



EXPLORE. EMBRACE. EVOLVE.

NATAL

**Tripper - Fall 2024
CAMP MANITO-WISH YMCA**

Experience
MANITO-WISH
CAMP MANITO-WISH YMCA

DIRECTOR'S TRAIL

Judy Tegtmeier, Chief Executive Officer
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My first summer as CEO has come to completion and it flew by so quickly. I observed, asked questions, provided a different perspective and listened intently to both campers and staff. The 106th summer was instrumental for so many campers and staff in their growth and development. Meeting new friends and reconnecting with former cabin and tripmates forms lifelong relationships in the short three weeks at camp. The bonds that are created through shared challenges and highlights provide memories that last a lifetime. Campers enjoyed the various program area options in camp, section games and special activities. The reintroduction of more progression in the canoe trip routes of 3 days in Near South to 9 days in Far North provided the opportunity to explore more lakes and rivers, see more wildlife and more fully develop trail skills within the beautiful and rich setting of the Northwoods. The new Emerging

Leaders Experience was very successful, and we look forward to the growth of this program in 2025.

Outpost trips were extraordinary once again this year. Both leaders and participants grew significantly in their collaborative leadership and problem-solving skills as well as their confidence and resiliency. Their tremendous appreciation for these opportunities was clearly evident as they shared their experiences in Nash Lodge with campers and with family after the paddle/hike in.

As our seasonal staff and campers transition to school and their lives away from the Northwoods, our hope is for further reflection upon their growth and to take the lessons learned at camp and apply them to these familiar settings.

The Manito-wish experience continues to be transformative for our participants. The smiles and joy on the faces of our campers reflect that our vision is vital in developing confident, responsible, and enlightened leaders who will improve the world in which they live. Now, more than ever, our mission to enrich the character and leadership development of every participant who has a Manito-wish experience should reach as many youths as possible. Thank you for your support of our mission and people as we plan for 2025!

MESSAGE FROM BOARD PRESIDENT

Betsy Ziegler, President, Board of Directors



Dear Manito-wish Community,

On behalf of the Camp Manito-wish Board of Directors, I want to express my heartfelt gratitude to every one of you—our dedicated campers, supportive parents, passionate staff, and loyal alumni. You are the heartbeat of this camp, and your continued support, energy, and commitment keep the spirit of Manito-wish alive and thriving year after year.

As someone whose life has been profoundly shaped by Camp Manito-wish, it is a true privilege to serve as President of the Board. From my days as a camper and outpost participant to my year on staff and now as a camper parent, this place has always been a source of growth, adventure, and community.

Manito-wish is more than a place—it's a powerful experience. It's where values are shaped, leadership is developed, and friendships are formed that last a lifetime. The natural beauty of the Northwoods is certainly part of the magic, but the true essence of Manito-wish lies in the incredible people who make up this community. Each of you contributes to what makes this camp so special.

This year is especially meaningful as we welcomed Judy Tegtmeier as our new CEO. Judy, who joined us in February 2024, is no stranger to Manito-wish. As a long-time member of the Manito-wish family, she brings a deep understanding of our values and traditions, and we are confident she will lead us into a bright and meaningful future. I would also like to extend a heartfelt thanks to Jeff for his exceptional leadership as interim CEO during the transition.

As we look ahead, I want to share that later this year I will be passing the torch as Board President to Sarah Kendrick. I know Sarah will continue to lead with the same passion, dedication, and love for this community that has always guided me. I'm excited to see where her leadership in partnership with Judy and the Board, will take Camp Manito-wish, and I look forward to supporting her in this new chapter.

Together, we will ensure that Camp Manito-wish remains a beacon of growth, adventure, and community for generations to come. Thank you for being part of this remarkable journey.

Here's to another year of peace on the waterways, lifelong memories, and the enduring spirit of Manito-wish.

UPCOMING EVENTS

2024

- OCTOBER 3: CAMP INFO NIGHT: CEDARBURG ART MUSEUM, BEER GARDEN
- OCTOBER 4-6: BOARD RETREAT
- OCTOBER 11-13: WOMEN'S WEEKEND
- OCTOBER 15: CAMP INFO NIGHT: PINSTripES- NORTHBROOK
- OCTOBER 16: CAMP INFO NIGHT: PINSTripES- OAKBROOK
- OCTOBER 23: CAMP INFO NIGHT: QTI BUILDING-MADISON
- NOVEMBER 7: CAMP INFO NIGHT: SCHLITZ AUDUBON-MILWAUKEE
- NOVEMBER 8: ANNUAL ALUMNI GATHERING: DRURY PLAZA-MILWAUKEE
- NOVEMBER 9: ANNUAL BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
- NOVEMBER 20: CAMP INFO NIGHT: VERTICAL ENDEAVORS-ST. PAUL
- NOVEMBER 21: CAMP INFO NIGHT: PINSTripES-EDINA

