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RIPPLES

CAMP JORN YMCA NEWSLETTER

2017





FROM **CARRIE**

SUMMER is just around the corner! In a few short weeks, camp will be filled with staff members from around the world and campers from throughout the country. ALL coming here to Camp Jorn YMCA to experience all that summer and camp in the Northwoods have to offer! Whether it be through new friends, horseback riding, the northern lights, arts and crafts or portaging a canoe – camp is a positive life changing experience.

My first few months here have given me a glimpse of how special Camp Jorn really is! I have met so many people, everywhere I go, with positive Camp Jorn stories. I am looking forward to meeting many more of the CJ family throughout the summer and hearing your story! Please do stop by and say hello if you are in the area and wish us all the best as we move through Summer 2017!

Happy Trails –

Carrie Wilson

Carrie Wilson
Camp Jorn CEO

BOARD OF DIRECTORS NOTES

The Board of Directors is a dedicated group of professionals who are committed to supporting and advancing the Mission of Camp Jorn. Over the last five years, the Board has focused efforts on developing its governing practices and in collaboration with staff, setting the strategic vision for Camp Jorn. At the 2016 Annual October meeting, Dr. Ellen Mauer, John Mueller, Mike Mikkelson and Anne Chapman joined the Board of Directors. At this time and after serving for many years, Ron Sanderlin, Cheryl Sanderlin and Carol Detweiler retired from the Board and joined the respected ranks of the Emeritus Board. Some of our current Board goals and initiatives include increasing revenue from fundraising activities, streamlining financial oversight procedures, maintaining and expanding relationships with Camp Jorn supporters and volunteers, and refining succession planning processes to ensure a strong Board now and into the future. The Board Development Committee hopes to recruit at least three new qualified Board members by October 2017. If you are interested in learning more about how you might support Camp Jorn as a Board member, Committee member or through other volunteer activities, please contact Carrie Wilson at carrie@campjornymca.org.



Board Chair - Romy DeCristofaro

CAMP JORN • 13591 ZENNER LANE • MANITOWISH WATERS, WI 54545

Ripples is a yearly publication produced by Camp Jorn YMCA. To share your stories and learn more about Camp Jorn, visit us on the web, campjornymca.org

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Nina Rouse–Camp Jorn Program Director & *Ripples* Editor • Hahn Printing Inc.–Design/Print Production

CAMP JORN YMCA IS RECIPIENT OF THE Y ACCESS GRANT

Camp Jorn YMCA received \$6,000 from the YMCA of the USA's Strategic Initiatives Fund and we matched above and beyond the \$6,000 we received! The YMCA Resident Camp Access Project is a re-grant opportunity funded by Y-USA's Strategic Initiatives Fund to make it possible for families who may not

have the financial means to send their children to summer resident camp for the first time. The focus of the grant is to help first time campers and kids of military families come to camp! Thanks to the match of the Zich memorial fund and Y-USA we'll be able to support over 20 kids this summer.

CAMP JORN YMCA FAMILY CAMP DISCOVER THE ADVENTURES OF THE NORTHWOODS JULY 2-9 OR AUGUST 13-19

Family Camp is a time for families to discover the adventures of the Northwoods, through the spirit and programs of Camp Jorn (CJ). This is a time of fun and family growth, with the CJ environment offering a myriad of activities.

Family Campers have the opportunity to enjoy all the activities that our youth campers enjoy. You can swim, canoe, sail, kayak, go skiing, go on a trail ride, test your skills at the archery and air riflery ranges, take a ride on the pontoon and get crafty in arts and crafts. The range of activities is sure to keep you busy. Or you can curl up with a good book on the bluff. It's your vacation! We will have a schedule of activities, classes and local events you can participate in as you'd like!

