! The gardens looked beautiful this summer and we look forward to seeing them grow in 2022. If you are interested in joining us, please add it to your time and talent sheets in the spring.



Chair Persons are – Sharon Elmquist and Linda Gates

Hello from the Vice President

Happy Fall! I hope you have had a fun, healthy summer. Mine was full of activities all involving Camp Knutson and weddings. I have had the pleasure of assisting on all the fundraisers over the last 6 years. My biggest accomplishment so far was helping with crossing over the quilt auction from the Paul Bunyan Auxiliary to being under the Camp Knutson Volunteers umbrella. Along the way I have made friendships with CK volunteers and have gotten to know Jared, Caitlin, Josh, and Dennie a little more.

I am so excited to assist Kristie in her year of Presidency. Kristie and I got to know each other a few years back while working on the Silent Auction for NUTS and we now

have an incredible friendship. We both have been on the same mind set of working on communication within the CKV organization and with camp staff. But most importantly we want everyone to have fun. Not only as you are working at camp or working with campers but as well as working on the fundraisers. I look forward to meeting more of the CK Volunteers!

Sincerely,

Cindy Melsby, CKV
Vice President
2021-2022



"It feels great to be here at Camp K. It's a place for a lot of people to come together and have a true connection with each other."

- Camp Hand in Hand Camper

Night Under the Stars Recap



2021 Night Under the Stars "That's Amore!" was a tremendous success. Our goal this year was to raise \$150,000 for the camp and we did it! Thanks to all the volunteers who helped make this event successful and to our donors, whether an individual or community business, we raised over \$160,000. A fun, entertaining part of this event was the online

Silent Auction which featured 140+ unique and varied items. We are so grateful for YOU and your love for Camp Knutson showed through with these amazing results.

Next year's date is **July 16th, 2022**, and planning is already underway! Jeannine Acker, Gretchen Sebald and Suzanne Fabel are the tri-chairs for next year. Volunteers are needed in various areas such as: Parking, Registration/Seating, Decorating, and Silent Auction. Join Team NUTS (Night Under the Stars) and help plan this amazing event on the grounds of Camp Knutson in 2022. If you are interested in learning more about the opportunities to volunteer for this event contact:

Jeannine Acker
763-233-1937
jkacker@comcast.net.

Sundae Funday 2022

Camp Knutson Volunteers will be hosting Sundae Funday on Sunday, May 29, 2022 with the event being 11:00AM – 2:00PM. It is for all ages with tours, games, with a light lunch available and ice cream sundaes. This event is to help the community be aware of the camp's purpose and to show what happens during the summer weeks at the camp. Parents and Campers who have never been to the camp can directly see the campus. We hopefully will be able to have the Funday this year after being cancelled

A Note from Camp Knutson Staff

Dear Camp K Friends and Volunteers,

We have so much to celebrate this fall after the end of a successful, fun and healthy summer season at Camp Knutson! Nearly 600 campers brought their joy and laughter to Camp K through seven on-site camps with camp partners, three family camps and two virtual camps.

While we couldn't be happier to have campers back on grounds this summer, the Covid-19 pandemic affected many aspects of programming. Several of our partners decided to either hold virtual camp or postpone once again; the number of people on site were limited to ensure increased social distancing; and almost all our meals were eaten outside on picnic tables. With all these preventative measures, Camp K has never been healthier.

Our change in the camp schedule also opened time for new programming: Family Camp. Current campers and their families – along with other friends of Camp Knutson – received an all-inclusive camp experience complete with waterfront, horse-back riding, archery, evening activities and more.

We also welcomed a new camp partner this year: Children's Cancer Research Fund's Camp Norden. These campers, ages 8-15, whose lives have been affected by cancer experienced the love and community of camp for the first time.

A heartfelt thank you goes out to all our amazing volunteers. Your dedication could be seen through our beautiful grounds and gardens, the finished nature trail and countless other tasks that ensure Camp Knutson is ready for each week's new group of campers.

last year and will be looking for volunteers to help as the months get closer with tours, serving food, serving sundaes and help the visitors around. It is a great way to meet new people and enjoy the campus. More information to come in the spring!

Co-Chair's:

Lori Nelson 651-246-7292

Linda Gates 507-202-9374



Also, because the incredible team efforts of our volunteers and staff, our two signature fundraisers – Nights Under the Stars and the 35th Annual Quilt Auction – once again proved a success, and we were blown away by the generosity of Camp Knutson supporters. Through the two fundraisers we were able to raise close to \$260,000, thanks to the efforts of donors, sponsors, volunteers and other friends of Camp K.

