



Fall 2019  
Volume 13, Issue 2

# YMCA CAMP CARSON

## DEDICATION of the KOCH FAMILY AMPHITHEATER at the 80<sup>TH</sup> REUNION

We had a great celebration on June 1 at the Reunion and kick off for our 80th summer. Mid-morning we gathered at the new Koch Family Amphitheater for a moment of dedication and an opportunity to thank the Koch Family for their sponsorship of this project.



Mark Scoular, Exec. Director, shared the importance of the amphitheater in the progression of the week at camp. Every Sunday night campers begin their week of adventure with a buzz of excitement and energy as they sing songs and laugh at counselor skits during Opening Campfire. The last evening of the week is just the opposite. As part of the weekly Body, Mind, Spirit ceremony, the amphitheater is a place where staff lead campers in a few quiet moments to consider what it means to nurture a healthy spiritual life. They then transition into quiet reflection on how they can make a positive difference in the world when they return home.

Bob Koch, a Camp alum, followed with some brief comments and proceeded to cut the ribbon held by grandchildren Christian and Avery, also Camp Carson campers. We are truly grateful to the Koch Family for their investment in this gathering place where hundreds of children begin and end a life changing week of camp.



L-R:  
Christian,  
Bob and Cindy  
Koch and Avery.



**KOCH FAMILY AMPHITHEATRE**  
ORIGINALLY A BOXING RING FROM THE 1930'S THROUGH THE 1940'S, THIS SITE NOW HOSTS THE OPENING CAMPFIRE EACH WEEK OF THE SUMMER. MANY A COUNSELOR SKIT AND CAMPER SONG HAVE SPARKED THE SOUNDS OF LAUGHTER AND EXCITEMENT HEARD ACROSS LAKE SEMINOLE. IN CONTRAST, THIS SITE ALSO OFFERS SOFT FIRELIGHT FOR QUIET REFLECTION DURING CAMP'S WEEKLY CLOSING BODY, MIND, SPIRIT CEREMONY.  
THIS NEW AMPHITHEATRE CAMPFIRE SITE IS GIFTED BY  
**THE KOCH FAMILY**  
DECEMBER 2018



Staff led Reunion guests in a favorite camp song to kick off the Dedication Ceremony.



Summer campers at Opening Campfire and Body, Mind, Spirit Ceremony.



## DEDICATION of the SUSPENSION BRIDGE NAMED in HONOR of STEVE FRITZ and TERRY YUNKER

Thanks to all who helped keep this a secret! At the 80th Reunion, we were delighted to surprise Steve and Terry by naming this bridge in their honor. Kent Meyer, alum and retired CEO of the YMCA of the Rockies, made the presentation. Please take a moment to read the plaque text below which expresses our gratitude for their very lengthy history and service to Camp.

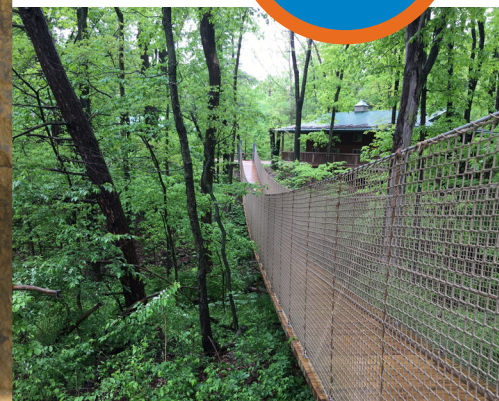
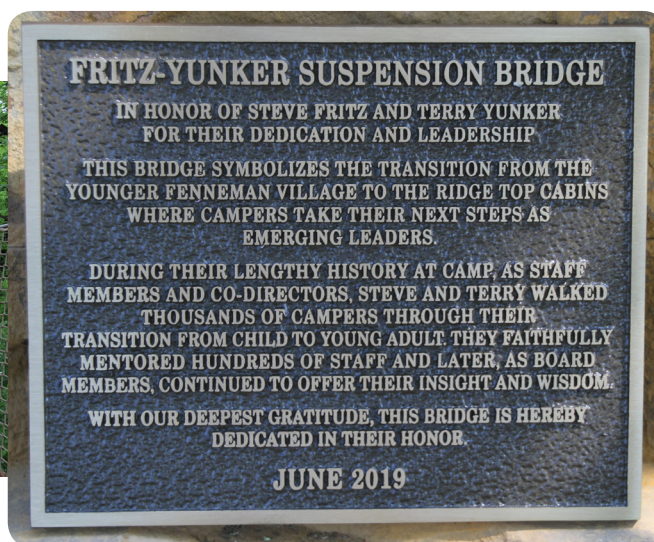
Congratulations Steve and Terry!