2025

- APRIL 11: ALUMNI GATHERING-MADISON
- APRIL 12: SPRING BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
- MAY 23-26: MEMORIAL DAY WORK WEEKEND
- JUNE 21: OUTPOST TRIPS BEGIN
- JUNE 21-JULY 11: BOYS SUMMER CAMP SESSION
- JUNE 28-JULY 11: BOYS EMERGING LEADER EXPERIENCE
- JULY 14-JULY 19: 6-DAY FAMILY CAMP
- JULY 21-AUGUST 10: GIRLS SUMMER CAMP SESSION
- JULY 28-AUGUST 10: GIRLS EMERGING LEADER EXPERIENCE
- AUGUST TBD: FIRES OF FRIENDSHIP GATHERING
- AUGUST TBD: SUMMER BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
- AUGUST 13-16: 4-DAY FAMILY CAMP
- AUGUST 15: OUTPOST TRIPS END
- SEPTEMBER 19-21: FALL FAMILY WEEKEND
- OCTOBER 10-12: WOMEN'S WEEKEND

CHECK OUT THE [EVENTS PAGE](#) FOR UPCOMING ALUMNI & RECRUITMENT EVENTS!



OPERATIONS OVERVIEW

This summer, hundreds of campers enjoyed unforgettable camp experiences. They immersed themselves in various programs, practiced teamwork, discovered the wonders of the trail, and sang their favorite songs. It is amazing how quickly the season flew by, and it is important to celebrate the many achievements. We were honored to work alongside our passionate team of outdoor professionals. Our seasonal staff rose to the challenges and paddled together as one, creating a summer where both staff and campers grew through every adventure.

Our dining services were led by Kevin Borden of Summer Camp Cooks. SCC, now in their second year with Camp, delivered. Their collaboration with Camp's team, frequent communication, problem solving, and overall "good vibes" created wonderful meals throughout the busy season. We were able to provide all the traditional meals that you know and love! Preparing and serving over 40,000 meals is no small feat, especially to do it with quality and care. A big shout out to our trips team for supporting more than 20,000 meals on trail!

Our property team, led by Tim Sheehan and Steve Elliott, makes a difference year after year. These two individuals are on call 365 days a year, handling emergencies like water running where it should not be going or even that smoke detector that would not stop going off due to high humidity at 2 a.m.! We are grateful for their leadership, presence, and unwavering commitment to Camp!

If you participated in any of our programs this summer, you were guided by Ione Sanders, Katherine Brown, and Becca Elliott, who directed us with purpose and intention. Their collaboration with the seasonal staff was instrumental in crafting these unforgettable experiences.

A major kudos to Scott Nagle for going above and beyond to support this summer season in the kitchen and health center. Thanks to his leadership, attention to detail, and overall tenacity, we achieved operational success!

Thank you to our readers for staying connected and supporting Camp. With your help, we can make a difference in the lives of youth every year. We are excited to continue operations into our Fall Leadership Programming season begin preparations for our 107th winter season ahead.

HEALTH SERVICES OPPORTUNITIES

Camp Manito-wish Health Services had a busy and successful Summer. Our health center staff worked tirelessly to maintain a healthy community. Thank you to all of our Health Center staff for keeping our logistics running smoothly, and congratulations to Arden Grim on her third year in the health center.

We were fortunate to have both returning, and new nurses join our team this summer. Their expertise and kindness made a significant difference in ensuring a safe and enjoyable experience for all, and we deeply appreciate their valuable contributions. In addition to the positive impacts created by our health center, we also worked with a mental health consultant to help us navigate some of the more complex challenges. Everyone's commitment and passion for the mission fostered resilience and growth for all within our camp community.

We are already recruiting nurses for next year so please contact me at judy.tegtmeyer@manito-wish.org



Katherine Brown
SUMMER CAMP PROGRAM DIRECTOR
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Ione Sanders,
WILDERNESS PROGRAM DIRECTOR
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Becca Elliott,
LEADERSHIP PROGRAM DIRECTOR
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SUMMER CAMP

Thanks to the dedicated efforts of our seasonal administrative staff, we had an extraordinary season in Summer Camp this year. Alongside our traditional programming, we successfully launched the inaugural year of our two-week Emerging Leader Experience (ELE). Designed for 10th-12th graders, this program offered invaluable leadership and character development opportunities. The success of ELE is largely due to Kelley Reed, who not only created the curriculum but also implemented it entirely. Her exceptional work has laid a strong foundation for the program's future, and we are deeply grateful for her contributions.

In addition to introducing new programming, we took the time to reflect on the core of Camp, refining and revisiting locations for our wilderness trips. This process allowed us to revive many older canoeing routes that hadn't been used in years. Our sea kayaking excursions to Voyageurs National Park, along with our backpacking trips to the Porcupine Mountains and the Superior Hiking Trail, also continued to be highlights of our wilderness tripping.

As we set our sights on 2025, we are excited to welcome new campers and continue fostering a community that thrives on growth, adventure, and fun.

OUTPOST

It's hard to believe that another year of Outpost programming has come and gone. We had an exciting summer of wilderness exploration, with 118 participants served across 23 trips. Our participants paddled the remote waters of Nunavut, Saskatchewan, Lake Nipigon, and the Inside Passage of Alaska, and hiked many miles through the mountains and ridgelines of Wyoming, Montana, Alaska, and Isle Royale. It was a joy to see our many young paddlers and hikers embark on their journeys and return with new stories and skills to share.

