

VALKAZON



A New Year In Our Favorite Spot

The phrases "Spirit of Nakanawa" and "a Nakanawa girl" are often spoken with ease, but their true meaning can be difficult to capture in words. If you are reading this you most likely have lived the Nakanawa experience and these words represent something deeper—a feeling of warmth, a sisterhood. It's an unspoken bond that connects us all, woven through shared moments. While words might fall short, sometimes a story can help paint a clearer picture. This is one I shared with a camper this summer—a story that, in its own way, embodies the heart of Nakanawa.

There was once a young girl who came to Camp every summer, but each year, she struggled with



homesickness and fitting in. She was shy, hesitant to try new activities, and often kept to herself. But as the years passed, she began to observe the kindness and respect shown by counselors and campers. She saw how they were gracious in victory and defeat, considerate of each other's space, and helped everyone feel welcome. Slowly, she adopted these values herself.

As a senior camper, she was asked to help a new camper adjust to camp life. Instead of sticking with her old friends, she embraced the responsibility, introducing the new camper to the camp's traditions and making sure she felt at home. The new camper flourished, thanks to the girl's kindness and patience.

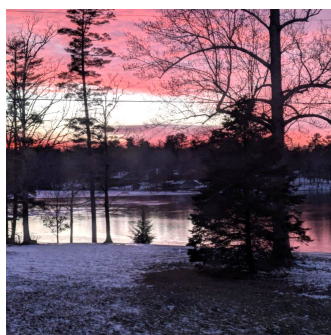
Through this experience, the camper learned that kindness isn't just something we show when it's easy—it's a way of being, something we choose to practice every day. As she moved from a shy, homesick camper to a compassionate leader, she discovered that the true Spirit of Nakanawa isn't just about the camp—it's about the people, the love we give, and the respect we share. It's about making others feel seen, supported, and welcomed, no matter where they come from. So, how do you live the Spirit of Nakanawa? How do you share it with those around you?

May your days be filled with this spirit,

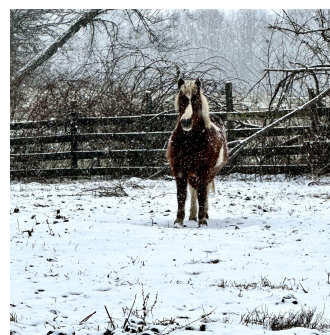
Karen



Deep in the Nakanawa woods, the snow blankets even the smallest details, creating a serene scene. A perfect moment to remember, 'Here we find peace for our hearts and minds.' □□



Lake Aloaloa under a fiery sunset—'When the campfire's burning bright and the sky is clear tonight, Nakanawa's beauty shines.' Nothing like the Spirit of Nakanawa to warm even the coldest evenings.



Skipper stands tall in the snowy paddock, a true winter wonder. 'Softly falls the light of day, as our campfire fades away.' A peaceful moment with one of Nakanawa's beloved residents.



When our Nakanawa California Camp family is in need, we are ALL California girls. Here in Cumberland County, we are mighty glad and relieved to hear from campers, counselors and alumnae in the Los Angeles area.

The report so far: Sophie (TR 24) and Pippa Ehrich (TR 26) and their mother, Beth Walker Ehrich (TR 91) are safe! Germaine Gioia Horner (TR 78), daughters Audrey (TR 17) and Liza Horner (TR 14) are too. We were very relieved to hear your voices! Likewise, Joan Galbraith (TR 78) reports that her sons are safe but temporarily in a motel. And Phoebe Ventouris (TR 94) and her daughter, Chloe LaMorgese (TR 31) report being safe as well.

Los Angeles Nakanawanians, phone home! Let us hear from **you!** The office: 931-277-3711.

Did Somebody Say Counselors?



Did you know that many of our most beloved counselors were introduced to Camp Nakanawa by YOU—our incredible alumnae? Now, we need your help again! Camp Nakanawa is looking for passionate, energetic, and dedicated young women to join our team as Summer 2025 Camp Counselors. Whether it's someone you know—your daughter, niece, college roommate, or a talented student you mentor.

Counselors at Camp Nakanawa:

- Build leadership skills that last a lifetime
- Inspire the next generation of campers
- Experience unforgettable summer adventures

Please contact Blair Rissing with any questions at blair@campnakanawa.org or click [HERE](#) to learn more.

A Season of Nakanawa Magic: Slideshow Season

Celebrate the success of Camp Nakanawa's slideshow season. Thank you to our amazing hostesses and city representatives for making it possible. Click below to see a list of our city representatives and more photos of the slideshows.



