

## 25th Golf tournament a success



August 15 saw golfers and volunteers once again joining together in support of the important mission of sending kids to camp - regardless of their family's financial situation.

Over \$41,000 was raised this year and handed over to the camp scholarship fund. Held at Salem Golf Club, we had a full tournament.

For the third year in a row, **Donofrio Dealerships** stepped up as our Title Sponsor.

Their donations served as a great base to build off of. Also thanks to **Northwest Natural** and **Great Harvest** for the delicious bagged lunches they provided and to **Whisky Browns** for a great dinner! **Jeff Glodt** and **Grain Station** provided the drinks for the afternoon.

The Camp Store once again allowed golfers to direct their monies to benefit program support at camp. This has been a great way to target specific needs at camp and is a feature that will continue at future tournaments.

Committee chair **Hector Garcia** and the Golf Tournament Committee worked tirelessly to make the tournament happen. "It was wonderful to see so many golfers and sponsors participate in raising money for camperships for 2023. And I want to thank everyone on the committee who worked so hard to have a successful event." said Garcia.



## Words from Bullphrog



Greetings fellow alumni! We are a few months out from the summer and we're already looking forward to the next summer! We have a new Camping Services Director at the Y: our recent Heart & Soul honoree, Erin Chambers. You may know Erin from our own

board, as Camp Greider Director, or maybe even as a Silver Creek staffer in the past. We will continue to support, preserve, and strengthen camping at YMCA Camp Silver Creek with her at the helm of the camping department.

Since our annual meeting, we've had a successful Golf Tournament, raising money to help send kids to camp and the Golf Committee will be submitting a new name for the golf tournament to honor the late, great, John Mistkawi.

If you haven't had the chance to check it out yet, I would encourage you to visit the new YMCA building where we will hopefully be transitioning our board meetings to as they get settled in. A job perk for camp staff has returned after many years in the form of a YMCA membership during the "off" season. I have already run into camp staff using that membership and keeping that relationship with the Y outside of the summer months.

With the an actual YMCA building, there will likely be more "campish" activities or events to attend, or even opportunities to come help out and bring your spirit of camp to others.

Cheers,  
Jeremiah "BullPhrog" Rasca

### Upcoming events

Mark your calendar for these upcoming events!

**February 15, 2023**

CSCAA meeting—watch for more details on our web and facebook pages

**TBA 2023**

CSCAA Golf Tournament



## CAMP SILVER CREEK ALUMNI ASSOCIATION



### 2022 Heart & Soul awards

**Erin Chambers** and **Jeremiah Rasca** were named the Heart and Soul Award recipients for 2022 at the July annual meeting.

Jeremiah's commitment and contribution to the Salem Family YMCA and especially to the camping program began in high school when he worked moving grass at both Silver Creek and Greider.

He was an assistant counselor at Greider during high school and a camp counselor at Silver Creek during college. He also held several program staff positions during this time. He later served as Director of Camp Greider, and has come back over the years to help out in various positions.

Currently, Jeremiah serves as the president of the CSCAA, where he has also held several other positions.



Erin has been a long participant in Y camping. She started as a camper, then CIT, then councilors assistant, and finally a councilor. After college she became active in CSCAA.

She worked on the committee for the 75th year Camp reunion, serving as secretary. She also served on the committee that designed the CSCAA recognitions program. She has been a regular with the camp work projects.

For the past two years she has served as Director for Camp Greider Day Camp. She was the driving force that resulted in camp scholarships for Canyon Fire children.

Congratulations to two people who "have demonstrated extraordinary dedication, commitment and service to YMCA Camp Silver Creek."

The Camp Silver Creek Alumni Association mission is to support, preserve and strengthen YMCA camping at Camp Silver Creek. The CSCAA comprises any Camp Silver Creek alumni, staff (current and former), and community members who believe that camp is an essential part of childhood.

Get more involved with the CSCAA by emailing [contact.cscaa@theyonline.org](mailto:contact.cscaa@theyonline.org)



## ***This summer at camp***

Happy Fall CSCAA! Another Camp Silver Creek summer has come to an end!

We had many members of the alumni association come to help regularly throughout the summer, which was a blessing! Whether it was once, or every week, your support was much appreciated by all of the staff.

We had 518 individual campers at camp this summer and Family Camp was full with 25 families! All programs had waiting lists that were limited by staffing.

Midway through the summer, camping services director Jeff Dickmann was replaced by Mariah Fairman as Camp Silver Creek director and Jeremiah Rasca as assistant director. Jeff continued to focus on Camp Greider where he successfully completed the first ACA accreditation of that camp. Jeff left the Y at the end of the summer to pursue education.

We are excited to ramp up for next summer! We are excited to announce that Erin Chambers (Yurt) is the new Camping Services Director for the YMCA!

For more information on Erin, check out the Heart & Soul award recipients article on the front page.

Happy Holidays from everyone at Camp Silver Creek!!