Our Outpost trips are an incredible opportunity to build awareness of self and others, grow technical skills, and develop resilience and ingenuity in the face of many unique challenges. When our participants returned to Camp, they spoke of an increased sense of gratitude, resilience, self-confidence, and connection with nature. We are so thankful to all our Outpost Trip Leaders, Outpost Director Henry Carruth and the Outpost Administrative Team, and everyone else who helped make this summer the success that it was. As the warm air turns chilly with fall, we are already busy preparing the way for another year of impactful programming to come!

FAMILY CAMP

Julie Hahm and Ellen Osthus were fantastic co-directors of family camp this summer. Our wonderful staff provided families with a multitude of activities to choose from and all areas were alive with energetic campers. The waterfront, horses and crafts are a mainstay for our families yet singing around the campfire, nature activities and a variety of games provided additional opportunities for making memories. In the bustle of everyday life at home, family camp offers a time to focus on each other and bring the family together to enjoy the natural beauty before the school year begins again and schedules get filled. We encourage more families to come, bring new families along and enjoy Camp Manito-wish while introducing younger kids to this wonderful place.

LEADERSHIP

Our summer leadership program was very different this year due to the loss of the Schuler Scholar Program. However, Becca Elliott, our Leadership Program Director, and her team delivered outstanding experiences for the partners that did attend this summer as well as provided opportunities for our summer campers to challenge themselves and their cabin on both the low and high elements of the Lang Challenge Course. These circumstances opened new options for our summer campers, and they took full advantage exploring their limits and developing their leadership skills.

As the mark of the end of summer, Prairie School just completed their program as we hosted all grades 9th -12th and our facilitators provided amazing experiences for each class. Each year, the grades progress to the next level learning and honing their trail skills which culminates in the senior year 3- day canoe trip. Our feedback has been extremely positive this year and Prairie looks forward to returning next year.

The Fall slate of partner programs is set, and our wonderful and dedicated staff is prepared to deliver exceptional experiences through October. We plan to recruit new partnerships into our Leadership Program for spring, summer and fall of 2025. If you know of any group who may be interested in joining this fantastic program in whatever capacity fits for their organization, please reach out.

DIVERSITY EQUITY & INCLUSION

Throughout our recent staff training sessions, we have placed a strong emphasis on promoting spirituality, inclusivity, mindfulness, and being present. An especially unique and informative learning opportunity took place during girls' staff training, where Mike Dockry and Joe Gravine led a session on treaties, wild rice, and the history of Lac du Flambeau (LDF). Joe Gravine, the LDF Wild Rice Program Manager, shared his extensive expertise, making it an enriching experience for all involved.



VALUE OF A MANITO-WISH EXPERIENCE

My name is Lauren Chamberlain, and I write this letter to you all from my new home up in Finland, MN, at Wolf Ridge Environmental Learning Center, with most recently having been a Canuck leader this summer. I have spent many a summer at Camp Manito-wish and could not imagine the person I would be writing to you today if I had not been afforded the invaluable opportunity of going and working at Camp Manito-wish. I did five years in summer camp, which included four canoeing trips and one Porkies backpacking trip in Michigan (which rocked!), as well as two years in Outpost with a Voyageur (9 days) level Apostles Sea-Kayaking trip and an Intermediate (14 days) Lake Nipigon Sea-Kayaking trip. I started on staff summer of '21 as a Girls Camp Counselor and went on to work as a Boys Camp TC and Co-Leader of the Staff Apprenticeship Program (SAP) in '22, an Intermediate Lake Nipigon Trip Leader and Leadership Facilitator in '23, and just recently had the most rewarding summer ever as a Canuck leader.



With all of this in mind, I actually would not even exist if it had not been for Camp. I am lucky to call Boulder Junction my birthplace, and I was brought home to Oak Run as a wee babe to my parents, Jack and Jennifer Chamberlain. My dad was the Summer Camp Director at the time, and we moved to Milwaukee, WI, when I was about 18 months old, but from what I'm told, I loved being the camp baby. I remember counting down the days growing up until I was old enough to come back home and attend summer camp. I also remember counting down the days to when my sister became old enough too and could attend summer camp. My sister, Elena, helped coincide Milwaukee home and Camp home making Camp for me even more special. Now newly living outside of the great state of Wisconsin, admittedly outside of my comfort zone, I have been reflecting over all of the different places I have called home. I have a forever home at Camp Manito-wish, a home with my parents in Milwaukee, and another home in Appleton, WI where I recently graduated from Lawrence University. Shoutout to any 2024 college grads! A large part of an area being "home" for me is the physical landscape. I feel my heart sing every time I drive up to Camp when I first spot Red and White Pines from the highway. I love the right turn up my driveway where I know I'm about to hug my mom, dad, and dog, Bean. However ultimately, home to me revolves around people, especially people that I love and care for. My home in Milwaukee would simply be a house if my parents weren't around. Camp would not have the same energy without the campers scattered about and being able to see faces of friends I hold so dear. Particularly at Camp, I most experience the gravity of people-centric home. I have had the honor of meeting and befriending the most incredible people at camp. Those people are the ones that call me home back to Camp. As the years have gone by, some are still close, some are far, but the fact remains that they will forever carry a piece of my home with them. The experiences facilitated by the natural world through Camp's programming has given me many a lesson in resilience, perseverance, confidence, and collaboration, just to name a few. The most important lesson I feel that Camp has taught me is the importance of home, and what home means to me. A home where good people instill a sense of belonging in everyone. A home where asking questions is encouraged, and curiosity is cultivated. A home where you know with a feeling deep in the mind that tugs at the heart that there is nothing like a Manito-wisher. I know that I will always have a home with them.

