

# YMCA Camp Carson

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## *Truly an Experience That Lasts a Lifetime!*

My name is Gary Hunt and as a child in the 1950's I attended camp at Camp Carson. I found it to be so much fun and so rewarding that I wanted my two sons to have that same experience. I sent them to camp in the 80's, they too had a great time.

Now as a sixty year old man who is an amputee in a wheelchair, I am still enjoying Camp Carson. I spend many days sitting on the banks of Seminole Lake fishing and enjoying all the wildlife.

To see the improvements through the years, to both the facilities and the youth programs, makes me feel very proud of the YMCA and the Camp Carson staff. What you all do for

the youth of our area and, now I hear, the world is wonderful.

I wish you much continued success, so many generations to come can experience the same experiences and enjoyment as generations of the past.

Regards and best wishes.

Thank You

Gary W. Hunt (Princeton, IN)



## *New Look to Our Water-Front*



In addition to the docks, we also installed a water

aeration and enzyme treatment system. This non-chemical and environmentally friendly approach to water management will greatly enhance the lake water visibility and overall quality, along with reversing the natural aging process of the lake.

Sincere thanks to Toyota Motor Manufacturing, Indiana for their sponsorship of the aeration and enzyme treatment system.

Always with an eye on safety and improving the quality of our facilities and programs, the Camp Board, along with the YMCA of Southwestern Indiana, determined in the fall of 2006 that we needed to address aquatic safety and lake water visibility at camp. After investigating several products and visiting a number of sites, a new dock system was selected to surround our deep swim area. This allows our guards to much more effectively supervise our deep water swimming activities and creates a safer perimeter for our campers.

*(left to right)  
Mark Sconlar,  
Kelly Dillon,  
RJ Reynolds*



YMCA Camp Carson  
Board of Managers

**Mr. Craig Fenneman**

**Mr. Gene Dawson**

**Mr. Steve Fritz**

**Mr. Jeff Johnson**

**Mr. Steve Keck**

**Mr. Leonard Schlamp**

**Dr. William Wooten**

**Ms. Jayne Bierhaus  
Young**



*Our Dirt-Bike program sponsored by NYPUM*

## *Thanks to our Donors — Camp Carson Endowment*

For a number of years, Craig Fenneman, the Chairman of the camp board, has expressed with great passion his desire for camp to establish an Endowment Fund to help ensure the longevity and fiscal strength needed to keep camp operating and serving generations to come.

It is with sincere appreciation that we wish to thank Craig for a significant seed gift, to launch the Camp Carson General Endowment Fund. Since receiving Craig's gift, several other donors have

also contributed to this fund. As of June 30th the Camp Carson General Endowment Fund had grown to \$207,073.

We are grateful to all those who have chosen to contribute to our Camp Carson General Endowment Fund.

If you would like to contribute to the Endowment or would like more information on contributing, please don't hesitate to contact us at the camp number. (All gifts are tax-deductible and directly benefit YMCA Camp Carson.)

### **You Can Help:**

#### **Volunteer Needs /Camp Wish List**

**Volunteers to help organize two annual workdays at camp (Spring/Fall)**

**Host Families for "2008 Camp Informational Nights" help spread the word!**

**Team Leaders for our 2008 Annual Fund Campaign**

**Used Station Wagon**

**Sponsor the implementation of a Mountain Bike Program at Camp.**

**Sponsor the purchase and installation of "The Wet Willie" a 100 foot water slide**

**Sponsor the implementation of a DrumCircle program**

**Sponsor the purchase of a Water Cannon for the Waterfront**

## *Mark Kniese Scholarship*

Along with the fun, laughter, and shared memories at our annual end of summer staff banquet, we were also able to share in a celebration of life. August Neil and Jeff Kniese, along with August's mom, were on hand to recognize this year's Mark Kniese Scholarship recipient:

Elizabeth Deckard of Morgantown, IN

Elizabeth received a \$4,000 educational scholarship after being voted by her peers as the staff member who most exemplified the character values of the YMCA - Caring, Honesty, Respect, Responsibility and Faith. The Kniese scholarship was established by August in memory of Mark Kniese and his incredible passion for kids and life.



*(left to right) Jeff Kniese, Elizabeth Deckard, August Neil*

## *Our Camper Community is Expanding*

Earlier this year we shared that campers were coming from greater and greater distances to spend some time in our little neck of the woods. Our web-site and word of mouth have helped carry the word even further. This summer we served campers from 21 different states as well as international campers and staff.

During the summer of 2007 we had campers attend from the following states: AL, AR, CT, FL, GA, HI, IL, IN, KY, LA, MI, MN, MO, MS, NM, OK,

OH, PA, TN, TX, WI.

We also had the privilege to serve campers from South Korea and Venezuela.

We remain committed to providing all our campers an international camp experience. Along with staff from the USA, we had 11 international counselors from Columbia, England, New Zealand, Scotland, and South Africa.



