



Goosestock 2013 Recap!

By: Elizabeth Millen, Former Board Member



TOGG sings songs, tells stories, and swaps lies around the campfire with Jack Natemeier.

On September 6-8, 2013, alumni gathered with their families at Camp Kenan for the 17th Annual Goosestock. This year's theme was "Color Combat" with the blue, yellow, green, and orange teams competing.

Friday night, teams decorated their zones in the Mess Hall, we listened to TOGG tell stories, sing songs and swap lies behind the Mess Hall before the fire. On Saturday morning, we competed playing family style soccer...the yellow team prevailed led by Mark Natemeier and Bryan Kalls. The families had a blast, and every kid was able to kick a winning goal!

In the afternoon we turned to rock wall climbing in the Rec Hall, and a movie on the big screen in the Mess Hall while it rained outside. After the rain, we had a fun game of catch the counselor outside! Games in the Mess Hall, TOGG calling BINGO—

so much fun on Saturday afternoon despite the rainy weather!

After the annual business meeting where we said thank you and goodbye to, Brigid, Lisa and myself, three board members who served on the board the past three years and two new board members, Leslie Tobin and Tony Mannix, were voted in. Saturday evening, we had a campfire at the New Council Ring for those who were brave enough to endure the occasional sprinkle along with TOGG and a campfire inside the Mess Hall for families who preferred to stay warm and dry.

We wrapped up the weekend with a beautiful sunny Sunday which started with the chapel service and ended in a delicious brunch and Sunday songs.

This year a majority of the funds were raised prior to GS2013. We still had an wide assortment of gift baskets that were auctioned off along with a flat screen TV, but most of the funds raised came from ticket sales for a \$500 cash prize drawing that was awarded to the Monnel-Cotter Family. The goal was to keep the FUN big during this fundraising weekend!

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Help Us Help Camp With YOUR Ideas!

By: The Board

Over the past couple of years, we have been trying to come up with new and exciting ways to fundraise and get our names out there. As you know, we are volunteers trying to juggle our regular lives with trying to help Camp, and there are times we are stumped. STUMPED!

We are asking you to take a minute and give us your best fundraising ideas. Car wash? Potluck? Another Pizza Hut night? Donations through Tops purchases? Give us your best ideas so we can work on sending as many kids to Camp this year as possible.

Also, please let us know if you'd like to donate a basket or other item to our basket raffle at Goosestock this year. We will even pick it up from you starting in July/August (assuming you're local!).

Thanks in advance for your continued support!



Don't forget your favorite theme costumes for Goosestock—after all, what's a theme day without them?



Campership Update—Mission Accomplished

By: Adam VanDeMark, Vice President,
Campership Chairperson

In the summers of 2011 and 2012, The Gilbert J Mosher/Friends of Camp Kenan Campership Committee was able to send an impressive 10 children to Camp Kenan (in 2012 we also sent 1 to Day Camp). Shortly after last summer and announced at Goosestock 2012, it was decided that we set an ambitious goal; to be able to increase the number of children sent to Camp to 20 by the year 2017. We knew that in order to do this we would need to both increase our fundraising efforts and also work harder to identify qualified individuals.

Thanks to the hard work and generosity of all of you out there, we now have the results of the 2013 Gilbert J Mosher/Friends of Camp Kenan Campership, and you know what? There was an increase. Now, you may be asking yourself, "Self (because that what I call myself), Self, how many children are able to attend Camp this year?" Well I'll tell you how many.

Drum Roll Please!.....

20 Children! Count them (1,2,3...20!). Along with being able to send 20 children to Camp (18 to resident camp and 2 to Day Camp), we have also been able to build a safety net into our Campership account to help us maintain that number into the future. However, there is still more work to do. We will be continuing our very successful "S1toCK" (Send 1 to Camp Kenan) program and other campership fundraising activities. We will also need to continue to receive referrals of qualified campers.

For those of you who may not know the details of the S1toCK initiative, here are the details:

For each donation of \$250, we are able to send a child to Camp. If you, a group of people, or a business are able to make that tax-deductible donation, you will receive:

1. Your name(s) or business name listed at www.friendsofcampkenan.org and at Goosestock 2014,

2. A S1toCK decal for display on the window or on your car.

3. The satisfaction of knowing that you sent a child to Camp Kenan, who would not have been able to go otherwise!

Tax-deductible donations can be made online at www.friendsofcampkenan.org.

