

VALKAZON



Karen's Corner

Hello Nakanawa friends,

I hope this finds you well and filled with the same warmth and enthusiasm that embodies the “Spirit of Nakanawa.” On behalf of the entire Nakanawa family, I'd like to take a moment to express my deep sorrow regarding the devastating impact of Hurricane Helene on many members of our Camp community. I can't begin to imagine what you are going through, but please know that my heart goes out to you during this incredibly difficult time.

Here in Crossville, I'm pleased to share some wonderful highlights with you from the past few months. Our recent Mother-Daughter Weekend was a resounding success, filled with laughter, bonding, and memorable experiences that truly embodied what Camp is all about. Close to **70 campers** participated in new activities while making new friends, all led by enthusiastic counselors who joined us from TR 24 and 25.

Additionally, we've rented out our facilities to various organizations. The joy of sharing Camp with diverse groups amplifies our celebration of community. Looking ahead, we're also excited about our ongoing counselor recruitment efforts and are committed to hiring individuals who embody the heart and soul of Nakanawa.

As we continue to build on this foundation of goodwill and friendship, I'm filled with gratitude for each of you who contribute to our Camp family. Together, we are ensuring that the spirit of Nakanawa remains alive and flourishing for generations to come.

In the Spirit of Nakanawa,

Karen

Mother-Daughter Weekend: A Smashing Success



Highlights from the Event:

- Karen and Camp staff had the facilities looking top-notch.
- The weather was pleasant and cool.
- Event organizer and Recruitment Chair Blair Rissing was assisted by Samantha Lunn, who will be stepping into the role next year.
- Mothers, grandmothers, aunts, friends, and future campers enjoyed singing, riding horses, playing with Nature Hut critters, making lanterns, swimming and canoeing.

By the Numbers

- **134** attended, including 52 potential campers aged 7+ and a few under age 6
- **19** of those attendees are new to Nakanawa families
- **19** new campers applied within a few days of attending the weekend
- **\$1500** in merchandise sold

Top takeaway: The weekend was filled with fun and memorable experiences for campers, their families, and Camp staff.



Love that Camp Nak merch!



Everyone got to ride!

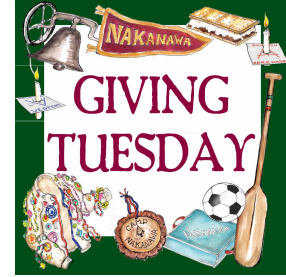


Keeping Camp in the family.

Giving Tuesday is Just Around the Corner

Will everyone here kindly stand up and cheer for the best Camp in the world? This Giving Tuesday, we want you to celebrate your Nakanawa heroes.

Fill out [this Google form](#) and look for our celebration from November 26–December 3rd.



Now Recruiting: Nakanawa City Reps



Nakanawa City Reps are needed as we grow! Show and share your Nakanawa Pride by helping recruit new campers in your area. We've got some fresh, fun ideas and are excited to connect with any alumnae who would like to support these efforts.

Reach out to TR 89'ers Emily Richardson Blake (emilyrblake72@gmail.com) or Susie Westin Davis (sdavis5226@gmail.com) to learn more.

Be A Member of Our Happy Laughing Crew



Are you interested in future service on a Nakanawa Board Committee? Join talented alumnae from across the country to support Communications, Development, Facilities, Finance, Governance, and Marketing. Each committee is led by a member of the Board of Directors and meets several times a year to focus on important current and future projects for Camp.

If you have prior board or committee involvement or work experience in one of these areas, this opportunity is definitely for you! No prior experience, but have energy to learn and lend a hand? Yes, we want to hear from you as well!

It's exactly like being an assistant to the Wild Woman at the circus - so please get involved! The Wild Woman is certain to escape if you don't!

Contact Ginny Bass Carl at ginny@givingwelok.com for more information.



Now is the time to rally your group and pick a weekend in 2025 to gather at Nakanawa.

MAY 16-18, 2025: Plan a spring reunion and enjoy staying in cabins, hiking, canoeing ... reliving your camper days. Contact Margaret Matens at margaretmatens@gmail.com.

JULY 18-20, 2025: Join us in the summer when Camp is in full swing! See for yourself that "things never change." Contact Donya Rose at to.donya@gmail.com.

All TRs are welcome either weekend though we give special focus to anniversary groups (10th, 25th, 50th, etc.) If your TR is interested in either weekend or wants to look ahead to 2026, [click this link](#) for a list of recommended lodging options close to Camp.

