

Camp Knutson Volunteers
Spring Meeting
June 4, 2013

The spring meeting of the Camp Knutson Volunteers (CKV) was called to order at 1:40 PM by President Judy Morgan. Judy welcomed everyone and expressed how pleased we are to have new volunteers arrive for orientation. New volunteers came before the regular meeting to enjoy a pizza and salad bar lunch in the Dining Hall and to learn more about Camp.

Judy Morgan, President

Judy stated that the CKV Board tried to consolidate some of our training/orientation of volunteers this year so as not to duplicate material in different meetings. As well, we wanted to be as efficient as possible in using people's time---whether it be volunteers or Camp Staff presenting material to the membership or the membership itself. We value the time that the volunteers and staff commit to the CKV organization. Therefore, Kate's meeting with new volunteers scheduled for June 5th to review "working with campers" was eliminated and incorporated into her discussion with the new volunteers in the overall orientation that took place at 12-1:15PM June 4th. As well, orientation to Angel Flights by Kate took place immediately following the Business meeting for any volunteers interested, rather than the next day as previously scheduled. These changes were also helpful to the new volunteers in that they didn't have to come back the next day for further training.

Fifteen new volunteers were introduced:

Linda Andrews-----Bonnie Benson, mentor
John Andrews -----Bonnie Benson, mentor
Maryls Brezinsky-----Judy Morgan, mentor
Joan Erdman-----Sharon Elmquist, mentor
Deanna Frandsen ---Jean Jones, mentor
John Knight-----Lori Nelson, mentor
Mary Knight -----Lori Nelson, mentor
Jan Laurel-----Bonnie Benson, mentor
Jeff Laurel -----Bonnie Benson, mentor
Diane Marsolek-----Judy Clarke, mentor
Ron Marsolek-----Judy Clarke, mentor
Lorraine Northagen-Mardy Brodil, mentor
Kaye Peterson-----Judy Morgan, mentor
Jon Rappath-----Judy Morgan, mentor
Donna Waataja-----Marilyn Eid, mentor

Judy Morgan described a new mentor program for the new volunteers. Each new volunteer will have a mentor (experienced CKV) who will be assigned to her/him to help familiarize them with CampK and be a resource to them throughout their first season. The mentors will have a minimum of 2 contacts with the new volunteers during the first 6 weeks. The first is to be within 2 weeks after the Spring meeting and the second contact before NUTS 2013. Contact can be phone call or coffee/chat time. We want to help make the volunteer experience at CampK be as positive as possible.

Judy also explained that this meeting will be a little different. Each speaker was asked to limit their report to five minutes to help quicken the pace of the meeting. After the short business meeting, volunteers will have the opportunity to socialize. Refreshments and sign-up sheets have been placed around the dining hall.

Rob Larson, Camp Director

Rob first expressed his appreciation for all we do in and for Camp. The Volunteers help make a safe haven and a wonderful feel around Camp. We touch lives with our gardening, cleaning, jewelry making and other activities as well as all of our fund raising.

Rob explained that some camps, particularly Autism Camp, take a huge ratio of kids to staff. Our dollars have helped with scholarships.

Rob listed some of the purchases made possible by the fund raising efforts of Camp Knutson Volunteers. He told about how the new boat and trailer, purchased from money raised at Night Under the Stars, was put to good use with boat rides, tubing and fishing. Greater Giving Software was purchased which was very helpful with Night Under the Stars. A new Toro Workman and life preservers were purchased from money raised at the Taste Luncheon. Rob told about how our funding made the Horseback Riding Program possible and how important that program is to the children with Autism. "Thank you so much for what you are doing." Rob Larson.

Kate Williams, Asst. Camp Director

Kate thanked all the Volunteers. "Thanks to you these campers can know that they can be loved by people who do not even know them."

We have a wonderful group of young people on staff, about half are returning from last year. Kate introduced 2 of this year's Camp Staff as Camp/Volunteer Liaisons. They are Emily Bilski and Becky BJORKE.

Secretary Report, Carolyn Thompson

The minutes of the last General Meeting, August 29, 2012, are posted on our website. Copies were available at the meeting.

