

VALKAZON



March Madness = Junior Dock Demolition!

Cheerio, ching-ching, goodbye old thing, boom-diddy-a GOODBYE! The Junior Camp waterfront looks a lot different these days. That's because the docks have been completely removed! Thanks to your incredible generosity and support, we are ready to begin building a boatload of new memories for future generations of Nakanawa campers.

Where it stands: It's really exciting to look out across the lake and see ... well, nothing ... with the knowledge that an all-new waterfront will soon grace the shores of Lake Aloaloa. Our upcoming [Service Weekend](#) (May 19-21) will be your first opportunity to view this magnificent, completed project. So come on and join the fun. Click on the link below and get ready to "rock the docks" with us!

[register for Service Weekend](#)

Sneak peek: Here's a look at the new docks getting ready in the warehouse, and a few views of what an incomplete Junior camp looks like.



cheerio ching-ching



oooh so pretty



walk the planks



waterfront makeover time



work in progress



view from Senior Camp

Why it matters: The Junior dock upgrade is making a big splash as we revitalize our beloved Nakanawa. We would not be enjoying these photos without the support and donations we've received over the last year and a half from our Nakanawa family.

But wait, there's more: We need to raise another \$375,000 for the Senior Camp Waterfront. Costs of demolition, materials and labor have dramatically increased in the past year. Please continue to dive in and support this initiative. Together, we're making waves of change for Nakanawa's future!

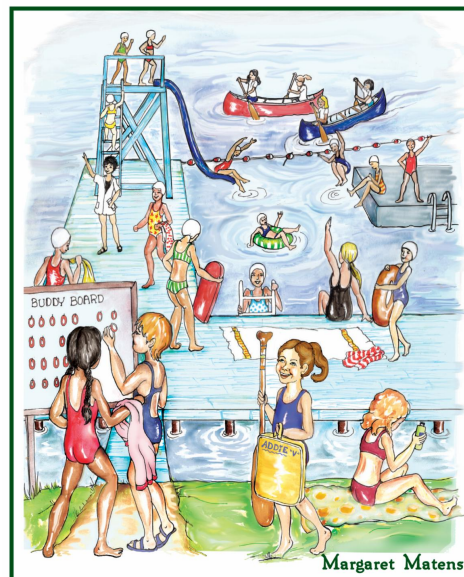
support the Senior Camp Waterfront

Dock Tales

A Different Kind of Line and Landing:

What's that on the lake? Patty Delony, TR '65, remembers the summer of 1963 when a family friend decided to pay her a visit at Camp. "Uncle Jimmy" arrived unexpectedly one Sunday during rest hour in his small float plane and LANDED ON THE LAKE!

Mitch, who was not aware of this plan, was fit to be tied. Patty remembers many campers emerging from their cabins after rest hour to see the spectacle. After his visit, he could not get the plane back into the air due to the weight of the passenger he had brought along.



To solve the problem, Uncle Jimmy had to leave his passenger at Camp. After flying home to Rock Island, he returned in a car to retrieve his friend and rescue him from Mitch's angry gaze!

Diving In:

Thanks '81 for keeping it fun! Always the adventurous spirits, members of TR '81 enjoyed an impromptu dip in the lake during Service Weekend 2022.



Georgia Graham Mattern (A), Karen Barlow Parrish (A), Lyn Brantley (A), and May Douglas Smith Bumpus (V) enjoyed a swim in our dear Lake Aloaloa.

Do you have a fun waterfront story from your camper and/or counselor days? Share those with us as we post updates about the docks project over the next few months. Submit your story(ies) to sallytwelch@gmail.com and please include photos, if you have them, names of participants, TR years and teams at Camp. Please put Nakanawa Waterfront Stories in the subject line of your email.

It's time to sign up for fun!

Registration is now open on Camp's website for [Service Weekend and July Reunion Weekend](#). The Decade Reunion group (1990s to 2003) has opted to choose another date to gather due to a truckload of conflicts in May, so stay tuned.



Upcoming events:

- **May 19-21, 2023:** Service Weekend (all are welcome!)
- **July 21-23, 2023:** July Reunion Weekend (TRs ending in 3, plus TR '22 & TR '98).

Steps for event registration:

- Visit our [Reunions and Events](#) page
- Create an Alumnae profile, if you haven't already
- Click the green button that says "Alumnae Event Registration Login"
- Navigate to "Adult/Family Application"
- Agree to the instructions provided and click "Continue"

- Complete any required missing information in your profile
- Check the box agreeing to Terms of Use and Privacy Policy, then click "Continue"
- View and select the event you wish to attend
- Select all weekends for which you'd like to register, and you're on your way!

sign up for reunions and events

We've stepped up our trail system

Upgrades to our grounds and facilities continue on a daily basis. There are several exciting surprises ahead for the upcoming summer.

For now, we can share that a 60-foot-long "Beaver Bridge" over a very marshy part of the trail was recently completed.

This was quite an undertaking and it looks great. Ann certainly approves!



Meet the new faces of Nakanawa

You know that Camp loves a good welcome song, so we hope you'll sing or hum along at home as we welcome a savvy new board member, several adorable baby calves, and a new horse with a famous lineage.



Welcome to the Board of Directors, Jeff Blake! With years of outstanding construction experience, design excellence and creative non-profit leadership, Jeff Blake stands out among his peers. Add to the mix a devoted Camp Nakanawa dad and husband to Emily Richardson Blake (TR '89), and we are fortunate indeed to welcome Jeff as our new Facilities Chair.