We are incredibly grateful to all our volunteers for believing in and supporting our mission. We couldn't do what we do without all of you. Thank you for making Camp K possible. We especially want to thank the volunteers who helped lead the way this year; committee/program leaders, board members, fundraising chairs, etc. We are grateful for your leadership and for rising up to meet the many challenges we faced this year.

As summer ends, our excitement and ideas for the next year's camp season begins. Our hope for 2022 is that we're able to welcome more campers on grounds to learn new skills, grow in confidence, and experience the connections and friendships that can only be made at Camp Knutson.

Because of your commitment to our community, we're able to offer those once-in-a-lifetime experiences. Truly, thank you.

Warmly,

Jared Griffin
Senior Director

Caitlin Malin
Program Director

2021 Volunteer Review

Greetings CKV! It is truly amazing that after a second Camp season under the shadow of the COVID cloud we are actually **celebrating at Camp Knutson**. There is no doubt that it has been different this summer, and at times disappointing not to participate with campers and each other as in other years. But 2021 has been a successful, even record setting year in so many ways.



From the volunteers who worked over 800 hours to finish the Nature Trail and outdoor classroom platform at camp and the CKV who answered the call before the summer season to clean buildings for campers, to the gardeners who toiled 15 weeks through drought with lovely results, to the CKV (many brand new) who worked months on the new NUTS Party Box AND especially to the CKV leaders and workers for our magnificent NUTS and Quilt Auction fundraisers with awesome results.....yes, we are **celebrating and cheering ALL** who took time to participate, donate, and express support for Camp K.

While CKV was well represented in supporting camp this summer, many members of our roster were unable to participate as desired. Please know that we are looking forward to seeing everyone again in the spring. Your CKV membership does not depend on hours or type of volunteering. It is based on a desire to be a CKV member and renewing the forms required. If you did not renew your forms this year simply wait until next spring, pick up and return forms at camp, or go online to UPDATE ALL YOUR FORMS (Background Check, Voluntary Disclosure, Time & Talent, and current changes in the membership form such as phone, email, etc.) These forms are available for download on our website (campkfriends.com) It is also easy to pay your dues (of \$10) on the web site. If you are not comfortable doing that, you can mail your dues directly to Camp Knutson, 11148 Manhattan Pt Blvd, Crosslake, MN 56442. Remember the dues pay for mailings, and for the Fairy Fund at the Camp Store for those campers who need a little extra.

Thank you for taking your time to stay connected with Camp, CKV, and our mission with the kids. My hope is to see some of you who are here in the winter months for a fun "Game Night" at camp when we are allowed to gather. Please take good care of yourselves and be safe.

Questions?

Contact

Ginny Hersey, Volunteer Coordinator at 218-821-7801 or

Lori Lee, Membership Chair at 952-457-6746

Honoring Years of CKV Service

5 Year Anniversary

Jeannine Acker
Cindy Melsby
Ann Shirey

10 Year Anniversary

Mardy Brodil
Linda West

15 Year Anniversary

Carolyn Forney
Ginny Hersey
Kathe Lemmerman
Jan Strand



Quilt Auction Review

It's been another fun summer at Camp Knutson! We are so thankful to the Paul Bunyan Auxiliary for having the vision, creativity, and spirit of generosity to create this quilt auction over 35 years ago. This year's quilt auction was a great success with over 200 donated items selling to 200 plus bidders, both virtually and in person. The high-quality workmanship of our donations in hand with the amazing community of Camp K volunteers and supporters helped raise over \$97K! We are honored to carry on the tradition started by Marie Fischer, Kathe Lemmerman and so many others Penny Bryce, Beth McConville and Cindy Melsby have chaired the event for the last two years and have had a great time working with each other and the volunteers. In 2022, Beth and Cindy will step back as two new chairs, Wendy Bares and Jan Larson, join Penny to lead the quilt auction. Of course, Cindy and Beth will

continue to provide their support. Please get in touch with Penny Bryce if you would like to join the 2022 quilt auction team. Email: penny.orp6@gmail.com or phone: 952-201-6307 As always, remember you do not need to be a quilter to take part in the fun!



Want to receive all Camp Knutson mailings, such as the Annual Report, Spring and Fall letters and more? Call camp at 218-543-4232 to add your name and address to the mailing list!

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

<http://a.co/fGRcUM2>



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