I'd like to take extend a sincere thank you to everyone who has participated in any way, including attending Goosestock, donating to our fund, referring campers and participating in the S1toCK initiative. Also, I'd like to especially thank the family of Gil Mosher whose generosity and continued support has allowed us to exceed our goal 4 years early!

Goosestock 2013 Recap!

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A big thank you to Sean Fuller for diving in and being my Co-Program Director for the weekend and to Adam Kantor for serving up many MANY delicious meals, keeping our tummies happy and full! Tfo all the staff and volunteers-thank you so much! We could not have done it without you! Last but not least, thank you to my right-hand woman, co-chair and amazing friend Rachelle Hathaway. Here's to another successful Goosestock under our belt. For all that gave, we thank you, too! Your donations will be sending another 20 children to Camp Kenan in the 2014 season.

Thank you to everyone that took the time to travel down to Camp Kenan during the Goosestock 2013 weekend. It was good to see friends old and new, from near and far. I can't wait to see everyone again, and hopefully more folks who have not come back to CK in a while, next year on September 12, 13 and 14, 2014. 2014 is

Goosestock's 18th year and also the 90th year since Camp Kenan opened residence camp! Big plans for an awesome year celebrating CK are bring made! Stay tuned for more!



The 2013 Goosestock Chapel services were led by TOGG at the Old Chapel.

TOGG Tales: Storytelling Memories

By: Jennifer Shepard, Friends of Camp Kenan Board Member

Camp.

I have had this one on my mind for awhile, so I thought I would take the time to share it in this issue.

I started going to Camp Kenan in the late 1980's. My first week, at the youngest age allowed at Camp, was Olympic Week. Those of you who know me know that it's a miracle I ever returned after that—I was NOT an athlete. But, I came back, and I kept returning over and over again until I had to face reality and get a grown-up job and trade my sneakers for high heels.

For all those years, one of the things about Camp that kept me coming back was The Old Gray Goose. I honestly believed he was 197 years old, or however old he happened to say he was at the time (I was 8, cut me a break!), and him telling a story in the Mess Hall was the highlight of my day! The first story I ever heard him tell was the story of the lumberjack who loses his axe in the water and bypasses a golden and silver axe to reclaim his own, and then was handsomely rewarded for his honesty. Another of the stories I heard, and loved, was 'Going on a Lion Hunt'. Nothing made me happier than those 'come along' stories that made you feel like you were actually hearing the raindrops hit the ground, feeling the grasses part as you walked through, and smelling the swamps. I can easily tell you that those were, and still are, some of my favorite memories of

Unlike some of the TOGG Tale tellers, I do not have one specific memory of Goose at Camp that sticks with me because to me, Goose is as much Camp Kenan as the Mess Hall, the KY-BOs, and the cabin line. I cannot think about Camp without thinking about Goose, and remembering him singing songs, swapping lies, and telling stories around the campfires, or in the Mess Hall, or just wherever you happened to catch him is a big chunk of my Camp memories!

One day, I remember walking to the campout night with Goose. I felt like we walked FOREVER (not athletic, remember?), but the whole time Goose just kept telling stories and leading us in songs. I am pretty sure we walked close to five miles that day because my feet were killing me, but it never felt quite as long with Goose keeping us entertained—and how on Earth did he do it for so many hours, and then turn around and do it again that night at the campfire?

I still talk about TOGG to people, and tell them to send their kids to Camp just so they can hear him tell a story. When my little cousin came to Goosestock with me, one of the things he loved the most about the experience were the stories with TOGG around the campfire on that first night. I don't have kids of my own, but I imagine that if I ever do, I will feel the same as when Nicholas told me that Goose was 'his favorite story man EVER.' Well said, kid. Well said.

Friends of Camp Kenan Mission

To provide supplemental support for the continuation of Camp Kenan as a summer resident camp for young people.

To support the philosophy of Dr. William Rand Kenan in providing the initial foundation for Camp Kenan: "That all children may grow in wisdom and stature and in favor with God and man."

To provide for the continuing fellowship of Camp Kenan staff.

Friends of Camp Kenan Events to Remember:

September 12-14: Goosestock 2014

Keep watching our Facebook page for other announcements on events before Goosestock!



Announcements, announcements, annooooouncements!

Ticket Raffle and \$500 drawing is back again! Raising MORE money for S1toCK!

