

"WHO DO WE WANT?"
"WE WANT THE CRIER!"

PHANTOM LAKE YMCA CAMP

"And Jesus increased in
wisdom, in stature and in favor
with God and man."
(Luke 2:52)

PHANTOM CRIER

· camping since 1896 ·

110th Anniversary



A Biannual Newsletter by and for Family, Staff, Alumni and Friends of Phantom Lake YMCA Camp

SPRING 2006

CALENDAR

April 8, 8:00am-Noon
Breakfast with the Easter Bunny

April 28-30
SDP/YLT Spring Retreat
Commemorating 50 years

April 29, 9:00am
Fred Lee Day (camp set up)
Please Volunteer

May 13, 2:00-4:00pm
Camp Open House
Meet the counselors and see camp

June 3, 10:00am-3pm
Garden Day
Tend gardens and have lunch

June 10, 6:00-9:00pm
Sounds of Phantom – Benefit Concert
and Silent Auction

June 27, 7:00pm
Neighborhood Campfire

July 7-9
60s and 70s Alumni Reunion

July 8
75th Anniversary of Girls Camp
Celebration

September 1-4
Family Camp

September 16
Story Telling Festival

October 21
Camp Take Down



Phantom Lake Girls Reserve Camp, August 1931.

A Year of Milestones

Summer 2006, camp's 110th year, brings us many milestones. Everyone is proud to celebrate the diamond anniversary of Girls Camp which started August of 1931 and has been going strong every summer since and has changed many lives in the process. Girls camp has always had it's own unique feel.

We are celebrating 50 years of the Staff Development

Program (ages 15-17). At the recent CIT retreat the SDP Director, Tony Ayala, told parents that camp is a fun place, but also a stepping stone for development into the "real world". We look forward to many more years of these programs and hope you celebrate these milestones with us. ☒

Are you a past camper or staff from the 1960's or '70's? Join us for a reunion at camp July 7-9.

POP CULTURE FACT OF 1896:
The bicycle craze is booming and people flock to the outdoors!

110 YEARS AGO:
Jan. 4 – Utah admitted as the 45th U.S. state.
Jan. 12 – H.L. Smith takes first X-ray photograph.
Feb. 1 – Opera La Bohème premieres
April 6 – Opening ceremonies of the first modern Summer Olympics held in Athens, Greece.



Pictured Rocks National Park



Zip Line was installed in August, 2005



Rafting in the Smokey Mtns.

Something for Everyone

We are preparing for another exciting summer season. Please sign up early to assure your place in your week of choice. There is even more to choose from!

RESIDENT CAMP

If you are returning to camp you will find a new basketball hoop on the small basketball court and the new zip line. You may see many familiar faces and many new ones waiting to introduce themselves. Justin Cooper, Robo Coop, will be lending a hand with our Robotics Specialty. This special program is offered during Boys Camp for an additional fee. Dr. Bob is very excited to offer a small fly fishing trip during Coed Camp IV. It is almost full so don't delay in signing up for this great opportunity! Our friend Toothbrush is organizing a skateboard specialty which is offered Coed I. All the sessions will be packed with lots to do and plenty of hilarious camp fun. Staff established themes for the upcoming summer that will carry into a theme day and evening activities. We have increased the number of Magnificent 7 & 8 sessions offered this year and have included them during two Coed sessions. We have also included a Specialty Camp at the end of the summer with focuses on aquatics, creative arts, tennis, theater or trekkers.



Aquatics Specialty

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PHANTOM CRIER SPONSOR?

Would you or your business like to be a sponsor for the autumn Crier and poster insert? Over 9,000 Parents, Alumni, and Businesses from the Midwest and around the world will receive this newsletter.