With my most recent adventure through the beautiful Canadian waters of Northern Saskatchewan and Manitoba, I made a home there as well. My Co-leader Abi Hurtgen and our four participants made all of the difference to this expedition as we made a home together. Being out there for a month tends to do that to a group of people! You are afforded the incredible opportunity to not only familiarize but truly know and understand each other just as you all do the same with your surroundings. If you ask me, we only needed a couple key ingredients to creating home on our trip. These key ingredients are each and every single person, our three 17' Equif Prospectors, an abundance of reindeer moss, daily eagle sightings as we trolled our fishing line for Lake Trout, delicious meals shared around a fire each night, and a love for everyone and everything. I revel in the disbelief of how lucky I am to have made a home with this incredible bunch. I can still feel home with them in my heart everyday.

Now that I am done with the Canuck and situated on the Northshore, you may be asking, "Well what is Lauren doing now?". And with that, all I have to say is being a recent college graduate is a confusing and disorienting time. However, I am very grateful to have landed a position as a Graduate Naturalist at Wolf Ridge ELC in Finland, WI. I am beyond excited to be working outside with kids and other groups that come through this center and continuing upon my previous programming experience at Camp with opportunities that dive deeper into ecology, sustainability, and classroom curriculum work. Summers at Camp showed me how much happier I am when I am outside all day, and how rewarding it is to be around and work with children. I am ecstatic that this work will continue and then some with the programming here at Wolf Ridge as I become an Environmental Educator. I still have yet to see if I am meant to become an educator, but for now, I am finding home through this big transition. And I've got a whole community of folks around to do that with.

Lauren Chamberlain
Camper, 2012-2016
Outpost 2017 & 2018
Staff 2021-2024



MARKETING AND RECRUITMENT

Dina Casso, Director of Marketing and Recruitment
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Greetings from the Northwoods!

As we close another incredible summer camp season, I wanted to reflect on the lasting impact this experience has had on all involved. The bonds forged here have created friendships that will endure long after camp ends. Our campers have not only grown personally, developing resilience and leadership skills, but they've also experienced transformative moments in nature, from overcoming fears to discovering new passions. These experiences have shaped them in profound ways, and we are grateful to have witnessed their journey. Thank you for supporting this memorable and impactful season.

Developing Environmental Stewardship

This year, our camp activities were designed not only to connect campers with nature but to immerse them in experiences that nurture a deep and lasting respect for the natural world. From hands-on service projects by our Emerging Leaders Experience to guided explorations of local ecosystems with our Summer Campers, our participants engaged directly with the environment, learning about its intricacies and the importance of preserving it. Through these experiences, many campers have developed a profound sense of stewardship and a personal commitment to environmental sustainability. They've seen firsthand the beauty and fragility of nature and have been empowered with the knowledge and passion to advocate for and protect it.

Enhancing Summer Camp Through Staff Retention and Development

Plans for 2025 summer staff recruitment are already underway! 53% of our staff from 2023 returned in 2024 and our goal is to increase that percentage in 2025. We recognize that our staff's experience plays an important role in shaping an extraordinary camper experience.

Our dedicated staff bring a wealth of knowledge and expertise, enthusiasm, and skill that greatly enhances the camp environment. Their ability to connect with campers, deliver engaging activities, and foster a supportive community creates a nurturing and dynamic atmosphere. This, in turn, allows campers to fully immerse themselves in their summer experiences, whether they're developing new skills, making lasting friendships, or exploring their own potential.

Camper Recruitment

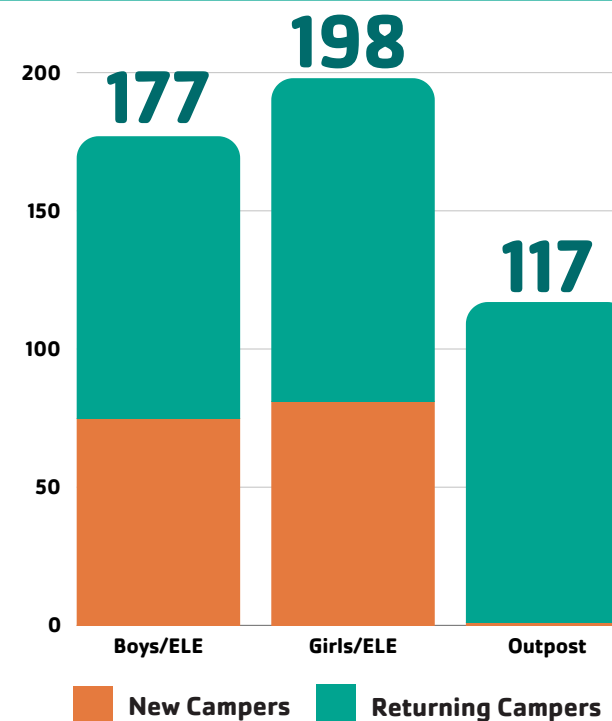
Registration is open for 2025! Sign up for summer camp by October 31 and receive our prized camp sweatshirt.