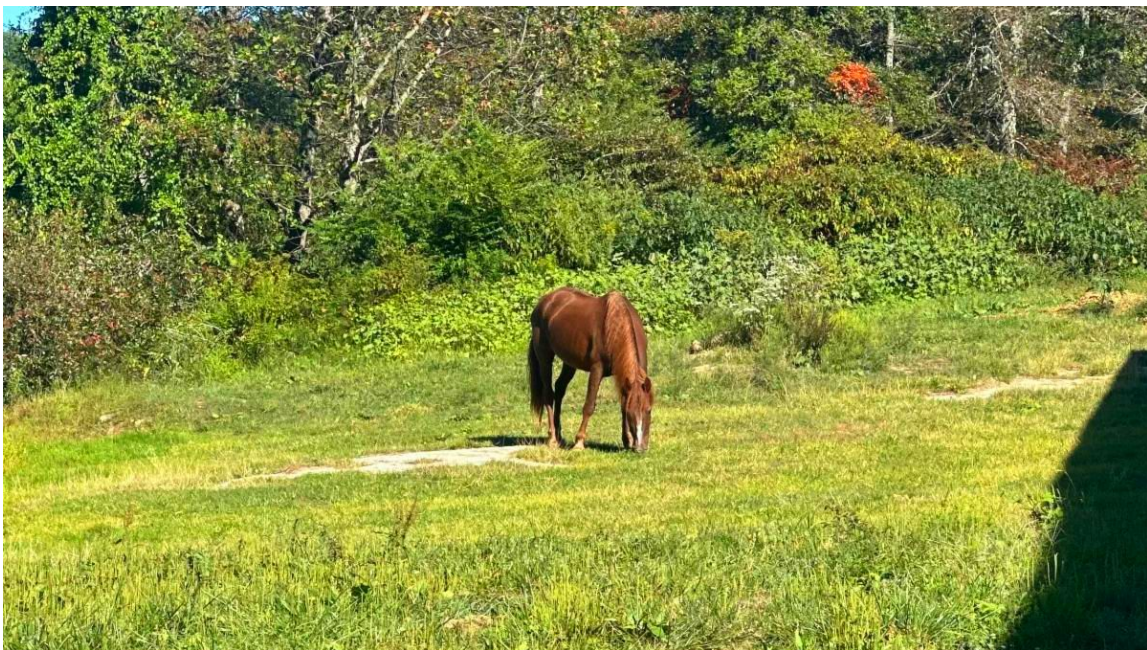
Come Join Our Fun in 2025



We had a robust counselor staff this past summer and were thrilled with their performance, engagement, and enthusiasm. Best of all, we're looking forward to growing and strengthening our staff even more for the Summer 2025 through our application and interview process, focused training, and more pre-camp involvement.

Applications will be available soon on our website. If you have any questions about being on staff or know of any qualified candidates, please reach out to Blair Rissing at blair@campnakanawa.org.

Welcome to the Barn



Say hello (er, "Tally Ho!") to Charger, the newest member of the Camp Nak equine family. He's a beautiful chestnut stallion that joined us in September.

Our equestrian program is one of Nakanawa's flagship programs that sets us apart from other similar camps. Feeding, caring, and equipping our beloved horses is no small feat.

Gifts to our Nakanawa Fund support many of our essential Camp operations, including our riding program.

donate to the Annual Fund

Alumnae Announcements

Nakanawa Women Lead the Way

Congratulations to Dr. Chris Testerman (left), TR 75, on her retirement after 27 years!

Breaking into a man's world, Chris was the first female orthopedic surgeon hired at Knoxville Orthopaedic Clinic. Enjoy your retirement, Chris!



Toasts and Singing



TR 66 gathered at Grace Whatley's lake house on Lake Martin, just south of Birmingham, AL.



Oui, oui! TR 78 brunched at Rise in Dallas, TX.



Laura Ellis, Val Trynicki Lambert and Tiny Lott McPhillips catching up and sharing memories.

Day Lillies and Sunshine



Bev Wesh (TR 15) and Austin Gomez said "I Do" on September 7, 2024.



Mary Conley Hammons (TR 11) wed Mark Fakier on September 28, 2024.

Alumnae Giving

Honor someone you love with a gift to the Nakanawa Fund

[give now](#)

Nakanawa in the Know

Service Weekend: May 16-18, 2025
Reunion Weekend: July 18-20, 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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