Call for more details

PAC TRIPS

Phantom Adventure Camp (PAC trips) has a Spring Break trip to the Great Smokey Mountains that is fast approaching (April 17-23). Teens will see some amazing landscapes and go whitewater rafting. The Pictured Rocks trips are now called our Rocks & Waters trips. We are offering separate trips for boys and girls. Check these out if you like the outdoors and want a really cool out-of-camp experience. Lake Superior will also be the setting for a sailing trip for 15 to 17 year-olds in August. Go online for more information.

DAY CAMP

Day Camp has also announced it's theme weeks and will host an Open House on May 13. Sign up for six or more weeks and get Extended Care free. The Nagi Day Camp is in it's third year and is very popular so register soon to secure a spot. Nagi campers (ages 12-13) stay overnight at camp on Thursday nights. Thursday evenings are also Day Camp Family Night!



Crazy Hair Day

YMCA KIDS CLUB

The before and after school program, Kids Club is currently operating out of Clarendon Elementary School. Bussing is available from Rolling Hills and Section. Full Days off are held at camp. Enrollment is open. ☒

Mission Statement

Through camp related and community programs, Phantom Lake YMCA utilizes Christian principles to provide the opportunity for both children and adults to grow spiritually, physically, mentally, and socially in accordance with Luke 2:52.



2006 Board of Directors

Chair

Kennan Wood

1st Vice-Chair

Catherine Treacy

2nd Vice-Chair

Elizabeth McNally

Secretary

Andrew Treharne

Treasurer

Angela Johnson

Ted Anderson

Riley Cooper

Jennifer Emond

Kyle Gasser

Kathy Jensen

Kathryn Richardson, PhD

Jim Scharine

Jesús Villa

Jay Wall

Dennis Ward

Mike Williams

Eric Woodruff



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"Mountain" Mike Rule

Associate Executive Director

A. Todd Lennig

Communications Director

Eric Stein

Finance Director

Nancy Kendzior

Registration Director

Carolyn Russell

Facility Director

Randy Rohde

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From the Executive Director's Desk

On my drive to Phantom earlier this week I was very pleasantly surprised to spy a mature bald eagle flying just above the tree line. I've been fortunate to witness many eagles over the years, but this was the first time I had seen one in this region of Wisconsin. The eagle's size was what first caught my eye. Its wings stretched out wide and with a graceful flap it climbed high over head. The distinctive white head and tail quickly confirmed my puzzled guess. Amazing. It doesn't seem that long ago to me that the bald eagle nearly disappeared in Wisconsin.

Growing up I was fortunate to spend a great deal of time playing in natural settings. This experience lent to my growth as a camp counselor at Phantom. Connecting campers with nature was easy and a great deal of fun. Campers (and staff) would join me on adventures exploring the Kettles and the lake's edges. Campers discovered frogs, caterpillars, and flowers and shared their discoveries with each other. Phantom truly is an ideal setting for becoming aware of and experiencing the wonders of nature. It's my firm belief that spending time with nature enriches one's life and offers a lifetime of amazement.

I'm very happy to announce the addition of a new staff member to Phantom's family, Todd Lennig. Todd is the Associate Executive Director and he is hard at work with preparations for providing another remarkable summer on Phantom Lake!

Be sure to check out the article about Todd found on page three.

The excitement for this upcoming summer is already beginning to build. Last week was the annual Phantom CIT Retreat and it was fun to meet the new Counselors-In-Training. Talk about energy! One can catch a glimpse of Phantom's future at this retreat. Many of these faces will become Phantom's camp counselors in three years.

This year we will be celebrating several milestones at Phantom. It was fifty years ago that Jerry "Sir G" Carman started our leadership development program for teens, what we now call the Staff Development Program. Seventy-five years ago the first Girls Camp was held at Phantom. And this year will be Phantom's 110th anniversary!

I hope to see you this summer!