Accommodations are available for weekly rental. Partial rental is not available. Pricing includes accommodations, food and program areas. Registration and details online at campjornymca.org

WOMEN'S WELLNESS WEEKEND OCTOBER 6-8, 2017

Relax & Refresh at the Camp Jorn YMCA Women's Wellness Retreat! Join us for a weekend escape in beautiful Northern Wisconsin to treat your body, mind and spirit to an abundance of wellness and fun! Enjoy our daily planned activities or simply sit by the fire and dive into a good book. Your Northwoods paradise awaits!

Registration is now open at campjornymca.org on the events page!

CAMP JORN YMCA IS RECIPIENT OF THE YUSA CAPITAL GRANT

This year we received \$20,000 from the Y of the USA and a matching grant of \$25,000 from John Mueller of G&W Electric to update our water and heating systems in both the Dining Hall and Kybo. These updates will give us increased efficiency and a reduction in operating expenses! Our boilers and water heaters were old and outdated making them

inefficient to operate! Our new systems are highly efficient and will allow for ongoing service in both buildings! Installation just finished on both systems. Thank you to Rob Schmidt of Schmidt and Sons for his time and work to help us receive the grant and to install the new equipment.

CAMP JORN YMCA FAMILY EXTENDS OUR CONDOLENCES

Steven Zich believed that camp was a wonderful place for children. Although he was never a camper at CJ himself, he did attend YMCA Camp Echo through a scholarship program in the 1950's. His love for camping, fishing, and the outdoors was fostered through this camp experience. He wanted the same for his daughters, and took on extra side jobs to insure they were able to attend camp every year until they were old enough to work there. Steven had served in the United States Navy and was a retired Wilmette Firefighter. He is survived by his daughters, Carrie and Jessy Zich both Camp Jorn alumni and advocates.



Jeff Richter was a camper and counselor in the late 1960's and early 1970's. He attended Family Camp with the rest of the Richter family during multiple summers and enjoyed sharing funny stories about the pranks he and his campers used to play on each other. Jeff's favorite camp activities included archery, water skiing and skits and storytelling during campfire. He passed on his love for Camp Jorn to his children, Erin, Romy, and Reggie, who all spent many summers there and continue to stay actively involved in supporting Camp.



TOP, left to right: Steven Zich, JoAnne Topcik; BOTTOM, left to right: Doris Richter, Eddie Richter, Jeff Richter and Randy Richter during a game of cards in the Nash Lodge during Family Camp 2010.

JoAnne (Jo) Topcik has been an asset to Camp Jorn throughout the years. She always supported Camp Jorn's objectives and benefits

to others by picking up international staff at the airport, proofing Ripples for Carol Detwiler and helping organize the kitchen at the pancake breakfasts. Aside from supporting camp, JoAnne also treated the staff by baking a ton of cookies for the volunteers and Dennis at the work weekends as well as sent treats to the staff during the holiday season.

GIVING THE GIFT OF CAMP

Think back to your first summer at Camp Jorn, think about the memories had, the friends you made, and overall experience you had. Would your life be different without those memories? Camp Jorn creates an environment for campers to discover their passions such as waterskiing, canoeing, backpacking, horseback riding, etc. All kids deserve the opportunity to discover who they are and what they can achieve, under the guidance of adults who care about them and believe in their potential. Whether it be daily child care, a few weeks of day camp or an intensive one or two-week resident camp experience, we see every interaction with

children and teens as an opportunity for learning and development—grounded in Camp Jorn's core values of caring, honesty, respect, responsibility, and personal growth. Your gift can help our youth and communities shine.

We have a goal this year to raise \$150,000, which will help us to support over 750 youth and 55 families as well as provide 200 scholarships for youth in all of our programs. We invite you to continue to support our financial goals by considering an increased gift this year.

Donate online at Campjornymca.org

CIT TO CEO: JOHN MEULLER THE CAMP JORN TRAILBLAZER

What is your history with Camp Jorn YMCA?

I was a camper during the summer of 1969 and 1970. I was a CIT, Junior Counselor, and Senior Counselor during the summers of 1972, 1973, 1974, 1975, and 1976.

What is your favorite Camp Jorn memory?