If you see a Friends of Camp Kenan board member be sure to ask them how you can buy the \$10 raffle ticket to be entered into the drawing for \$500, and don't be surprised if they ask you! The drawing benefits the "S1toCK" fund, which is our fundraiser to send 20 kids to Camp Kenan!

The drawing will take place on Sunday, September 14th after brunch, and the winner does not need to be present at Goosestock to win. Board members selling tickets are: Mark Natemeier, Adam VanDeMark, Matt Strusinski, Leslie Tobin, Tony Mannix, Rachelle Hathaway, Jenn Shepard and Kelly Stahl!

The "TOGG Tales" and "Favorite Counselor" articles are reoccurring articles, if you have one or two or twenty to share, please let us know! All article ideas are welcome! E-mail torch@friendsofcampkenan.org with yours today!

Letter From the President: Help Wanted Ad

By: Mark Natemeier, Board President



Ok, first it is time to take a deep breath... Relax.... Ok I think I am ready to finally write my Torch article. Yes we are all super busy, this is the world we live in. Life sure was much simpler when we would arrive at Camp Kenan for training week and in a blink of an eye we would be watching another great slide show. Life was simple, but it was so much fun. If we only knew then what we know now, how different would our time at Camp have been.

So what do we know? Some might say very little but I would beg to differ;

- We know now that time is more precious than we ever could have understood.
- We know now how important Camp was to both us and to the children that we watched over.
- We know more about how difficult raising a family can be for the parents both emotional, spiritually and of course financially.
- We understand a little more of "why a camp

may struggle some financially".

- Most of us understand what "Not for profits actually are now"
- We all know we WOULD LOVE TO SEND OUR KIDS TO CAMP KENAN FOR A WEEK!
- We all know that we would give up our jobs "temporary" in a New York minute to get back to Camp for a week or a summer on that Cabin Line making \$100 a week.
- The biggest "know" that I may have from my Camp experience is that "I know" I made the right decision talking to my oldest daughter Maddy about Camp. Our love for Camp Kenan is sometimes the only thing I have in common with my teenage daughter, and it is something that the two of us share. I also know it is a place where I know she can be who she wants to be.

So, as I reflect on my life, my kids and my choices, I wonder how the "things I now know" influences my decisions and how I live my life. I would like to think that many of those things on the "know list" are reasons that I am so actively involved on the Friends of Camp Kenan Board. I am proud to announce that I have decided to stay on the board for another three year term.

My concern with the Friends is that at times it appears to have lost steam, "the board" is still steering it and navigating the boat but sometimes it seems like our horsepower dies down. This happened after the organization was first formed, the first few years were amazing from what I hear but the next 5 to 10 years the organization became a small gathering doing very little for CK. This is my greatest fear that the momentum we built the last few years will dwindle like a closing camp fire. Friends has done many great things in the last three years but in order to be a "good visitor" to CK we must continue to give more. This is my challenge to the Board and to all

CK Alumni over my next three years, this goes out to both the current staff as they leave camp to staff from the 60's and 70's.

WE NEED YOU, not sometimes, not when it is convenient; we need your help every year. You don't have to actually attend Goosestock to help - you can donate money, send a kid to camp, donate items for the auction, etc. Help us to help Camp and the Friends of CK will continue to live on, and we will be able to offer that wonderful home coming weekend of Goosestock every September. When your schedule allows it, you may join us! Once it ends, it will be very hard to ever bring it back. Kind of like your time on staff..

Hold High the Torch!



Barker • New York

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Special Thanks:

Thank you to the members of the Friends of Camp Kenan Board of Directors for the articles and photographs.

If you have an article idea, artwork, or photos that you might like to contribute to the next issue of "The Torch" please contact Jenn Shepard by May 25, 2014 at torch@friendsofcampkenan.org We'd love to hear what Camp Kenan has meant to you, or what you thought about Goosestock 2013. The "TOGG Tales" and "Favorite Counselor" articles are reoccurring articles, if you have one or two or twenty to share, please let us know! All article ideas are welcome!

The next edition of "The Torch" is due to come out in June 2014. Please visit www.friendsofcampkenan.org for more information regarding the Friends of Camp Kenan and the 18th Annual Goosestock celebrations!

Thank you!

J. Shepard, Publisher and Co-Editor/ Leslie Tobin, Secretary and Co-Editor

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