Yours in Phantom,

Mike "Mountain Mike" Rule



Mountain Mike

60s & 70s Reunion

Riley Cooper and Ted Anderson are at it again as they plan a 60's and 70's Reunion for July 7-9 at camp. They teamed up to host a wonderful 70's reunion in 2003 after they had so much fun doing talent night at Family Camp. They thought the best way to recreate those silly staff shows was to invite all their friends back to camp for a few days. What started with a mailing list of 10 or 15 people soon grew to 200. They hope for even more alum this year and are including people from both the 60's and 70's. Activities, food and lots of fun for the whole family will be available to anyone that signs up. Lodging will be available at camp or at local hotels. Call camp for more information on how to be a part of this great weekend: (262) 363-4386

Attention Gardeners!

Garden Day will be held on June 3. We are inviting friends and alum to come tend to gardens and memorials and have lunch. This was "Lady Sue" Carman's idea since she comes annually to tend to the Circle of Friendship garden near the Dining Hall. Bring your own tools and any flowers you would like to plant and we will have lunch and good conversation.

THANK YOU to all the volunteers that helped at Phantom's Halloween, Breakfast with Santa, Camp Take Down, SDP and YLT Retreats and Winter Camp.

Special thanks to **Riley Major** (90s) and his wife Courtney who donated a brand new Canon digital camera.

Campfire Hill Project



BEFORE: Where is the lake?



AFTER: A great view of the lake and A-field!

On October 15 and 16 a team of alumni headed up by Jenny Porter restored Campfire Hill to its original breathtaking view. Thank you to the volunteers that helped with this project. It made for an enjoyable weekend. Volunteers were: Jenny Porter, Mike Williams, Charlie Russell, Billy Russell, Riley Cooper, Kennan Wood, Mark Kindler, Cathie Treacy, Sean Treacy, Mike Smith, Elizabeth McNally, Mike "Murph" Murphy, Spider, Pudd and Mountain Mike. Do you have an idea for a service project? Call camp: (262) 363-4386

The Sir G Interview THE MAN, THE MYTH, THE CAMP ICON by Eric Stein



Jerry "Sir G" Carman

During the last year, I have had the pleasure of spending some time with Gerald Carman, otherwise known as Sir Gerald or Sir G. When he arrived at the waterfront during the recent alumni reunion a crowd of past staff and current staff rushed to his side to get a look at this legend and hear what he had to say. I said, "You are like a celebrity," and with a smile he says, "I don't know why." To see him today, he hasn't changed a bit—that signature bald head with that twinkle in his eye like a wise grandfather. He is sharp and remembers names and dates like it was yesterday. He stays involved with camping by working at YMCA Camp Matawa in the summer, which is near his home on Random Lake. He is also ACA Wisconsin's Data Manager and editor.

Though legend has it that he has been at Phantom since it's inception, Sir G started at camp in 1954 and worked as a counselor until 1961 (57-58 army and navy), became Camp Director in 1966, and became Executive Director in 1985, and retired ten years later. His mark on Phantom Lake YMCA Camp can be seen to this day.

Sir G: I began at Phantom when I was in college. I was not comfortable in front of audiences, but discovered

that at Phantom, people laughed with you and not at you. This opened some doors, and I decided I would like to direct Phantom some day. Couple of challenges though...First I had to become a Y professional, then get on the Area staff, and then, maybe, be assigned to Phantom. This could take as long as 20 years. Well...the good Lord smiled, and had other plans. In 1962 a job opened in the Waukesha Y. I applied and got the job. I worked day camp until 1966 when the Area YMCA came to the Waukesha Y and offered to sell camp to them. Fred Lee was the Y Executive and often said that they knew when they hired me that I wanted a camp...so they bought me one!

Phantom Lake Y Camp: Did you ever attend camp as a kid?

SG: One week at scout camp as a camper. It wasn't that great.

PLYC: Who was your hero in camping?

SG: My "hero" was actually two. I learned a lot from Marv Lotz, and am sure his quiet nature and philosophy were absorbed by me. Leigh "Mac" MacIver who took over from Marv was the one on which I based most of my camping philosophy. Marv and I remained friends and kept in touch until he died a year or so ago. Mac died not too long after he left Phantom and started a camp in North Dakota.