Making a small difference in a kid's life. The Northwoods, canoe trips, backpacking trips and the staff trips. Teaching waterskiing, swimming, sailing, fishing, how to use a compass, how to build a fire, and shooting rapids in a canoe.

Why did you decide to join the board of directors?

Camp Jorn has been in my head and heart for over 40 years. When I resigned from another board last year, and then knew I could properly commit the time to the Camp Jorn Board.

What do you do in your daily life outside of your involvement with Camp Jorn?

I have been happily married to Anne for over 30 years and we have raised three great kids/young adults!! I own and provide leadership, to a worldwide manufacture of medium and high voltage electric equipment with over 750 employees. I often call them my campers!!

Why do you offer your employees the opportunity to send their kids to camp?

How has that affected your employees and your workplace?

G & W puts family first. We started small a few years ago with about 10 kids. The thank you letters were amazing. This year over 40 kids will be going, some for the second and third time!!

What do you think is the most important thing that Camp offers to kids?

- There is a lot more to life than electronic devices
- Learn to do something they would never have a chance to do in the Chicago area
- Meet new people. Make new friends.
- Get to know this planet a little better
- Become the next generation leaders



TOP: John Mueller is on the far right (Year 1974), BOTTOM: John Mueller can be found in the back row on the left side (Year 1975).



WHAT IS YOUR CAMP JORN STORY?



Rev. Marcelino is located second row, far right.

Hi CJ family,

A long time ago, In a galaxy... Wait, it's not that story. Though it kind of is. I was young and troubled as a child. Family life was rough. I earned a scholarship to attend camp by selling candy...Boxes and boxes of candy.

Being the first time away from home it didn't go well. But getting over it I discovered a new world that I haven't been able to leave. The great outdoors and camping have become such a part of my life that even at 50 I tackled the Porkies with a pack and a pair of MUDDY boots. But this time I had a second generation in tow.

It was like I was back at CJ on my first trip to the Porkies. Only, the mountains seem a little higher and steeper now. My heart is still in the place where CJ the Bear introduced me to his home. Many times I have spent daydreaming of the time I spent at CJ and what it meant to me from day one when the buses rolled in past the gates that said "Welcome."

From the campfires to the silly skits, to the mess hall to photography lessons, they still remain with me to this day. I learned great respect for what I had, and didn't have, and

appreciated the gift of being exposed to a fragile world that we are charged with caring for.

Even today, when I go on hikes I am transported to the great Northwoods where momma nature showed me that the world out there is bigger than I am, and though it can challenge you, it can take care of you if you take care of it.

That lesson has carried over to my ministry as a Deacon in the Catholic Church. There are few places that can draw us to a greater respect for creation than having the mud on your feet, fresh air in your lungs and a view that can only be experienced and not described.

One day I hope to go back. But even if I don't get the chance, "a million tomorrows shall all pass away" but I won't forget all the joys I left behind at CJ.

Rev. Marcelino

(Rev. Marcelino was a CIT for two years and currently lives in Waukegan, IL.)

2017 GOLF OUTING – SEPTEMBER 15

Join us on Friday, September 15 at ThunderHawk Golf Club in Beach Park, Illinois for a fun-filled day of golfing, food, beverages, and prizes. Shotgun start at NOON. All of the proceeds go towards ensuring that Camp Jorn is able to provide scholarships and high quality programming to all of our campers. Registration open now online at campjornymca.org.



CAMPJORN STAFF HIGHLIGHT: HALEY FRITSCHKE

What is your history with Camp Jorn YMCA?

Eight years ago I received a full scholarship to attend camp from my local Lions Club. I attended resident camp and fell in love. I continued to attend CJ for 6 years taking advantage of every opportunity. I was a resident camper, TEVA camper, LIT, and CIT. As I finished my 3rd week of the CIT program I was given the chance to finish out the summer as a staff member, to say the least, I took it. This summer will be my second full summer as a member of staff and I CANNOT WAIT.

What is your favorite Camp Jorn memory?