## ***Become A CSCAA Monthly Donor!***

Walk with us in support of the YMCA Camp Silver Creek Alumni Association. The CSCAA has come into the 21st century and now has it's own Venmo account!! Now it is easier than ever to donate. Just scan the QR

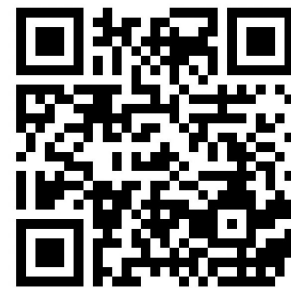
code and follow the instructions. We have a 2023 goal of 50+ camp supporters to join in giving \$5 per month to create a sustainable level of funding that will help fund the CSCAA in their efforts to purchase items for camp, provide training for camp staff, provide scholarships for campers, and to pay for modest admin expenses. (like printing and mailing our newsletter)

With 50 monthly donors giving \$5 per month, that will provide \$3,000 to support Camp Silver Creek campers. Thanks for supporting CSCAA.



## ***New gear is available!***

Want to support Camp Silver Creek and get a new T shirt all at once? Visit our official site by scanning this QR, or going to <https://www.bonfire.com/store/ymca-camp-silver-creek/>



Designer Sam Lewis has created new CSCAA alumni gear, as well as the 2022 camper designed shirts. If you are an alumni (which if you are reading this you probably are) then order yourself a CSCAA shirt and show your pride!!

Remember, all money raised from the sales of these shirts go to the Campership fund.



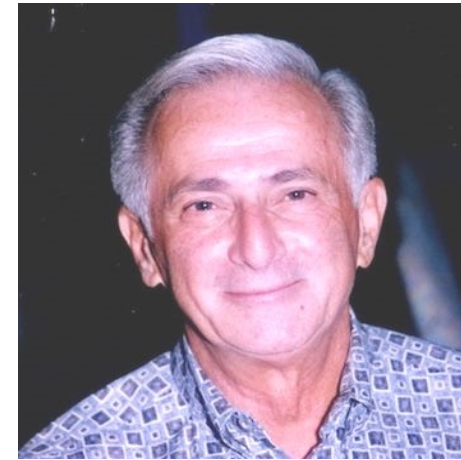
## ***We are open!!!!***

The brand new Withnell Family YMCA is open and ready to welcome you! Come and check us out!

A new Y, the same old address!!

Call us at (503) 581-9622

or visit us on line at [theyonline.org](http://theyonline.org).



## ***John Mistkawi***

John Joseph Mistkawi passed away peacefully, in his home, on June 27, 2022. John was born in Jerusalem to Joseph and Mary Mistkawi. John's lifelong love for athletics began as a youth where he spent hours playing sports at the Jerusalem YMCA. In 1954, John was awarded a scholarship for outstanding academics and athleticism to attend Springfield College in Massachusetts. After returning to Jerusalem, he won the national championship in squash and placed third in fencing. In 1960, John was awarded yet another scholarship to attend college at Willamette University in Salem, OR. While at Willamette he worked at the Salem YMCA. During the summer of 1963, he met the love of his life, Judy Bone, while working at

## ***Remembering...***

the YMCA Camp Silver Creek. On June 7, 1964, John and Judy were married and he graduated from Willamette University with a degree in physical education. In 1967, John received a master's in physical education from Springfield College. John and Judy then moved to Berkeley, CA where John worked as the Senior Programs Director for the Berkeley YMCA. In 1968, John returned to Salem where he became the Executive Director of the Salem Family YMCA, retiring in 1997. John was an avid and skilled racquetball and squash player, winning many tournaments throughout the United States. He also loved to travel and would lead tour groups throughout the Holy Land and Middle East. In his retirement, John took up golf and enjoyed spending time on the greens with his friends. John was a pivotal part of the Salem community. He was also an active member of the First Presbyterian Church. He touched the lives of many youth during his time with the YMCA. He is survived by daughter Ann Gibbons (Dean) of Portland, son David Mistkawi of Portland, son Mark Mistkawi (Christine) of Salem, daughter Alisa Grammer (Kyle) of Port-

land, sister Aida Leverman of Vancouver, WA and sister Widad Farran of Seattle, WA. John's greatest pride was his grandchildren, Bridget, Isabella, Maya, Liv, Melina, Layla and Finn. He taught them to "Be Kind, Share and Be Happy." John was also known as a second father to all of his nieces and nephews (Mary, Joseph, Nabil, Mandy, Randa, Sandra, Tony, Michael, Debbie and David). John was predeceased by his wife Judy Mistkawi and brothers George Mistkawi and Rizek Mistkawi. John will be dearly missed by his family and the vast number of lives he touched in the greater Salem community. He was a dear friend, a mentor and community leader. John received many awards for his dedication and service to the Salem community, including the Salem Chamber of Commerce "Distinguished Service Award" and the Salvation Army "Others Award". To have known John, you would have truly known what selflessness was. A memorial service will be held at a later date. In lieu of flowers, donations may be sent to the John Mistkawi scholarship fund at the Salem YMCA.

## ***Wish list yields results***

The Spring newsletter included a camp "wish list" of items that would help enhance camp programming but were not the only source of supplies. We wanted to provide a list of items that anyone could donate to help campers have the best week possible.

Wonderfully, lots of the items on the list found their way to camp last summer! Donations included various sports balls, arts & crafts supplies, books,

pool toys, tarps for overnights, dress up clothes, fishing supplies and a new field box!

Alumni also recognized the need for several items that were not on the wish list. Shelves and a display rack for the camp store were donated and made a huge improvement in product display.

A huge thank you to everyone who contributed and we are looking forward to having a new wish list for 2023.

**CSCAA has a new e-mail: [cscaa@theyonline.org](mailto:cscaa@theyonline.org)**