PLYC: Now with Harley Van Akkeren's passing does that make you the oldest living past director?

SG: (He cringes)

PLYC: I didn't want to ask it.

SG: But you did, and I suppose you're right.

PLYC: In the early years at camp your creativity made the Craft Shop into an integral part of camp. How did you get placed there?

SG: If I were sitting across from myself at the table, I never would have hired me. I hadn't worked with kids at all. I had no craft skills. I had to learn to make a lanyard. Ready for this, it will be a little scary that I remember this: under 2, back over 1, and always start with the highest one. It was my choice during staff training in 1954. I was a staff member, then became the Craft Director, where Sir G reigned for 4 years. Our Award Ceremony each week featured the march music from Aida, I was dressed in black knickers, a red T-shirt, a black cape and sword. Two campers carried the bottom of the cape, while a camper carried my "official" seal, and another the award, and another the sword. Each winner was dubbed (named) by his first and last name...for example, Sir Eric of Stein.

PLYC: Do any campers stand out in your mind?

SG: My first camper David Wardle. You always remember the first one, the first one off the bus. We used to get a couple of bus loads from Wheaton/Glen Ellyn and he was the first kid I had. The nicest kid you would ever want to know. He came back for two or three years and then went on to be a minister. Various campers come to mind now and then. In fact, I'm still wearing a belt that was made for me.

PLYC: Camp came very close to being sold in the mid 80's. And now development and suburbs are starting to grow around Phantom. Why is it that Phantom has survived all these years?

SG: A deep-seated love and concern for each camper, traditions, and keeping God as a key leader in all our activities. This became the mysterious Phantom Spirit that permeates the whole camp experience and has never seemed to be lost. The serious traditions that have grown and been maintained as each director and each staff person carried them forward. It is really hard to explain, and that is no doubt the reason it has continued.

PLYC: In one sentence what is the Phantom Spirit to you?

SG: Very simply...Luke 2:52.

Since he left camp in 1997, Sir G has dreamt of camp in some way – the lodge, the lake, something from camp will be in his dream. When asked if they are good or bad he replied, "In most cases, they are good. Often they deal with some crisis or another. Of course, I am always able to solve them!!"

Back at the reunion Sir G is coaxed to sing "Yer Mama Don't Wear No Socks." His wife Susanne, or Lady Sue as she is affectionately called, rolls her eyes and says, "He is always hoarse for a week after he does this." He is also famous for his tickle bug laugh at Criers and for sitting on the porch talking to kids. But perhaps more famously he is kind, and gentle, and displays the Phantom Spirit wherever he goes. He is living history of Phantom Lake YMCA Camp. ☞



left to right: Kyle Gasser, Jay Wall, Jennifer Emond, Jim Scharine

Welcome Aboard!

In January Phantom Lake YMCA Camp welcomed four new board members onto the board of directors. Among them is **Kyle Gasser** (80s) who is chairing the Phantom Strong Kids Campaign. He joins us from Madison where he works at Epic Systems as a networking consultant. Kyle is part of the 2% club married to Megan Piper (80s). **Jay Wall** (80s), from Mukwonago, works as an architect for Hammes Co and has joined the Properties Committee. **Jennifer Emond** (80s)

joins on from Waunakee. She is in purchasing at TriEnda and will be on the Communications Committee. She sent her son Marcel to camp in 2005 for his first camp experience as a Magnificent Seven. **Jim Scharine** has been attending Family Camp for many years and joins us from Greenfield. He helped his son Greg construct the chapel in the pines last summer. He is the comptroller for Johnson Controls and is on our Finance Committee. All are excited to continue the mission of PLYC.