My favorite memory at Camp Jorn occurred my second year at camp. Well, technically I was off camp on my cabins overnight camping trip. We'd canoed for what felt like three hours – I'm sure it wasn't that long – and set up camp. Everything went fine until the next morning when there was a huge, huge storm. Obviously we could not canoe back SO all 10 of us piled into one tent until we could canoe back to CJ. During this time we played cards and chatted about everything you can imagine 10 year old girls can talk about. By the time we go back to camp we had gotten so close you'd think we were sisters. This simple memory is something I will remember forever as it shows how a group of girls can bond over two hours stuck in a tent.

Why did you decide to be a cabin counselor at camp?

I decided to become a cabin counselor because I wanted to impact children the way I was impacted as a camper. A counselor has the opportunity to take on many roles to a camper. They can be a friend to have fun with, they can be a parent to ensure the child is safe and healthy, they can be teacher that teaches life



lessons. As a camper my counselors were the role models I thought of for months after camp. They taught me how to be myself, how to be goofy, how to use the 5 core values of CJ, and how to enjoy nature. Ultimately, I am a counselor because I want to be that role model for each of my campers.

What is your favorite part about being a counselor?

My favorite part about being a counselor is seeing my campers learn to shine; whether they're meeting the goals we made on Sunday night, coming out of their shell and doing new things, or smiling and laughing with their cabin mates. I genuinely love to see my campers having the time of their lives at Camp Jorn, while I am doing the same. On another note I love working with the other staff, I have created an unforgettable bond with each staff member.

What do you think is the most important thing that Camp offers to kids?

The absolute most important thing that Camp Jorn offers its campers is a safe haven. At camp children, no matter where they're from, are free to be themselves, enjoy nature, and feel safe.

SAVE THE DATES!

CAMP JORN ANNUAL DINNER

Save the Date for our Annual Dinner which will be held at Camp Jorn YMCA on September 23rd. We look forward to celebrating the past year, looking to the future and honoring those who have served! The annual dinner is open to all in the Camp Jorn family! *Watch for more information this summer.*

CAMP JORN ANNUAL PANCAKE DAY

Our Annual Pancake Breakfast will be held at Camp Jorn YMCA on Sunday, August 20, 2017 from 8:00am – Noon. Please join us for pancakes, camp tours, raffle prizes and fun at Camp Jorn! The menu is: Pancakes • Sausage • Coffee • Milk • Juice.

Hope to see you there!

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CAMP JORN YMCA CHILD CARE

All children deserve the opportunity to discover who they are and what they can achieve, under the guidance of adults who care about them and believe in their potential. At Camp Jorn YMCA, our play based curriculum allows each child to grow at their own pace in the areas of social, emotional, physical and academic development. We are building stronger children and stronger communities every day!

INFANTS & TODDLERS: 3 Months—2 1/2 years

Developmentally appropriate activities allow each child to engage in positive, growth enhancing experiences.

PRESCHOOLERS: 2 1/2 years—4 years

A play-based curriculum promotes active, self-initiated learning through planned learning centers, small group activities and positive social interactions.

SCHOOL AGE: 4 years—12 years

Before and after school care and programming for closed school days. Breakfast and afternoon snack are provided. Children engage in outdoor recreation, art, games and more!

PRESCHOOL SUMMER CAMP: 3 months—4 years

Summer programming for infants, toddlers and preschoolers includes catching toads and bugs, water play, hikes, horse rides (3 & 4 year olds) and our year round play-based educational program.

"As parents we could say endless great things about the Camp Jorn Child Care Center and its staff and what it means to our family. But the fact that our children NEVER want to leave. Well, that speaks all for itself."

- The Bakken Family

"As a former Camp Jorn staff member, I knew without a doubt we would send our kids to day care here. We have free child care with grandma right down the street, but we still choose to send our daughter one day a week for all of the awesome opportunities for great socialization. The staff impresses me each week with all the fun activities they come up with, and we will send our son in the fall as well!"

- The Wallace Family