We invite you to bring a friend to one of our Camper Info Nights listed in the Upcoming Events at the beginning of the Tripper.

Telling your stories to families new to Manito-wish is our best means to bring new campers into our community to have a Manito-wish experience.

Your commitment has been instrumental in creating an enriching and memorable experience for all our campers and staff. From fostering personal growth and environmental appreciation to ensuring that every camper's experience was meaningful and transformative, your support has made a significant impact. We are deeply grateful for your partnership and look forward to continuing this journey together in the future.

Peace On The Waterways



21,000
PHOTOS ON
SMUG MUG



10,570
CAMP-O-GRAMS
DISTRIBUTED

233
SEASONAL STAFF

404
VOLUNTEERS

4,010
VOLUNTEER HOURS



22
PARTICIPANTS
TRANSPORTED BY AIR



346
PARTICIPANTS
TRANSPORTED BY BUS

"Camp Manito-wish is the single most valuable experience you can give your child. It changes you for life, for the better."

PROPERTY UPDATE

Tim Sheehan, Property Manager
tim.sheehan@manito-wish.org



PROPERTY REPORT

Greetings from Boulder Lake, where we just wrapped up our 106th successful season of providing life changing experiences for today's youth and tomorrow's leaders. While it seems like ages ago, I want this opportunity to extend a big thank you to our 55th annual Memorial Day Volunteer Weekend participants who once again helped with the awakening of the property, buildings, and program areas from the long winter season. We look forward to seeing you next spring to help open up the property for the 107th camping season!

PROPERTY TEAM STAFFING UPDATE

Our custodian/housekeeper, Dave Meyer, and our maintenance technician, Tony Rivest have transitioned from their positions at Camp. Thank you, Dave and Tony, for your endless hard work and effort to keep our buildings and grounds functioning at a high level of operation. Both positions are posted, and we are seeking qualified applicants. If you know of someone who might be interested, please ask them to contact me directly at tim.sheehan@manito-wish.org.

AROUND THE PROPERTY

The property team has been hard at work to keep the property, its buildings and systems infrastructure in working order. As you know we have a diverse age range of buildings and mechanicals around the property so frequent inspections are critical to help foresee potential upcoming issues. This early summer has been a time of repairs and replacement of many mechanical system components.

Some highlights of our recent summer work:

- Ongoing building, vehicle, canoe/kayak and cargo trailer, and powerboat inspections, maintenance, and repair
- Mechanical equipment maintenance/repairs (motors, fans, belts, filters, etc.)
- Loads of grounds/roads work (mowing, trimming, grading)
- Set-up, take-down and support of opening/closing days and picnics
- Hazard Tree removal both in-house and contracted
- Lighting repairs and upgrades
- Corrections from our recent fire inspection
- Annual septic system inspections, maintenance and repair

PROJECT UPDATES

It was fantastic to see the newly remodeled Hamilton restrooms being used – what an amazing upgrade from the original ones. The newly resurfaced pickleball/tennis/basketball courts have been a big hit with campers and staff alike taking advantage of a rejuvenating game on the courts. It has been exciting to see the new floating pier system in use by our programs. The new piers are stable and are working well for our programs. Be sure to check out these projects on your next visit to camp. Thank you to Nasi Construction, Pitlick & Wick and Perfect Pier for their fine work and craftsmanship on these projects.



2 North Perspective
Scale: 1/4" = 1'-0"

ON THE HORIZON

Thanks to a very generous and passionate donor family, Island View Cabin will be replaced this fall/winter and a new cabin ready for the 2025 programming season. Design, engineering, and permitting are underway. We will be using the same contractor as we have for our last five cabins. The predicted start date is Labor Day. We look forward to sharing the progress of this exciting project.

Camp's Boulder Lake property and its facilities continue to serve our programs and guests well thanks to the property staff team members' passion and commitment towards having a fully operational, well-maintained facility. A big shout out and thank you to Steve, Jerry, Dave, Tony, Emalyn, and Frank for your focused work to keep Camp's buildings and grounds running smoothly and looking good. First impressions last a lifetime.

Lastly, a big shout out and **Thank You** to all who continue to passionately support Camp Manito-wish YMCA – your commitment is impactful, appreciated and helps to improve the world in which we all live.