A. Todd Lennig

Welcome Todd

Welcome to **A. Todd Lennig** who is joining our camp family as the new Associate Executive Director, AED (formerly known as the Camp Director). Todd has a passion for camping as he has worked at Falcon Camp in Ohio and Speers-Eljabar in Pennsylvania. A Midwestern man, he was born in Columbus Ohio and grew up in Michigan. He was recently married to Melissa who he met at camp. He is busy hiring staff and running the daily operations of the programs year-round at Phantom.



SOUNDS OF PHANTOM

Concert Benefit and Silent Auction

Saturday, June 10

6:00 pm Silent Auction

7:00 pm begins the concert of amazing alumni acoustic guitar and musical performers.

Proceeds go towards the Phantom Strong Kids Campaign.

STORY TELLING FESTIVAL

Saturday, September 16

6:00-9:00pm

Join us for an evening of an age old tradition of campfire storytelling. Be dazzled by the pictures and images in your head as you listen to some of the top storytellers in theses parts.

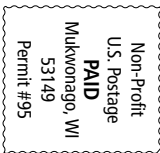


SUMMER CAMP BEGINS JUNE 18!

We build strong kids, strong families and strong communities.



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Connections UPDATES ON PHANTOM FRIENDS AND ALUMNI

Bill Diven (60s) donated his photography for the Phantom archive and history book. He was known as White Sox or Phantom Crier. He wrote: "The Phantom Crier became a newspaper and TV reporter and photographer who quit wearing white socks after the nickname stuck (bad news for a Cub fan). Still hiding out in the deserts of New Mexico and overdue for a visit to the kettle-moraine country, the last being in 1970. Still harboring fond memories of good times and great people."

In December Mark Lohmann, Sterling Karr, Jonathan Hornaday, Christopher Grogan, Benjamin Farris, and Robert Damico from Northwestern U presented their **NBI** study results.

Jeffrey Foucault (90s) is releasing his third CD, "Ghost Repeater", produced by Bo Ramsey (Greg Brown, Lucinda Williams) in May. www.jeffreyfoucault.com

Meghan Kaney (90s) released her album called "Missing Piece." www.megallison.com

Michael Morgan (90s) was on Law and Order: SVU on 11/15. It is in the first 20 min. in the

"Speed-Dating" scene. He had the third line and it was quick.

Meg Waloschek-Possell (80s) is moving back to the States, Flemington, NJ, from Cologne, Germany.

Pam (Past Board) and **Elisa Shapson** (05) traveled to Denmark for vacation.

Troy Morgan (80s) has settled in Northern Ireland in a wonderful church.

JB Pike (05) and **Gluestick** (05) are studying in England. They ran PAC trips in 04-05.

In October 2005, the Ginkgo tree planted in the 80's near the playground was rededicated to **Jim "Charlie" Browne** (Nature and Trips Director '70-72) with a carved stone officially honoring Jim's memory by **Lynn Pries** (Burnham, 70s). Jim passed away in 1978.

Jena Olson (90s) got engaged in Thailand to Michael on Jan. 5th on top of an elephant.

WEDDING BELLS

Jemma Parker (00's International Staff) got married in Scotland on Nov. 19. PLYC alum Cynthia Holt, Julie Bender, and Carolyn Russell made a vacation out of it. *top of column*



Sarene Schumacher (90s-00s) got married in Oct. to Nicky Caiazza. PLYC alum Liza Zimmerman, Donnan Steele, Becca Dilley, Bryn Gross, Mo Cullumn and Ian Gatley attended. *below*



BIRTHS – FUTURE CAMPERS

Emma Jane was born on Christmas Day at 6:40 pm to **Jason Knoll** (90s) and his wife Rachel.

Twins! Lilia 'Lily' Faith and Sophia 'Sophie' Noelle born December 14th to **Mark "Skeeter" Stibich** (90s) and his wife.