### MAKING a GIFT to this PROJECT in HONOR of STEVE and TERRY

We would also like to thank the many who helped sponsor the bridge by making gifts to this project in honor of Steve and Terry. This project is still in need of additional sponsors, so if you would like to make a gift in honor of Steve and Terry, it's not too late! For more information, please go to the GIVING tab at [campcarson.org](http://campcarson.org) or call Debra Scoular at 812-385-3597.

**CAMP  
MATTERS**



Above: Kent Meyer



Right:  
Reunion guests at the  
presentation



Left:  
Yunker and Fritz family  
members

## MORE 80th REUNION HIGHLIGHTS

After the dedication ceremonies, everyone headed to the Dining Hall for lunch and more singing, just like you remember, followed by alumni photos by the decade (see below). Throughout the day, guests and their families took camp tours and participated in camp activities on land and at the waterfront. The day concluded with Hootenanny skits performed by alum from several eras which included the Camp Carson Nursing Home and the return of Frisco Freddie. Of course, no Hootenanny is complete without somebody getting wet! To see all the photos from the Reunion, go to [campcarson.org/alumni](http://campcarson.org/alumni).



CAMP  
MATTERS



# HUGE CONGRATS to our 2019 HONOR CAMPERS

Each week our honor campers are selected by their cabin counselors in recognition of living out the YMCA's core values of honesty, caring, respect, responsibility and faith in cabin life. Each camper is awarded a certificate and Honor Camper dog tag at the closing program on Friday evenings.

**CAMP  
MATTERS**

Chloe Adams  
Alyssa Adams  
Austin Adamson  
Levi Adamson  
Katie Aiken  
Kate Amos  
Allie Anliker  
David Beaver  
Kingston Beckett  
Dawson Blankenbuehler-Lee  
Natalie Bonham  
Georgia Bott  
Peyton Bowling  
Austin Boyle  
Willow Burton  
Haley Butler  
Zane Campbell  
James Cannon  
Pilar Cerritos  
Ella Chamberlain  
Calvin Colclasure  
Mia Cooper  
Lucas Costeur

Bryce Daley  
Ezekiel Daugherty  
Talon Davidson  
Annie Davis  
Olivia Day  
Autumn Dobslaw  
Emma Duell  
Jaxon Dykes  
Kendall Edwards  
Emma Edwards  
Ada Emerson  
Oliver Emerson  
Caden Estes  
Dom Ezell  
Vincenzo Faggioli  
Emily Fielders  
Brandon Foster  
Olivia Gaunt  
Olivia George  
Peyton Gobin  
Mikey Guerrero  
Alister Hall  
Aubry Hartz

Brooke Hawkins  
Avery Hawkins  
Izzy Hemenway  
Juan Hernandez  
Jackson Hollander  
Connor Huck  
Dylann Hudson  
Bo Hurt  
Brooklynn Johnson  
Mya Johnson  
Sam Jurgensen  
Alex Kessinger  
Chestin Kincaid  
Noah Kincaid  
Talynn Kratz  
Konnor Kreinbrook  
Oliver Kukla  
Maddie Lemon  
Ari Martinez-Trautvetter  
Jayda Maynard  
Dylan Miller  
Sophie Miller  
Addie Moore