# ADOPT A SPOT — Investing in Camp and the Life of a Child

Just as young people, adults, and families have been positively impacted for over 65 years by a YMCA Camp Carson experience, the strong foundation of Camp Carson values still continues to influence our participants today. In 2006 the actions of a young camper clearly demonstrates how crucial a YMCA Camp Carson experience is:

*How valuable is camp? One of our campers had spent the year saving and working to raise half the money to get to camp, when she unexpectedly received a full sponsorship to attend camp. She immediately stepped up to the plate in an amazing way. She loved camp so much that she wanted to ensure another child received the same opportunities and donated all her savings to go towards sponsoring another child!!! THIS WAS A GIBSON COUNTY CAMPER!*

Few words need to be added to this testimonial of the fulfillment of the Camp Carson mission. In addition to this child, there were over 950 participants at Summer Camp this year who can share their own experiences of incredible personal growth - learning new skills, gaining confidence, and making new friends in the cabin and program areas or during a leadership program. These children come from right here in Princeton and all across America – we served 21 different states this summer!

Keeping camp in tip top condition to be that special

place of memories takes time. As we grow and develop the facility, we realize there are many little projects that sometimes just need a little extra TLC to keep them from becoming major projects. Because we often hear from families and individuals asking about volunteer opportunities at camp, I would like to offer a way for you to get involved in maintaining the beauty of camp.

I would like to invite you to “Adopt a Spot” at camp. Maybe you and your family would like to adopt and maintain a trail for the horses or dirt-bikes, or perhaps there’s a group of moms who’d enjoy taking on some of our flower beds, etc. Just like the “Adopt a Highway” program, we’d love to put your name on a sign, by that “spot,” showing our campers and guests that you care about them and this place. What a great opportunity to directly impact the unique “magical” world created for kids who attend camp!

If you would like to get involved, please take a minute to complete the form below and mail or fax it back to us. If you have any questions, please don’t hesitate to call me at 812-385-3597.

Thank you for considering joining us in this venture.

Together in Mission,

Mark Scoular, Executive Director



## YMCA Camp Carson

2008 ADOPT A SPOT VOLUNTEER Application

Complete and mail to: **YMCA Camp Carson**

**2034 East Lake Road, Princeton, IN 47670**

Volunteer Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Tel: 812-385-3597 Fax: 812-386-1654 [www.campcarson.org](http://www.campcarson.org)

Desiring to share with others in helping maintain the YMCA Camp Carson grounds and facilities I/my family and I, would like to adopt and maintain a camp trail, flowerbed, campsite, cabin or activity area. I/We can commit to maintaining our adopted spot at least twice a year.

Just like the Adopt a Highway signs, camp will provide appropriate signage around the facility recognizing the volunteer families/individuals that are investing in the sites.

We’d love to see your name on one of these project and also visit with you at camp during a spring/summer/fall weekend.

Please contact me about the following areas of interest

- Horseback or dirt-bike trails
- Flowerbeds at various locations around camp
- Campsite
- Cabin
- Activity area
- Other \_\_\_\_\_

Please  all that apply

# YMCA Camp Carson

NONPROFIT ORG  
US POSTAGE  
PAID  
Evansville IN  
Permit No 1363

YMCA Camp Carson  
2034 E Lake Road  
Princeton, IN 47670

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Fax: 812-386-1654  
Email: [campinfo@ymca.evansville.net](mailto:campinfo@ymca.evansville.net)  
Web-site [www.campcarson.org](http://www.campcarson.org)

A branch of the YMCA of Southwestern Indiana, Inc.  
222 NW 6th Street \* Evansville, IN 47708

**An Experience That Lasts a Lifetime!**



YMCA Camp Carson, 2034 E Lake Road, Princeton, IN 47670

## Summer Families Give Camp Top Scores

Once again our camp families have given Camp Carson top scores across the board. Based on the feedback from 2007 summer campers here's a selection of how we scored:

99% of our camp families would **Recommend Us to a Friend**  
99% of our campers plan on **Returning in 2008**  
97% rating for a **Good to Great Staff**  
97% of our campers ranked us **Fun to Awesome** when it comes to **Camp Activities**.

94% of the families voted **Good to Very Positive Move** on the introduction of **Tiered Pricing**, to help make camp more accessible to all.

When asked as parents, how would the **families rate our camp overall**, on a scale of 1 - 10 with 10 (ten being highest), **we scored an average of 9.3**

Here's what campers/families thought about our Cabins, restrooms, dining hall and activity areas.

Overall we scored very well.

**Activity Areas** 99% scored **Good to Awesome**  
**Dining Hall** 99% scored **Good to Awesome**  
**Cabins** 91% scored **Good to Awesome**

**Restroom/Shower House** - well we're being honest. Although it was cleaned daily, it's time to overhaul the building. On a good to awesome rate we only scored 60%. Obviously this caught our attention and will be a top priority over the winter and during the summer.

Our **meals** scored 88% on **Good to Great** score. While we are trying to meet a wide range of ages and tastes (and our score is excellent compared to **school meals** which only scored 35%), we'd love to bring this score up. If you have any great recipe ideas, or other suggestions, please send them our way.

**Applications for 2008 Now Available — visit us at [www.campcarson.org](http://www.campcarson.org)**  
**Register online today!**

**Register online today!**



The YMCA of Southwestern Indiana, Inc., following the example of Jesus Christ, responds to community needs by serving all people,  
specially youth, through programs that promote healthy spirit, mind, and body.