

THE CARSON CONNECTION

Welcome Home to YMCA Camp Carson



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NEW ALUMNI EXPERIENCES



campcarsonalumni.org



We are so excited to announce a new ALUMNI website, a great place for Alumni from around the world and across generations to connect.

Please take a minute to register, browse through photos, and engage with other Alumni.

We also have an online CAMP STORE on this site - so you can finally get the Camp Carson swag you've been looking for!

We owe a HUGE thank you to our very own Alum & Board Member, Lance Morton (see top row, dark hair), who made this incredible space possible. We are incredibly grateful for his handiwork & dedication.

AND please visit our newly-finished ALUMNI ROOM at Camp! It's full of Memorabilia, pictures, news clippings, & memories.



We had a great turnout for our FOURTH Polar Plunge! This year, we had 35 Plungers taking a cold dip & raising almost \$22,000 for camper scholarships. We had two plungers come all the way from Texas just to Plunge! Jim Sexstone won the Top Plunger award, raising over \$2400 for campers. And we've started the Katie Healy Award for the most donors - Katie consistently engages the largest number of donors for her Plunge.

With more than 100 attendees, support from our generous sponsors, dozens of volunteers, live music, and our favorite Princeton Fire Department, it was a beautiful and successful day.

THANK YOU to everyone who Sponsored, Plunged, Volunteered, and supported the Plunge!



Thank you, 2023 Sponsors!

Indiana Members Credit Union, Liberty Federal Credit Union, Oakland City University, Springs Valley Bank & Trust, Donut Bank



As always, a big thank you to the Princeton Fire Territory for keeping us safe!

AmeriCorps NCCC volunteers at Camp

Camp Carson was fortunate to have AmeriCorps NCCC volunteers for the month of March. Their primary project was to refurbish the covered wagons, to be used for destination hikes and campouts. The team also completed several other projects at Camp that will enrich the camper experience and help with our Outdoor Education programs.

The mission of NCCC is to strengthen communities and develop leaders through direct, team-based national and community service. To learn more, go to americorps.gov



Thank you **Volunteers!**

We've had so many volunteers help with important projects around Camp in the last few months!

Toyota volunteers helped with several painting, staining, and building projects to keep Camp fresh.

Devin, Jamie, and Nicole spent a school break mulching, planting flowers, and picking up sticks around the lodge.

Earl Griswold graded a gravel lane and cut firewood.

Lance Morton created our Alumni website and Camp store.

Chris MacKay and Sheep Dog have helped take down some trees around Camp.



If you would like to share your skills and spend a day (or a few hours) volunteering at Camp, please call us at 812-385-3597 or email hpierce@ymcacampcarson.org.

GIVING MAKES A DIFFERENCE

We often think about the impact of camp on young people and the difference a parent sees when they get home. But the friendships, lessons, and experiences of camp are building a bridge to their future.

Your generosity allows YMCA Camp Carson, as a nonprofit organization, to offer a camp experience that builds a foundation for growth, confidence, and responsibility. Your donation helps campers in these ways:

- Funds camper scholarships for young people who may not be financially able to attend camp.
- Reduces camp fees for our Operation Military Support summer camp program.
- Subsidizes the tiered pricing to make camp accessible for all families.
- Helps us reach a matching grant of \$7,500 for our Military Family Weekends.

We currently have a match challenge from a kind donor, to match up to \$7,500 for Military Family Weekends. Please contact Heather if you would like to help us achieve that match.
hpierce@ymcacampcarson.org

We welcome your donations online at www.campcarson.org/giving
or mail to: YMCA Camp Carson, 2034 Outer Lake Rd, Princeton, IN, 47670

A BRIDGE TO THE FUTURE

YMCA Camp Carson 2023 Annual Campaign



Become a Bridge Builder

YMCA Camp Carson Bridge Builders are a dedicated group of donors who are committed to ensuring that Camp continues to serve campers and carry on the traditions and positive impact of summer camp.

Please contact Heather to learn more about becoming a Bridge Builder: 812-385-3597 or hpierce@ymcacampcarson.org.



JOIN US FOR EVENTS AT CAMP!

NASP Archery Tournament April 21 - 23

We're hosting the outdoor NASP National Archery in Schools Program April 21-23. Attracting hundreds of archers from all over the state, this tournament is made possible by the Masons, Knights of Columbus, Earl Griswold, and North Gibson Archery.

Proceeds go to scholarships for local youth to attend a week of overnight summer camp. North Gibson's Archery team is competing and hosting the event. North Gibson Band is also helping with this event.



Open House April 29, 10am - 2pm

Come out and visit Camp! Open House is a great time for new parents & campers to preview camp activities, see our camper cabins, explore Camp, & meet your YMCA Camp Carson team.

