

2023 summer summary

Hello Silver Creek family!
We had such a great time this summer, and overall it has warmed my heart to see how much the alumni support and love this camp. This is such a magical place, and I'm honored to be part of this community.

In the start of the summer, we experienced some growing pains as the program staff (myself included) all adjusted to our new roles, but by mid-season, we really got into the swing of things. As a result of having all units running all summer, our biggest challenge has been making sure we have enough staff to support this many kids. The Y has assured us that they will be taking these staffing issues into account, and that the hiring process will be structured differently next year as a result.

We've been so grateful for the support of our alumni this year, and so much of camp was improved thanks to your work - from the beautiful new benches in Chapel constructed during the work party at the start of the summer, to all the support getting the lake stocked with fish.

We were also so grateful to have an anonymous alumni donor purchase our entire amazon wishlist. This included too many amazing programming and activity supplies to list, but some highlights included a new cotton candy machine, a new sno-cone machine, new bows and arrows for archery, and lots of beads and cord for arts and crafts. It really felt like Christmas day when all the packages were delivered, and we really made good use of everything.

As wonderful as that all was, it was more incredible to see the time that all the alumni put into camp this summer. From having members like Connie and Jo to support us in the store and with future projects, to Bullphrog's work with all our facilities (especially the pool!), to Gumby and T-Bone providing support and mentorship to the new program staff. Your presence was so appreciated, and I want to thank you all again!



Fraggle
(Adrienne Chodnowsky)

2023 Camp numbers

	Campers	Registrations
Greider	308	723
Silver Creek		
LIT	25	25
Teen	200	230
Traditional	724	759
CSC Total	949	1014
Total	1257	1737

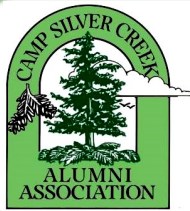
Family Camp: 38 families 39 registrations

2022 Camp numbers

	Campers	Registrations
Greider	280	724
Silver Creek		
LIT	15	15
Teen	99	113
Traditional	408	432
CSC Total	522	560
Total	802	1284

2023 Scholarship monies awarded

	Number of	Weeks of	Scholarship
Greider	19	49	\$13, 614.50
CSC	64	82	\$25, 721
Cliff's Campers	50	160	\$67,465
Total	168	292	\$106,800.50



CAMP SILVER CREEK
ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

2023 Heart & Soul Honorees named

Jim Trett has been involved with Camp Silver Creek for many decades. Jim attended Camp Silver Creek as a camper, worked as camp staff and has spent the last many years volunteering at camp in multiple capacities. Jim can be found teaching CPR/First Aid during staff training, helping check in campers on Sunday's and doing a funny skit or transition story at campfire among many other contributions. Jim not only brings a positive attitude, but also one of gentle guidance. Jim has acted as a thoughtful consultant to many camp directors over the years. He has been a cheerleader when things go well and a gentle guide, when things are not going well. He is not the type of person to seek out the spotlight, or credit for his help or ideas, rather he steps quietly into the background.



Guy Greider has been a life long supporter of Y Camping; he has gone through the entire camping program starting as a camper, then Counselor in Training, Camp Counselor, and a camp supporter ever since. His career has been as an commercial pilot and he was stationed in Guam; still he served as CSCAA treasurer during that period. Upon retirement he returned to Oregon and has been active in support of the Salem YMCA. He is currently on the Y Board of Directors and Chairperson of the Camp Committee. He and his wife, Nancy, have worked on numerous occasions at both Silver Creek and Camp Greider work projects. Guy has been and still is a great asset to YMCA camping.

A well deserved congratulations to both of you!!!

Hi ho, hi ho, It's off to work we go.....



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

Did you know?



As I sit contemplating the history of the CSCAA, I would be remiss if I didn't give some background on the origin of the logo we have. Shortly after gaining our charter to formally begin the Alumni Association, it became clear we needed a letter head

and a logo.

My roommate of years past, Eric Haag was and still is an artist and graphic designer as well as a Camp Silver Creek alum. I asked him if he would consider creating a logo for the CSCAA. He didn't hesitate. He created a logo that captures all of what we hold dear at camp. From the trees to the hemlock cones, Eric found an iconic depiction that has stood the test of time. He never gets enough credit for his creation and I feel it only appropriate to acknowledge him now so many years later.

Eric has been a strong supporter of camp and has been my partner at countless camp golf tournaments each summer. He never took a penny for his efforts and I am proud to call him my friend and a great friend to the CSCAA. Thanks Eric.

John Ross

Wishes fulfilled!!