Melea Morgan  
Zavier Novak  
Meredith Ober  
Luke ODonohue  
Audrey Palmer  
Caroline Palmer  
Aved Paroyan  
Waverleigh Peters  
Benny Pruden  
Garrett Quick  
Lily Rardon  
Sophia Redella  
Elliot Redella  
Cailyn Reser  
Edith Rodocker  
Nate Salem  
Eean Sarikie  
Oasis Satsaksit  
Lucas Scamahorn  
Aubrey Schoening  
Joni Scott  
Claire Seaton  
Christian Sherrard

Meredith Soards  
AJ Spalding  
Henry Stack  
Tyler Stallings  
Alex Stange  
Megan Steuterman  
Henlee Stotlar  
Evie Striegel  
Robert Swafford  
Addie Thornburg  
Christian Thornburg  
Aidan Tolley  
Elli Turner  
Peyton Warner  
Lukas Wasowicz  
Blake Wathen  
Alexa Weyer  
Isaiah Wilson  
Izzy Workman  
Michael Zahn  
Aiden Ziegler



Want  
to see photos of  
these awesome Honor  
Campers and Rockers?  
Go to [campcarson.org/  
summercamp](http://campcarson.org/summercamp)



## HATS OFF to our 2019 CARSON ROCKERS!

The Carson Rocker award signifies quite an accomplishment. To earn this distinction, campers must earn all 5 levels at an activity area, teach a counselor all 5 levels at that same activity and then teach another camper, who is new to the activity, all 5 levels of that activity! Congrats to these campers for a job well done!

### Alpine Tower

Owen Boxley

### Archery

James Cannon  
Josh Fairchild  
Justin O'Connor  
Cam Wright-Jones

### Athletics - Basketball

Dylan Barrett  
Jay Crum-Stephens  
Garrett Quick  
Lucas Shelton

### Athletics - Soccer

Jacob Davis

### Boating

Jacob Barnwell  
Ada Emerson  
LouLou Forster

### Fishing

Jonathan Duell  
JP Lehman  
Stephen Wickson

### Mountain Bikes

Michael Wilson

### Mountain Boards

Hunter Davis

### Pottery

Ava Beckley  
Faith Bosta  
Greta Diehl  
Dee Drury  
Adam Kovarik  
Blake Podewils  
Reegan Siewert  
Evie Striegel  
Jacob Wilson

### Pottery - Handbuilding

Emery Borders  
Kayla Meyer

### Riflery

Issac Bultitude

### Sailing

Darrik Cox  
Bryce Latorre  
Ayden Mason  
Garrett Motz  
Iziah Rojas

### Swim Games

Claire Coe  
Sophia Kukla

### Wrangler

Megan Armstrong  
Ella Chamberlain  
Emma Vieira



## THE LLOYD AWARD for COUNSELORS of the YEAR

Please join us in congratulating Sami Purcell and Will Gershon, our 2019 recipients of this award. We are so proud of these two outstanding staff members. This award was created by Dr. Tom Lloyd, a Bridge Builder who established a named Endowment Fund within the Camp Carson General Endowment.



### SAMI

My favorite thing about working with kids at camp is being surrounded by constant positive energy and seeing them grow into amazing friends and leaders. At boating and sailing, I loved how so



many kids were determined to improve their skills every day and were willing to help and encourage their friends. The motivation and fun the kids brought made navigating the high tides of Lake Seminole even more fun and rewarding.

Every week, I looked forward to opening and closing campfire and devotions the most. Opening campfire is the first time new campers begin to see what Camp Carson is all about. It's also a great time to show their creativity with the theme and build connections with new friends in their cabin. By the time closing campfire rolls around, the cabin feels like a family and is able to lean on each other. They all realize how much camp and the friendships they made that week mean to them. Adding on to that, devotions make them feel like they belong and help them to realize they aren't going through their struggles alone. Sitting down each night to reflect on the day and share all their troubles and blessings brings the whole group closer.