If you have any questions about the property, please get in touch with me at tim.sheehan@manito-wish.org

DEVELOPMENT UPDATE

Jeff Pereles, Development Director
jeff.pereles@manito-wish.org



Megan Holmes,
Director of Annual Giving and Alumni Engagement
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DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVES

Growing Our Endowment

The Camp Manito-wish YMCA Endowment Fund is a fund that was established with the help of generous individual gifts from longtime friends of Camp. Those who have made a planned gift to Camp Manito-wish YMCA, listed it as a primary beneficiary in their estate plans, or made an outright gift of \$10,000 or more to the Endowment Fund are part of the Fires of Friendship Circle. The Circle is comprised of more than 450 people who share the same sense of connection that comes from knowing their influence and values will last beyond their lifetimes. The funds in the endowment fund are invested in perpetuity, with a board approved percentage of the average value used annually for purposes designated by the donor.

The Board of Directors is responsible for managing these funds, including preservation, growth, and use, and they delegate the responsibility for investment of these gifts to the Finance Committee. Donors who give a gift of \$10,000 or more to the Manito-wish Endowment Fund qualify for a named gift. This gift provides a lasting and fitting recognition for the donor or someone special to them. These funds will help ensure that Camp Manito-wish can continue to provide impactful experiences for generations to come.

CAPITAL PRIORITY

This Year

As Tim mentioned in his property report, we completed resurfacing our courts and built six pickle ball courts, completed the remodeling and addition of restrooms at Hamilton Recreation Lodge, installed three new piers – waterfront, sailing, and family, and renovated the Emery House by “Manito-wishing it” with new flooring and purchasing Old Hickory Furniture. Thank you to all the individuals who contributed to these projects’ directory or to our capital improvement restricted fund which afforded us the opportunity to maintain our facilities and program areas!



Cabins of Excellence

At Camp Manito-wish, we understand the importance of providing a comfortable and safe environment for our campers. That’s why our cabins play a crucial role in our mission to provide a home away from home for our campers. Since 1919, we’ve been committed to maintaining the highest standards for our cabins and facilities. We call this philosophy “Cabins of Excellence,” and it’s an ongoing mission to ensure that every cabin and our facilities meets our standards and program needs.

Our dedicated staff inspects each cabin annually to ensure that it is in excellent condition. We rate the cabins according to how well they accommodate our campers and staff, how comfortable they are, and how they stand up to normal wear and tear caused by enthusiastic use and the four seasons of Northwoods

exposure. We take pride in knowing that our cabins are functional and safe and provide a welcoming and comfortable environment for our campers.

Beginning this fall Island View cabin will be rebuilt. The next phase also includes the eventual rebuilding of Wildwood, and Timber Lodge/Bunkhouse cabins. We will continue to strive for excellence in all aspects of our Camp, and our cabins are no exception. We believe that our commitment to “Cabins of Excellence” sets us apart as a premier summer camp destination.

Annual Fund Drive

The Annual Fund Drive (AFD) is an important tradition that ensures the continued success of Manito-wish programs. By supporting this initiative, you are not only contributing to the excellence of the programs themselves but also to the ongoing provision of high-quality staff and facilities. In addition, the AFD helps to provide financial stability during economic fluctuations and ensures that there are no financial barriers to attendance through camperships.

The AFD is an essential component of the operating budget, representing 10%-12% of the annual budget. As of August 31, 2024, the AFD has received \$575,644 and has remaining pledges of \$7,999, bringing the total to \$583,643 or 106% of the \$550,000 goal!

In addition, Camp applies for a variety of grants from various organizations. Our grant strategy is to research and find opportunities for which participants in the organization have a Manito-wish connection. Through August 31, 2024, Camp has raised \$278,750 for camperships and the greatest needs from granting organization. If you know any granting organizations which Manito-wish should make an inquiry or apply, please get in touch with Jeff.

Camp Manito-wish profoundly impacts the lives of those who attend, providing a space to develop leadership skills, unplug from technology, and build meaningful connections that last a lifetime. Contributing to the AFD ensures that this experience remains accessible to all, regardless of their ability to pay.

The generosity and compassion of the Manito-wish community is truly admirable and reflects the values of kindness and care that are central to Camp’s mission. If you would like more information on development initiatives, please email Jeff Pereles (jeff.pereles@manito-wish.org), or Megan Holmes (megan.holmes@manito-wish.org).



DONOR ADVISED FUNDS (DAF)

A donor-advised fund (DAF) is a giving program that allows you to support your favorite charities easily. You may also be eligible for certain tax benefits. An increasingly popular charitable vehicle, DAFs are an excellent way to both simplify your charitable giving and facilitate your strategic philanthropic goals. If your donor-advised fund is with Fidelity, Schwab, or BNY Mellon, you may recommend a gift to Camp via DAFDirect using the form on Camp’s website. <https://manito-wish.org/donate/ways-to-give/>





The annual Fires of Friendship Circle celebration returned to Red Crown Lodge on Trout Lake on Friday, August 2nd. The event was attended by 87 alumni and friends who enjoyed the reception and program. It was a beautiful night, with everyone enjoying the meal outside while looking at the serenity of Trout Lake. The CEO of Camp, Judy Tegtmeyer, and the President of the Board, Betsy Ziegler, gave updates on the current state of Camp. The event's highlight was hearing from Ed & Vicki Eggers, who shared their multi-generational Manito-wish experiences that began with Ed's mom and continued with Ed, their kids, and this year their first grandchild. The event was a success and closed with Kevin Gibbens leading everyone in the singing of four traditional Camp songs. We look forward to next year's celebration. The following new members to the Fires of Friendship Circle were welcomed: **Reverend Scott Alexander, Joseph & Judy Conlin, Tom & Carolyn Friese, Christine Harris, and Andy & Linda Smith.**



Volunteers are the lifeblood of Camp Manito-wish YMCA, and we greatly appreciate their unwavering support and dedication. With nearly 400 volunteers, we can offer exceptional programs and facilities to our campers, staff, and families. These opportunities are available year-round, whether you prefer to volunteer onsite during camp or remotely from home.