Judy Morgan asked for a motion to approve. A motion was made by Judy Clarke to approve, seconded by Bonnie Morris. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report, Judy Morgan (Joey Hodgson, Treasurer, was unable to attend)

Balance in the CKV sub account of Camp Knutson is \$ 2050.57 of which \$530 is canteen monies for the kids who come to Camp with little financial resources to purchase a Camp K T-shirt. Judy thanked the volunteers for their donations to the fund.

Membership, Mardy Brodil (Sharon Barsness, Membership, was unable to attend)

Mardy Brodil explained a new form. She asked that everyone please fill out this form with all their 'latest and greatest' contact information available at the Membership Dues/Forms tables.

Volunteer Coordinator, Gail Peterson

A Background Check Form and a Volunteer Disclosure Form must be submitted every year if the volunteer wants to work with campers. Gail explained that the background check form, with the Social Security Number, is kept secure and forms are destroyed after the background check has been made.

We are also asked to fill out a Time and Talent Form. Gail uses the form to call volunteers for specific activities. Every camp is different and needs vary from one week to the next. Gail prefers to phone volunteers and not use email.

Gail presented the Cabin Cleaning Schedule. She said it is the one activity that Rob has specifically asked for us to do to help. The schedule was circulated for signups.

Night Under the Stars, Lori Nelson, Chair

The Night Under the Stars Fundraiser is July 20th. It's an exciting year as we will be celebrating camp's 60th anniversary. And the counselors are going to be a big part of the evening.

The fundraising that we do for camp is a very important piece of the puzzle to get those extra items that help make camp a special place to be.

Last year the money raised from NUTS went to pay for a new speed boat and trailer, awnings for the pavilion, horseback riding for campers. Software program. Camperships for children with Autism. Motor repair, and some needs at the waterfront.

This year the wish list includes a 12 passenger econoline van to transport campers, new dock sections in the swimming area, a shuffleboard court and equipment, sprinkler system in basements of two cabins. DOES ANYONE have connections with a car dealership? for the 12 passenger econoline van?? Maybe we can get it for cost like we did the speed boat last year. Let me know!!

New this year is the wine wall, we are asking all volunteers to donate a bottle of red or white wine valued of at least \$10. If you didn't bring your wine today it can be dropped off on Monday's in June at Linneas. Same place where silent Auction items are being dropped off.

Invitations can be picked up today from Sharon and Bonnie, those not picked up today will get mailed. Registration begins today, or can be mailed in or paid online at our campkfriends.com website.

We are also asking each volunteer here today to take at least ONE extra invitation and give it to a friend or neighbor who may like to attend the event. Pick those up from Sharon and Bonnie.

Please help us deliver posters for area businesses. The posters can be picked up from Dick Maas. Some businesses who have been faithful donors to our silent auction over the past several years are also getting complementary silent auction and wine bar tickets. These will be with the posters if those businesses are to receive them.

We will need many volunteers to make this event happen. We encourage you to stop by and sign up at the tables. Talk to us and we will find something of interest for you. Lots has been done and much still needs to be completed. Especially the few days prior to and the day and night of the event. Some jobs may only take a couple of hours.

Also if any of your husbands are willing to help that would be greatly appreciated as well. Parking, drive a golf cart, set up and take down tables and chairs.

Silent Auction, Jean Jones, Chair

Night Under the Stars 2013 Theme: Celebrating our 60th Year Diamond Anniversary

Goal: \$25,000 from the Silent Auction (Need approx.. \$36000 in gift values- Goal is Van for the Kids)

What: NUTS Silent Auction is a major fundraising event for the kids that attend Camp Knutson's summer experience.

Responsibility of the Organizers:

1. **Plan Early:** Allow enough time for volunteers to gather creative and unique gifts for the auction
2. **Give Options:** Have a system that is easy to use, and offers **ease and** conveniences to its users
3. **Accountability:** Keep accurate records of the gifts, values, the donors, the marketing and communication of the event, and the accounting of the funds that are raised and donated.