Camp has made me a more confident and loving person. The motto of helping people feel accepted, challenged, and empowered carries over into my everyday life. I am now more motivated to help others be their authentic selves and build on what sets them apart. I am also a more consistent and effective leader.

I am currently in my sophomore year at Purdue studying Kinesiology with a goal of becoming a physical therapist. When I'm not studying, I'm busy being an officer in Occupational Therapy and Physical Therapy Club, a community involvement planner for a Christian group called Cru, and a member of the Morale Committee for Purdue University Dance Marathon.

### WILL

My favorite thing about working with kids is watching them smile when they accomplish something; seeing the happiness that can come to a kid when they realize that they are capable of making something happen. It brightens my day to know the memory of that will resonate with them and stay with them forever.

This summer, I was in charge of Nature. Teaching kids at camp about the world they live in was an absolute blast. As an Eagle Scout, getting to lead hikes around camp and showing them cool things to find outdoors felt very natural to me.

My first year on staff, I worked with the younger cabins, and every year I have moved up in age, so seeing the kids from my first summer grow every year has been so rewarding.

My first year at camp was 2015 as a CIT. Coming into the program, I was a very shy and reserved kid, but after the 2 week program, I had almost completely come out of my shell. Camp has filled me with confidence and showed me that I could be myself in the real world.

Currently, I am at Hanover College in my Junior year. I am studying Secondary Education and History. Next fall, I plan on starting student teaching, then after graduating, moving on to teach high school history. Someday, I hope to be a college professor.



## KNIESE SCHOLARSHIP

Congratulations to Aaron Bussell as our 2019 winner.

The Mark Kniese Scholarship was established in 2002 by camp alum, August Neal, in memory of Mark Kniese and his incredible passion for kids and life.

### AARON

I first came to Camp Carson in 2015. It changed my life by giving me confidence, leadership skills, and people that were there for me. It meant a lot for me. As a counselor, I strive to give back to camp the love that was given to me. This is why I enjoy working with younger campers. Younger campers usually hear that they are too young to do the things that they want, but, at camp, very few activities have age restrictions. This summer I ran woodworking, which had scroll sawing for all ages. Scroll saws can be intimidating, but you would see campers of all ages try it no matter how scared they were. Seeing their faces light up and the confidence they gained as they worked is what I enjoyed most.

Camp empowers me now, over a month after the last day and years after my last day as a camper. I am using what camp has given me to go to college at the University of Kentucky. I am currently a sophomore in Computer Science. I am currently working as a Teaching Assistant for engineering and a Peer Mentor for a group of freshman. There are countless possibilities in the future and I am excited to see what happens!



L to R: Norm Kniese, Skip Kniese (Mark's father and brother, respectively), Aaron and August



Matt Schooler and Tyler Williams

## WELCOME to our NEW CAMP CARSON FACILITIES MANAGEMENT TEAM

**Matt Schooler**, Facilities Manager, joins us with a wide variety of professions over the past 18 years. Originally from Francisco, Indiana, Matt's vocational experience includes carpentry, construction, millwright work, vehicle mechanics, golf course maintenance and restaurant management. A favorite hobby is restoring classic cars. He is excited to take on the challenge of maintaining our Camp facility and joining the family atmosphere. Matt is married to Jeni and has three children and one grandchild.

**Tyler Williams**, Assistant Facilities Manager, is a Princeton, Indiana native and part of our summer grounds crew in previous years. He is now back as a full time member of our team. Tyler is passionate about keeping the grounds manicured and has a talent for all things mechanical. In his spare time, he's always working on an engine of some sort. Tyler and his wife, Peyton, live in Princeton.



CAMP  
MATTERS





# FIRST ANNUAL POLAR PLUNGE FUNDRAISER

**Saturday, January 4, 2020**

**When you take the Plunge in January, more  
kids can take the plunge in June and July!**



**WHO:** Alums,  
Camp Friends,  
Donors, Campers

**WHERE:**  
Lake Seminole,  
YMCA Camp  
Carson

**WHY:**  
We know **CAMP MATTERS** and literally  
changes lives. If you agree and are passionate  
about the power of a week at Camp Carson, we need you  
to participate in this fundraising event! Your sponsors  
will help us build up and nurture MORE kids, keep our  
programs strong and our program facilities well  
maintained. Be a part of it!