Camp staff created a rather substantial Wish List last summer, all of which was purchased by **one very generous anonymous donor!!!**

Thank you!! We want to express our deepest gratitude and appreciation for your generous support of YMCA Camp Silver Creek through the purchases from our Amazon wish list. The donations have made a significant impact on camp and its ability to provide memorable experiences for the children and families we serve.

Your kindness will directly benefit the campers by enhancing their activities, creating a more enriching environment, and fostering a sense of community and growth.

Camp Silver Creek is a place where lifelong memories are made, friendships are formed, and personal growth is nurtured. Thanks to your support, we can continue to offer a safe, inclusive, and enjoyable camp experience for all participants. Your generosity has filled our hearts with immense gratitude.

26th Golf tournament a success

July 24 brought a slight drizzle in the morning but overall a wonderful, cool day for the 26th CSCAA John Mistkawi Memorial Golf tournament. Golfers and volunteers once again joined together in support of the important mission of sending kids to camp - regardless of their family's financial situation.

Over **\$40,000** was raised this year and handed over to the camp scholarship fund. Held at Salem Golf Club, we had a full tournament.

For the fourth 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 **Magnolia on the Green** 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 and raised over \$4000. 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 2024. And I want to thank everyone on the committee who worked so hard to have a successful event." said Garcia.



Become A Monthly Donor!

Have you noticed that CSCAA doesn't charge it's members dues? That's because we want to welcome all alumni to get involved, regardless of their income.

However, we do occur some expenses over the year. Meals are provided for meetings, and workdays, funds are donated to Camp to help pay for trainings, retreats and end of the parties, holiday postcards are bought and mailed, and this newsletter has to be printed.

Where does this money come from? Gracious donors like you. Can you spare us the cost of a cup of coffee once a month? It would be greatly appreciated!!

Please scan and click on the QR symbol above to go to our donation page. It will only take you a few minutes to choose your amount, sign up and help support us in all we do.

Do you have questions or need help? Contact Jeremiah at cscaa@theyonline.org.



Upcoming events

Mark your calendar for these upcoming events!

Nov. 15, 2023

CSCAA Fall Meeting

February 15, 2024

CSCAA Spring Meeting

June xx, 2023

Work Day at camp

July 24, 2023

CSCAA Golf Tournament

At Creekside Golf Course

Bullfrog speaks...

Greetings Alumni!

We're into the fall and getting ready to look to our priorities for the coming year. Thanks to all those who made it to the annual meeting to give input or where our efforts should be spent.

One thing that was brought up last summer was the state of the Huckleberry Bush. There had been some talks with the State Park by camp staff that may have opened a door to help/replace it since, as of this last summer, it seems to be lost to us as a living symbol. If things continue to move forward on that, please look for opportunities for alumni to assist in supporting, strengthening, and preserving this symbol of the camp we love so much.

Beyond looking at ways to support camp, in the limited time I spent up there this past summer, it warmed my heart to see so many campers who are the children of staff i worked with over 3 generations of camp staff. It's always amazing to see the love of camp being passed on.

Yours in Camp,
BullPh

Ground breaking work party

On Saturday, June 3, more than 60 Camp Silver Creek staff and alumni, camp volunteers, friends, parents, missionaries, Y Service Club members, park staff, and our own Salem YMCA Branch Director showed up to clear miles of trails, restore the ENTIRE chapel, scrape the pool, and power-wash buildings.

A very special thanks to Kevin McLain of the Park Service and to alumni Vic Lippert, Johanna Burgess, Erin Chambers, and Cliff Lawrence for recruiting and supervising volunteers. And also to Connie Strong who did an incredible job coordinating the project!

Several photos are share on the front page; to see more please go to <https://photos.app.goo.gl/WsH4FtUaMAxYrvEu7>

Who's in charge (?)

Your current CSCAA officers are Jeremiah Rasca, Chairman; Becca LaFramboise, Vice chairman; Jo Jablo, Secretary and Connie Strong, Treasurer. Please fell free to contact any of us at any time if you have any questions!!



Check us out on Instagram!!

CSCAA has an Instagram page, and lots of great photos from past summers have been posted. We encourage you to visit us at [campsilvercreekalumni](https://www.instagram.com/campsilvercreekalumni) to enjoy these pictures, and we hope you share some of your own photos!!!



[campsilvercreekalumni](https://www.instagram.com/campsilvercreekalumni)

Edit profile

9 posts

98 followers

99 following

Camp Silver Creek Alumni Association

Alumni Association of YMCA Camp Silver Creek in Silve