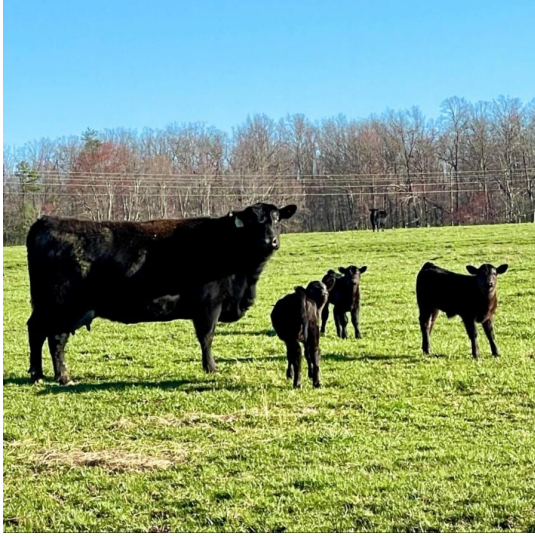
The ongoing waterfront construction projects on Lake Aloaloa owe much to Jeff's engaged listening, practical approach and hard work on the Dock Committee. We have only just begun! As President of Gumerson Blake Design

Build in Oklahoma City for almost two decades, Jeff brings management ability, accounting expertise and community engagement to the Board.

Thank you, Emily, and daughters Annie and Lucy for sharing Jeff with our Dear Red and Blue. Fortunately for the Valkyries on the board, Jeff will bowl for Team Valk. Will that finally end the Amazon's winning streak?

Our new baby calves enjoy mooing around the pastures with mom and soaking up the springtime sun.

Say HAY to this celebrity horse. The beautiful white mare in the foreground (pictured below) is Duchess, the daughter of Kentucky Derby winner, Monarchos. She is on loan from Pheonix Ray, TR '11.



The moo crew can't wait to see you this summer.



Celebrity horse sighting!

Having fun in Hotlanta



Look at all these beautiful Georgia peaches! We had such a fun time visiting Atlanta. and can't wait to see everyone at Camp this summer.

Karen and Corie bring their magic to Orlando



Oh hey, Mickey and Minnie Mouse, did you happen to see our friends Karen and Corie recently? They attended the American Camp Association National Conference in Orlando, FL from Feb. 21-24. Their favorite sessions: leadership and counselor recruitment.

Register now for July Reunions



Just four months to go until toasts and singing commence, July 21-23, 2023! If your Tent Row is celebrating its 1st, 10th, 20th, 25th, 30th, 40th, 50th "Gold Carson Cross" Year, or are a "Golden Oldie" past your 50th, we want to see you at Camp!

We use TR year designations to keep our Nakanawa family together with their age group. Even if you didn't attend Camp during your TR summer, we've got you covered! Simply subtract a year from your high school graduation year. Boop! All former campers and counselors whose TR groups are gathering this summer are welcome.

Remember: We have limited the number of TRs invited each July to lessen the impact on the Senior Campers. Here are some other tips to help with your planning:

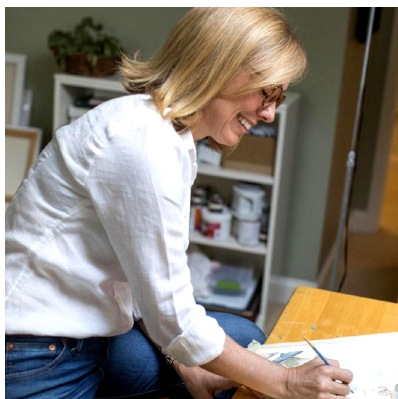
- **Designate your Reunion Chair.** We need one person from each TR group to share key information with the rest of their TR. This includes finding and securing accommodations near Camp and communicating weekend plans with your group.

TR YEAR	REUNION CHAIR
2022	Sarah Dewees, Eleanor Vig
2013	Margaret Roddy
2003	Catherine Inge
1993	Mallie Kidd Earl, Katie Walker White, Sellers Davis Kensington
1998	Kelly File, Mary Whitmire
1983	Isabel Carriere, Lil Bradford Smith
1973	Cumalee Nunn Haines
1963	Junelle McGraw

- **Register for Your Reunion ASAP.** Detailed information and registration links can be found [here](#). Note that you'll need to scroll to the bottom of the page for details about the July Reunion.

[register for your reunion](#)

Looking ahead to 2024: If your TR ends in a 4, start planning now for next July. We would also like to welcome back TR '99 and TR '23! Email Donya Rose Boylson, Margaret Hawkins Matens, or Shelley Duer Landau -- our amazing TIES Reunion contacts -- with any questions! nakanawa.reunions@gmail.com



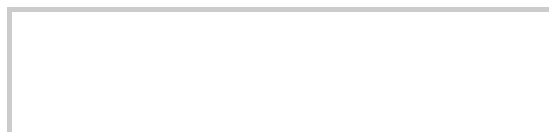
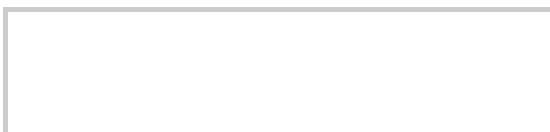
Alumnae Spotlight

Artist and mother of two Megan Wellford Grinder, TR '90, has lots of fun camp stories to share.

See what Megan has been up to since her years as a camper and counselor by clicking the link below.

[read Megan's story](#)

Daylilies and Sunshine





Kendall Oxford (TR '11)



Megan Shaw (TR '08)

Do you have news to share with the Nakanawa family?
[Email Molly Cook Britt](#), TR '00, with your updates and photos.



campnakanawa.org

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