**HOW:**  
Share with family and  
friends what Camp means to you and  
ask them to sponsor you for the plunge.  
There is a minimum entry fee to participate  
and our goal is for each Polar Plunger to raise  
beyond the entry fee to \$500 or more. To sign  
up call Debra at 812-455-9246 or email  
[dscoular@ymcacampcarson.org](mailto:dscoular@ymcacampcarson.org)

**WHAT:**  
Our campers take the plunge  
all summer long. Now YOU have  
the opportunity to participate in this  
fundraiser by taking the plunge in January!  
Water will be waist deep – quick jump  
and right back out. Come on you  
can do it!



## WISH LIST & WAYS YOU CAN HELP

- Volunteer to help with the Annual Fund Campaign which helps us extend our outreach to kids for traditional, military, and Safety Patrol camps as well as NYPUM and other camp programs.
- Volunteer to help organize two annual workdays at Camp (Spring and Fall).
- Volunteer to be a Host Family for a 2020 Camp Informational Night to introduce other families to the magic of Camp.
- Sponsor the NYPUM program (National Youth Project Using Mini-bikes).
- Volunteer to help maintain landscaping around Camp.
- Write to your local newspaper about the benefits of a summer camp experience.
- Ask your PTA to have us come and speak to students/parents about Camp.
- Invite us to speak to your local civic organizations about Camp's work in the community.

### You can Sponsor...

- 13 Corcls\*\*
- 13 Paddleboards\*\*
- Ammunition for riflery (CC1 .22 Quiet)
- Potters Wheels\*\*
- 4'x8' Sheets of 1/2" ACX plywood for woodworking (it's a soft wood with no veneer)
- 4'x8' Sheets of 1/8" ACX plywood for wood burning
- Overhead projection unit and screen\*\*
- Ford F250 truck for our NYPUM program
- New Cheetah Mowing Deck\*\*
- Yamaha Viking V1 IPS Ranch Edition (6 seater ATV)

- Student Life Application Bibles. It is our desire to make a Bible available to any camper upon request.
- GPS Cross Country orienteering program
- Digital Photography and Video Program
- Tree House or Tree House Village
- Adirondack Shelter as part of our Eagles Ridge (Camp Out) Village
- New cabin at Camp
- Precision Air Pellet Rifles\*\*
- Costumes, props, dress up clothes for skits



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**\*\* Please contact Camp for model specifics.**



# YMCA CAMP CARSON

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## YMCA Camp Carson Board of Managers

Dr. Spencer Goodson, Chair  
Mr. Gene Dawson  
Mr. Tom Elsner  
Mr. Bob Fenneman  
Mr. Craig Fenneman  
Mr. Steve Fritz  
Mr. Aaron Kendall  
Dr. Gabriela Mustata Wilson

Ms. Heather Pierce  
Mr. Denny Quinn  
Mr. Steve Witting  
Dr. William Wooten  
Mr. Terry Yunker

**Executive Director**  
Mr. Mark Scoular

**Mom & Dad,  
Have campers moved on? Please email camp with their new address!**



## WHAT'S INSIDE

- Dedication – Koch Family Amphitheater
- Dedication – Fritz-Yunker Bridge
- 80th Reunion Celebration
- Honor and Rocker Campers
- Kniese Scholarship and Lloyd Counselors of the Year
- Intro of New Facilities Managers
- 1st Annual Polar Plunge  
– Save the Date!
- Wish List



**REGISTRATION for SUMMER 2020 is OPEN!**  
We are already 78% FULL with waitlists for several sessions.

**CAMP  
MATTERS**



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

**CONNECT OR RECONNECT WITH CAMP**

Links available via our website  
gateway page.