There are countless ways to contribute at Camp Manito-wish YMCA. Whether you're composing birthday postcards for our alumni, participating in the Annual Fund Drive volunteer program, or mentoring an alum, we have a role that matches your interests and abilities. Regardless of your skills, we have a place for you here.

Email Megan Holmes at megan.holmes@manito-wish.org and learn how to make a difference.

Thank you again to all of our fantastic volunteers for their support!

ALUMNI MENTORSHIP

Networking and cultivating relationships are lifelong endeavors that extend far beyond professional pursuits. The Manito-wish Alumni Mentorship Program is a testament to the value of a Manito-wish experience. Through this program, alumni can impart their professional and personal wisdom to current seasonal staff, setting the stage for success, guiding through uncertainties, and broadening professional networks.

If you want to learn more about being a mentor or mentee, please complete the interest form on Camp's [website](#).

BIRTHDAY CARD CLUB

Thank you to the over 35 volunteers who participated in sending birthday wishes to all our alumni over 25! We have received many letters from alumni telling how much they look forward to receiving the postage each year!

OPENING DAY

Camp provides numerous opportunities to continue your Manito-wish experience through volunteer opportunities. This year we have over 15 volunteers welcome Campers who were dropped off on the opening day of both Boys and Girls sessions. The rain stopped right when we opened the gate for Boys Camp. It is always fun as we welcome, park, and guide new & returning Campers and their parent/guardians through the check-in process and walk them to their cabin to meet their counselors and cabin mates.

MEMORIAL DAY

This year was the celebration of our 55th Memorial Day Work Weekend! Starting with Tom and Mimi Mead 55 years ago it has grown from two families to over 187 volunteers from babies to people in their 80s joining us Memorial Weekend to get Camp ready for the summer. Since our new waterfront, sailing, and family piers were installed, we were able to have the pier crew assist with the removal of the old pier parts from the waterfront and provide additional assistance with our firewise projects. Throughout the property our volunteers helped clean up the grounds, inventory our canoes, and even help set up the Trading Post. It is a fun weekend with lots of hard work, laughing, cookie time, and a Camp Show. Camp Show..... Please plan to join us for 2025 and become hooked on our largest alumni event!



Experience
MANITO-WISH
CAMP MANITO-WISH YMCA

Join Camp's
**VOLUNTEER
BIRTHDAY CARD CLUB!**

Looking to volunteer from home?
Help Camp write birthday notes to our
Alums! Each month you get birthday
cards sent to your home with labels and
stamps. You simply write a note to the
Alum wishing them a happy birthday!

Contact Megan Holmes
(megan.holmes@manito-wish.org) for details.



SUMMER MEMORIES

CAMP
MANITO-WISH

Join Us

November 8

YMCA

alumni get together

DRURY PLAZA HOTEL

SHARING

MILWAUKEE

MEMORIES



BIRTHS



Jessy & **Tim Schley** welcomed their daughter, **Margo Victoria Schley** on February 9, 2024. Camp alum family members celebrating **Margo's** arrival include **Barb Haig & Dan Schley, Imy Schley** & many aunts, uncles, and cousins who are also alums! The family currently resides in Albany, OR



Emily (Spagnoli) Pearce and Jonathan Pearce welcomed their son, **Finnley Jean Pearce**, on May 12, 2024. The family resides in Juneau, AK.



Kristen and **Ryan Wagner** welcomed their daughter, **Eleanor Rose Wagner**, on May 18th, 2024. The family resides in Viroqua, WI.



Lauren (Kurten) Siegenthaler and Erick Siegenthaler welcomed their son, **Reed Oliver Siegenthaler**, on May 19, 2024. Camp alum family members celebrating Reed's arrival include **Jimmy Kurten, Abigail Kurten, and Nick Kurten**. The family resides in New Glarus, WI.



Jordan (Derber) Thew and Dustin Thew welcomed their daughter, **Madison Beck Thew**, on July 7, 2024. Camp alum family members celebrating **Madison's** arrival include **Kayla Derber, David Jason Derber, Steven Derber, Ellen Reinwald, Jacob Reinwald, Ann Kessler, Madeline Rech, Ali Blum, Brian Derber, Anne Derber, Ian Derber, and Emma Derber**. The family resides in Appleton, WI.



