

Fanning the Flame

Camp Foster YMCA Alumni Newsletter

2018: Quarter #3

This newsletter is the first of many. It is meant to keep you, the alumni, updated and connected. The newsletter will follow quarterly meetings of the "alumni committee." As of this newsletter, things are still somewhat fluid and may still change and be tweaked as we go forward.

If you have questions or suggestions of any kind, please direct them to Josh Carr at josh.carr@campfosterymca.com or Truck (Denise Truckenmiller) at denise.truckenmiller@gmail.com.

It is our intent to be open, honest, and transparent. We are excited to be this far in the process.

Pete's Birthday Party aka The First Annual Alumni Reunion

April 14, 2018



Oh, the weather outside may have been frightful...

...But the spirit of Camp was certainly delightful!

A great time was had by all in attendance! Those brave souls shared memories, new friendships and fun. The meal and auction were a huge success and helped contribute to the new staff housing previously known as Crescent Cottage.

One of the most important things to come out of this weekend was the connection it made between ALL the staffs. Camp's influence on the lives of thousands of camp staffs. This weekend will become an annual event. Mark your calendars for the next several years...the second weekend of April! Stay tuned for additional information coming soon.

How can YOU be a part? Sooooo glad you asked:

- Save the date
- Check your talents for things you can donate to the Staff Auction
- Check your closets, parent's attic, totes, and boxes for camp attire and other camp artifacts for the Staff Auction



SAVE THE DATE APRIL 12-14, 2019

2ND ANNUAL ALUMNI REUNION



Alumni Governance

Few of us like "rules." Most of us understand the need for it. Following is a brief overview how our Alumni will be developing. Please know this is still a fluid group and things may need to be tweaked along the way.

Alumni Committee: The following attended the meeting on August 25: Andrew Fisher, Amanda Ilse, and Cindy Rosa (representing the YMCA); Josh Carr (representing Camp Foster); and Alison Brennen (94-95), Cole Vetter (93-95), Anna Brady (08-11), and Truck (84-85, 90-91, 96, 18).

Role of Committee: This committee will be the conduit to the organizational Board of Directors. As the Board focuses on the "camper side of camp" it will be the focus of the alumni committee to focus on the "staff" side of camp. Our core belief is that campers always come first. To support that, it is important to support the staff so they can support the campers. If you have ever stepped foot in CC, you understand this. This group and their initiatives will also become a part of the master plan for Camp's future.

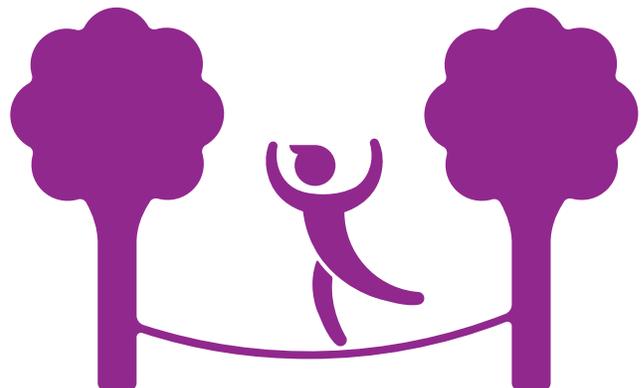
What Can I Do to Help?

Great Question!!

1. Make sure your information is up-to-date on the Camp Foster website, Alumni tab.
2. We are hoping to add space for your specific talents and skills we may be able to utilize in the future.
3. Keep checking back. We are hoping to offer an online "store" where we will have "retro" t-shirts and sweatshirts. This will be outsourced to a local vendor.
4. Let camp know when you can visit. We would love to give you a tour and updates.
5. Be patient as we dump 4 different staff databases into 1 to make this our alumni database. Eventually it will do much of our work for us but until then, it is definitely a work in progress.
6. Send pictures of staff generational legacies. We would love to have pics of you and your kids/parents who have also worked here.
7. Were you married at Camp Foster, please send us those pics.

Send your questions or comments to:

Josh at josh.carr@campfosterymca.com or Truck at denisetruckenmiller@gmail.com



Camp Updates from Josh:

- Camper Enrollment: 1920 campers – the highest enrollment in many years
- Day Campers: 700
- A new camp will be introduced in January, Wellness Weekend. Check out details on the Camp Foster website.
- 2019 registration was opened and within 5 minutes, 1400 campers had already registered, Session 7 (Twilight Zone) was full within the hour. Camp is already off to a great start!
- There will work done on a new Dragon, new Zipline over the ravine, additional trails concrete throughout camp, and new fencing at the Ranch.
- Those not returning for 2019 will automatically be merged into our alumni corp.
- Camp's Top 5 fundraising projects for Camp:
 1. Dining Hall renovation/updated
 2. Camp Office renovated/updated
 3. Howard's Hall renovated/updated (it's been 25 years!)
 4. Endowment fund
 5. Debt Reduction

Crescent Cottage...the last hurrah!

The fundraising for Crescent Cottage was successful! Staff has officially moved out. What can be saved and repurposed has been. The first "hit" was purchased by Anna Brady at the auction. She took this hit during our meeting in August. Next, the walls will come tumbling down. There is some asbestos that will need to be carefully carted away. But, it will be our pleasure to keep you updated on this progress.