And if you are in the Virginia area, please join us on the following dates and share this info with families of potential campers.

February 16th in Aldie, VA
Hostess: Laura Layman Lazarvich

March 8th in Alexandria, VA
Hostess: Carol Kennedy



[click here for more photos](#)

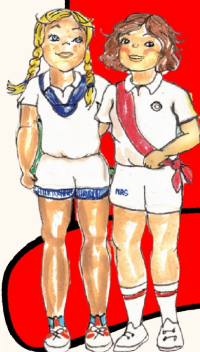
This Place is Where I Belong

We all know how our lives were forever changed “for good” when we became Nakanawa girls, and are well aware of how the spirit of Nakanawa continues to change the lives of girls of this generation. It is heartwarming to actually hear the testimonials of campers whose hearts have come alive at camp. **Hollis Rubin**, an upcoming 1st year Intermediate, and daughter of Renee Sere Rubin (TR 90), wrote this piece for school and we are thrilled to share it with you. Thank you, Hollis!

I am an Amazon
The forest is my song
This red tie that I wear is the only thing
that I will ever truly own
I am a Sister
The people are my guide
This is the feeling I have been missing

I am a Nakanawa girl
The ties of red and blue
tell me I am home
This is the only place
I feel I am home
The wind in my hair,
the water on my skin
This tie, these people,
this place
Is where I belong

-Hollis Rubin





COME ON AND JOIN THE FUN..

SERVICE WEEKEND - MAY 16-18, 2025

WO-HE-LO

[CLICK HERE TO LEARN MORE](#)

[register now](#)

Alumnae Spotlight: Mary Miles Loveless

Discover the inspiring story of Mary Miles Loveless, Tent Row 1971 alumnae, journalist, and lifelong friend of Camp Nakanawa. From canoeing milestones to legendary reunions, Mary's legacy continues to connect generations.



[read more](#)

Alumnae Announcements

Out & About



Lisa Box Williams (TR 86), Emily Richardson Blake (TR 89) and Mary Ahn Donnelly (TR 89) traveled to Pass Christian, MS to support Susie Weston Davis (TR 89) during Susie's mother's



TR 00 took time to gather and work on their upcoming reunion in May! Jane Claire Choate Jacobi, Louisa Knight Rayburn, Mary Jane Noble Cleage, Elizabeth Seeger and Emily

memorial service. Nakanawa ties are families ties.

Deloache Gatlin.

Dancing Flames



Molly Laycock Grigsby (TR 09) and family welcomed Richard Francis "Frank" on December 27, 2024.



Caroline Reiger Dunn (TR 06) and family welcomed Carrigan Clare Dunn on January 16, 2025.



Megan Wolfrom Trahan (TR 08) and family welcomed Paul Joseph on January 19, 2025.

Setting Suns



Barbara Green Moate

Barbara Green Moate (TR 66), former camper and mother of Marly Moate Page and Miller Moate Wilson, passed away peacefully in Atlanta, GA surrounded by her family on January 18, 2025.

"Special", as she was known to her grandchildren, will be dearly missed by many. Click on the link below to learn more about Barbara's very active and creative life.

[Barbara Green Moate](#)



Alumnae Giving

Honor someone you love with a gift to the Nakanawa Fund

In Memory of:

- Emily Martin Carney
- Mary Bashie Steele Evans
- Eloise "Bootie" Born Farnsworth
- Kathleen "Teena" Greer King
- Bashie Lindsley Martin
- Elisabeth "Mitch" Mitchell
- Barbara Green Moate

In Honor Of:

- Ann & Pepe Perron
- Wyeth Outlan Burgess

give now

Nakanawa in the Know

[Service Weekend: May 16–18, 2025](#)

[2-Week JR. \(Session 1\): June 1–13, 2025](#)

[2-Week \(Session 2\): June 15–27, 2025](#)

[4-Week Session: June 30–July 26, 2025](#)

[May Reunion Weekend: May 16-18, 2025](#)

[Reunion Weekend: July 18–20, 2025](#)

[Mother/Daughter Weekend: September 12-14, 2025](#)



Camp Nakanawa's regular business hours are Monday–Friday, from 9 a.m.–5 p.m. Central Time. Messages received outside of those hours will be answered on the next business day.

Camp Nakanawa | 1084 Camp Nakanawa Rd | Crossville, TN 38571 US

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