Jillian and **Eric Ullrich** welcomed their son, **Charles Michael Ullrich**, on July 9th, 2024. Camp alum family members celebrating Charles' arrival include **Bill Huffman, David Ullrich, John C Ullrich, Claire Hackmann, Joel Huffman, Thomas Huffman, Bennett Huffman, Ellie Huffman, Mayuri Vonnegut**. The family resides in Clarendon Hills, IL.



Kaitlyn & Patrick Soldan welcomed their son, **Harrison Patrick Brian Soldan** on September 2, 2024. The family resides in Delano, MN.

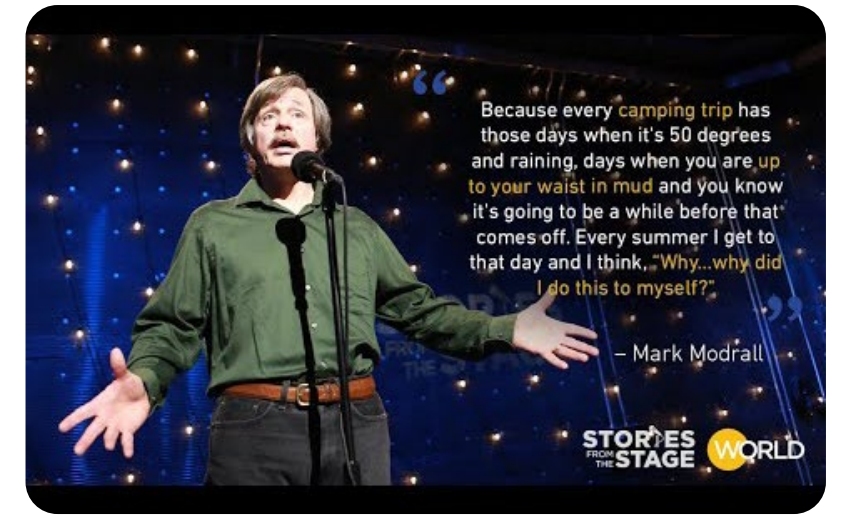


Caitlin Brammer and **Ben Willadsen** welcomed their son, **Theodore (Teddy) Jameson Willadsen** on September 3, 2024. They currently live in Cincinnati, OH.

WEDDINGS



Riley Knoedler and **Jacob Stark** were married on August 9, 2024. Officiating the wedding was alum, **Susan Brown**. Celebrating with Riley and Jacob were alumni friends and family: Kayleigh DeBruyne, Ez Jandrasi, Andrew & Joseph Knoedler, David, Peter & Suzanne Riley, Steve, Gavin & Isaac Sears. The couple currently resides in Fort Collins, CO.



Mark Modrall's journey at Camp Manito-wish YMCA started when he was a camper in 1977. He continued with camp in 1978 and ventured into a pioneer trip in 1979. He then went on a Canuck trip in 1980 and 1981. Finishing his time as a camper with an Expo Canuck in 1982, his memories and trip accounts are genuinely incredible. Mark rounded out his time at Camp by being a seasonal staff member in 1984 & 1985. You can hear him share his story on The World's Stories from the Stage series. What a fantastic Manito-wish memory!

[Mark Modrall's Discovery of His Wings in the Great Outdoors](#)

IN MEMORY OF

The Camp Manito-wish YMCA community joins in prayerful remembrance of friends and alumni who have passed away.

- Peter Bailey, Camper 1949
- John Bordsen, Camper 1954
- Gretchen Burns, Camper '89 & '90, '92 Isle Royale
- Annette Jolin Cleveland, Staff '95-'99
- Thomas Cockrell, '38-'40, Staff '50
- Kathryn (Sanna) Fleming, Camper 1957
- Robert Gray, Family Camper '95-'02
- Chandler Hatch, Camper 1947
- David Henneghan, Family Camp '98-'02, Staff '03-'08
- Wayne Keally, Family Camper 2001
- Kenneth Kresheck, Camper 1948
- Edward Levi, Camper '36-'38
- John D. Maloney, Camper '49, '50 Canuck
- Robert McCabe Jr., Camper '73 & '74
- Barbara (Gamble) McEachron, Camper '41 & '42
- Dan Menzia, Camper Parent
- Mark Mernitz, Camp Supporter
- Nancy (Gould) Nelson, Camp Supporter
- Brenda Nissen, Staff 1998
- Christine "Pixie" Penner, Camper '60-'63
- Michael Quinlan, Camper 1985
- Elizabeth Reeke, Camper '59-'62
- Donna Tegtmeier, Camper Parent & Grandparent

Camp Manito-wish YMCA

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(715) 385-2312

manito-wish.org
manito-wish.org/donate



Mission:

To enrich the character and leadership development of each person who has a Manito-wish experience by challenging them to grow in wisdom, in stature, in favor with God, and with one another.

Vision:

The Manito-wish experience develops confident, responsible, and enlightened leaders who will improve the world in which they live.

Commitment:

Camp Manito-wish YMCA strives to create an inclusive environment by upholding human dignity, valuing diversity, and acknowledging unique experiences.



With a commitment to environmental stewardship the Tripper is offered in digital format. The digital version of the Tripper, and the links referred to in articles, may be found online on Camp's website at manito-wish.org/news/tripper.