Where we're at:

1. **Packets available:** Information, brochures, magnets ready for you and for donors
2. **Online donation forms** ready; hand-written forms can be printed off the website or available at this meeting or at Camp.
3. **Drop-Off** of items set for June 10, 17, or special arrangements at Linnea's Carriage house on Highway 66. Bring your completed **Item Donation Form** to expedite our process. We'd like to start packaging the week of June 24th. That gives us time to organize the gifts and offer the catalogues and list of items to our friends.
4. **Sponsorship levels** expanded due to special request. Gold (\$5000 +) Silver (\$3-4999) Bronze (\$1-2999) – Now we need to have donors in each category
5. **Wish lists** offered for those wanting to make specific donations: Camperships, horseback riding, dock sections, shuffleboard equipment. Looks great to have folks signed in for each "Wish".
6. **More vacation package ideas** from Greater Giving (Auction Boosters) What do you think? We have no obligation if the packages do NOT sell; broadens opportunities if our group likes trips?

Would you be willing to join us? We'd LOVE to get to know you better!

Here's what WE need:

- **Sign up to visit** one of the businesses listed on the form that will be available at the SIGN-UP section. Add new businesses if you'd like! Sign-up sheets avoid duplication and insure complete coverage. Best use of our time and materials! Critical that we **ASK our past donors/friends!** **We feel that this** partnership with our donors is critical, so we're giving complementary wine/silent auction tickets to our past donors, along with information on the Camp and a magnet, if they so desire. Remember, this is not just **ASKING FOR A GIFT**. This is a wonderful opportunity to let people know about the CAMP and what it does for kids and families! Invite them to come to the event and see "first-hand".
- **Wine wall** is new this year. Bring a bottle or two for the wall. Talk to Linnea and Janet McDougall. Drop wine off at the Carriage House.

- Think **about gifts** with a “diamond/bling” theme. Ex. Kathy Morgan has created “leather bracelets” with a diamond theme! It would be great if EVERYONE would bring an item or two for the silent auction!
- Bring **baskets** to package our gifts. Baskets are great for packaging items. Drop them off at Linnea’s Carriage House
- Plan **to join one of the Teams** that make the event a success on the night of the event! You can help register, work at the silent auction, help with check-out and clean-up.

Here’s what YOU need from us:

- Forms to register your Silent Auction Item
- Donor information and materials to execute your visit successfully
- Adequate marketing for the event
- Support and ideas to make this event a success as you join in on the fun
- As you can see: WE NEED THE MOST FROM YOU (-:

IDEAS for Creative and Unique Gifts

- Vacation packages: train rides, weekend getaway, condo or timeshare
- Handcrafted items
- Hosts for dinners, parties
- Babysitting for ‘night out’ - Dog sitting is also good
- Electronics – video games, iPad, Wii, kids – Nintendo etc
- Furniture
- Baskets (coffee, chocolate, beach book basket, bakers’ delight, night at the movies, car care, make-over, day to pamper, story-time)
- Kids items – Grandparents love this

Taste Luncheon, Mardy Brodil, Chair

Mark your calendars for Thursday, September 12th – the Camp Knutson Taste Luncheon.

The 4th in a series – Entertaining at the Lake, This year our focus is **Fall with Friends**.

It’s your recipes that help to make this event so successful and right now we need your help –

we need your recipes. Our categories are: Starters, Soups & Such, Sides and Sweets. Our focus encourages working together with a friend or friends or neighbors to prepare your recipe. This year anyone submitting a recipe will be entered in a drawing for a free ticket to the Taste luncheon. Deadline to submit is June 30th.

See Bonnie Morris or Pat Cormaney for more information.

Shari Schumacher is my co-chair and disappointed she could not be here as she is still enjoying the FL sunshine. I feel privileged to work with such a wonderful group of individuals who make it all happen.. Thank you.

Election Committee, Judy Morgan

Judy Morgan asked for volunteers to be on the Election Committee which will draft a slate for the upcoming elections at the Fall meeting. Positions to be filled are: Vice-President/President-Elect, Secretary, Treasurer, Marketing/Communications Chair. We need 5 volunteers to be on the committee. Carolyn Forney, Bonnie Benson, Carla Parrington and Pat Gunderson volunteered. The board will need to select another volunteer to make the 5 member committee as required by the By-laws. The committee will meet over the summer to prepare the slate

Judy asked everyone to think about a Fall Celebration/Meeting. Maybe a barbeque? Please let her know your thoughts.

Meeting adjourned at 2:40.

Respectfully submitted, Carolyn Thompson, Secretary