Andrew James was born Oct 24 at 8:31 am. This is the third for **Mark** (80s) and **Kathy Kindler**

Brenda Burkhalter Cetrulo (80s) had Sirius Charles on Sept. 29, 8lbs. 11oz.

Mary Follett (90s) tells us

Caleb James was born to **Shannon Follett** (90s) and Brandon Kovacs on 11/5/05 weighing 6 lb. 4 oz.

Jodi "Breeze" Gammon (00s) and Ben Schroeder welcomed Brayden Chase into the world. *below at Breakfast with Santa at Camp on Dec. 3rd.*



Kennan Wood (80s and 2006 Board Chair) and his wife Lynn had their first, a girl, Alena.

Annelies "Flossie" Howell (90s) and **Dan Hicks** had their first on Feb. 4, Ruby Anneka 9lbs 2 oz 21 inches long. *below*



IN MEMORY

Fathers of Julie "Cece" Vernon (90s) and of Karen Johnson (70s) passed away in Jan.

SEND YOUR NEWS TO
office@phantomlakeymca.com

Phantom Camp Year Round!



Camp Scrapalot sets up their scrap booking stations in the Dinning Hall. Over 20 women attended this year. They are just one of the many weekend groups that enjoy camp in the winter.



Phantom Lake Y Camp built the float for Santa and Mrs. Claus to ride on during the local Mukwonago Midnight Magic Parade.



Winter Camp! The group of campers and staff enjoyed an action filled four days with just enough snow for sledding.

Fundraising

Opening night campfires on Campfire Hill have been a tradition at Phantom for decades. It takes many parts to make a strong and alluring campfire. In a similar way, the same can be said for a strong and alluring camp. A Phantom Strong Kids contributor who provides the resources for a child to go to camp is a leading light. Your gift will help keep the Flames of Friendship burning bright at Phantom Lake YMCA Camp.

You should have received a letter and brochure in the mail for our annual Phantom Strong Kids campaign with a goal of \$82,000. Please consider giving towards this worthy cause.

PHANTOM STRONG KIDS

Gifts to Phantom Strong Kids Camperships go towards financial assistance and program support.

Levels Of Giving

Bonfire Donors	\$2500 and above
Flames of Friendship Donors (formerly Chairman's Round Table)	\$1000 – \$2499
Fire Builder Donors	\$499 – \$999
Firewood Donors	\$250 – \$498
Kindling Donors	\$100 – \$249
Tinder Donors	Up to \$99

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS

Many new facility improvements have already begun for the new year. Remodeling the Hilton, Health Lodge, Aldrich House, building new tents, a showerhouse and many other needed improvements are underway. These projects enhance our ability to provide a safe and comfortable environment for our children and programs while retaining our rustic feeling. In order to continue the momentum with these improvements we need support from people willing to help sponsor these projects.

How else can you support PLYC?

Save Our Shore Fund, Heritage Club (Bequests), Endowment Fund, Director's Wish List, Matching Company Funds, volunteer skills, consulting, and time.

The Director's Wish List

Please contact us if you are able to provide these or other resources. We ask that you give new or gently used goods for the safety of the kids. Thanks to all of you who have been so generous!

SMALL

Cutting Boards
Trash Cans (new)
Brooms and Dust Pan
Craft Shop Supplies
Medical Supplies, First Aid Kits
Office Supplies, Paper
Volleyball Net
Life Jackets (PFDs) new

MEDIUM

Wagons (moving camp gear)
Black & White Photo Equipment
Landscaping Timber
Lumber (tent maintenance)
Outdoor Benches
Two person tents
Fishing Rods/Flyfishing supplies

LARGE

Portable PA System
New Cafeteria Style Tables
20-50 New Folding Chairs with Storing Rack
Pick Up Truck (with Plow)
Rowboats (\$600) Canoes (\$500)
Kayaks (\$400)
Ez-Go's or Golf Carts
Front End Loader/Bob Cat
Chuck Wagon
Pram Sailboats (Opti Class)