Call for more information at 812-385-3597 or register online at www.campcarson.org/summer-camp

Cruise-in Car Show May 13, 9am - 4pm

Join us for cool cars, fun for the whole family, and support an important cause. No entry fee required, but donations are welcome, to go toward scholarships for campers to attend YMCA Camp Carson.

Contact Matt Schooler with questions: mschooler@ymcacampcarson.org or 812-403-3249



Camp Birthday Party & Auction June 3rd, 5 - 8pm

ALUMNI! Help us celebrate the start of summer, join us for a meal, meet our 2023 summer staff, connect with other alumni, AND stay for our Auction!

Bid on Camp Memorabilia, fun activities, international souvenirs, & homemade food.

Last year's inaugural staff auction raised more than \$1700 for camper scholarships, and was a lot of fun! If you have something you would like to donate to the auction, please contact Heather at hpierce@ymcacampcarson.org



SUMMER 2023 REGISTRATION UPDATE

We are almost FULL for this Summer! If you haven't registered your camper yet, please hurry! At this point, we have a FEW openings in these programs:

- **1st Year Dirt Bike**
- **Wrangler**
- **Operation Military Support**
- **Counselor in Training (CIT) weeks 3/4**
- **Leader in Training (LIT) boys weeks 6/7**

[Register online today at campcarson.org](https://www.campcarson.org)

You can also register to be on the waitlist, as some families make changes & we have openings.



Operation Military Support Camp

June 4-9, 2023
1 Week, Coed, Ages 7-16

This special week of camp is offered to children of Military families with parents who are active or veterans of the armed forces. Kind Camp Carson supporters allow us to offer this program to families for just \$100 - 300 per camper.

To register or get more information, please go to [campcarson.org/military-camps](https://www.campcarson.org/military-camps).

Please share with any Military families you know, who may not be familiar with Camp.



SUMMER 2023 OPPORTUNITIES

We are still accepting applications for this summer's Service Corps. The Service Corps Program at YMCA Camp Carson is a leadership experience for young people to gain leadership skills through experiential service learning, leadership sessions, and trainings.

Designed for incoming 12th-graders, the Service Corps Program is a two week volunteer opportunity that gives teens hands-on experience in the Camp environment while earning service hours toward potential school or scholarship requirements. Learn more at campcarson.org/service-corps

SERVICE CORPS PROGRAM



SUMMER STAFF AT CAMP *Best Summer Ever!*

Are you looking for a summer job that's challenging, rewarding, outdoorsy, and FUN? Join us this summer at YMCA Camp Carson! We have the opportunity to encourage and develop young people as they explore new activities and build new friendships. You will leave Camp with valuable leadership skills, stories and memories, and lifelong friends.

We are hiring our last spots for Cabin Leaders, Photographers, Age Group Village Coordinator, and Volunteer Coordinator.

Some of these positions qualify as **INTERNSHIPS!**



If you think you would love to spend a summer or even a partial summer at YMCA Camp Carson, start an application at campcarson.org/employment or contact Sarah at shooper@ymcacampcarson.org.

CHECK OUT OUR NEW CAMP STORE!

ACCESSORIES, STICKERS
Bubble-free stickers

ACCESSORIES, DRINKWARE
Enamel Mug

ACCESSORIES, DRINKWARE
Mug with Color Inside

CLOTHING, SHIRTS
Unisex Hoodie

CLOTHING, SHIRTS

ACCESSORIES, FLAGS
Classic Camp

ACCESSORIES, DRINKWARE
Stainless steel tumbler

ACCESSORIES, DRINKWARE
Stainless Steel Water Bottle

campcarsonalumni.org
click on Camp Store

EXPLORE MORE AT YMCA CAMP CARSON

RENTALS



YMCA Camp Carson is ideal for a retreat, reunion, company meeting, or team-building event. We offer small and large spaces, indoor and outdoor - practical conveniences with a warm Camp atmosphere.

OUTDOOR EDUCATION



YMCA Camp Carson has created two unique Outdoor Education programs for local schools and youth programs - either on site at Camp Carson, or at your school. We can customize the day(s) based on your school's preferences.

WEDDINGS



YMCA Camp Carson has beautiful options for indoor or outdoor weddings, including a lakefront amphitheatre, chapel, gazebo, and suspension bridges. We also offer a service kitchen in the lodge, changing rooms, restrooms, and parking.

*Photo courtesy of Kendalyn Nicole Photography

To book an event or request a quote, go to campcarson.org/events or contact Ryan Meeks at 812-385-3597 or rmeeks@ymcacampcarson.org

Connect with Camp!



It's easy to join our mailing list!

Just send your email address
BY TEXT MESSAGE:

Text 
CAMPCARSON
to 42828

The Carson Connection is our new digital newsletter, our Camp newspaper, and our online Camper & Alumni forum. Follow us on Facebook, Instagram, or campcarson.org for more updates and opportunities to CONNECT.



FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT
FOR HEALTHY LIVING
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

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