



# YMCA Camp Carson

An Experience That Lasts A Lifetime!

Spring 2010  
Volume 4, Issue 1



## NEW Mountain Bike Program

*Sponsored by Dr. Jim Brooks in Memory of his brother Dr. Tom Brooks*



*Donor Dr. Jim Brooks mountain biking  
– one of his many outdoor pursuits*

We are honored to share this heartwarming news! In response to the “Wish List” in our Spring 2009 newsletter, alum Dr. Jim Brooks contacted us and expressed his desire to fund a quality mountain bike program at camp in memory of his brother, Dr. Tom Brooks. Jim shares that, as a camper, Tom was completely “enthralled” with camp life at Camp Carson and because he also loved mountain biking, this donation seemed a great fit in two ways.

**The Program** ~ Jim agreed with us that camp is the ideal place to introduce this activity to young people and as Jim noted, perhaps the only opportunity some children will ever have to ride in the woods – a great experience. As a YMCA facility that is concerned with serving spirit, mind and body, this program greatly aids us in our desire to help families combat the physical inactivity of young people. We have all witnessed how video games and computer technology have contributed to our youth moving indoors and becoming less and less active. We also know that camp is a place where children are given extended periods of time in the outdoors and that we have the luxury of offering many programs to our campers that they would never experience if it were not for the outdoor camp life.

Jim’s gift has enabled camp to purchase 20 quality, 2010 Wahoo Gary Fischer Trek mountain bikes, 2 bike racks, helmets and other safety gear, spare parts and will build a storage and maintenance barn (the program will also include instruction on the proper way to maintain

and repair the bikes). It is our hope that this program will have a tremendous positive impact on our campers - that not only will they have fun but that perhaps they will also find lifetime enjoyment in the physical activity of biking.

*Continued on Next Page*



### **Jim Brooks**

Jim began his association with the YMCA at a young age as the Brooks family routinely participated in the Y programs. He has fond memories of Pancake Days at the downtown Y where he remembers eating his fair share of pancakes while his mother volunteered at the ticket table. He also learned to swim at the downtown Y and had his first introduction to sailing at YMCA Camp Carson. Jim attended Camp Carson for two summers and said his memories all center around the waterfront activities. He continued his camping experience while attending Boy Scout and Young Life camps.

Currently, Jim practices Optometry at the Boston VA Medical Center which is also a teaching hospital. Jim spends the majority of his time working with and training optometry students and residents and thoroughly enjoys his work. When he is not working, Jim can often be caught sailing off the shores of Camp Cod in a 38 ft. sailing vessel or competing in open water swimming events. He also participates in road and mountain biking.

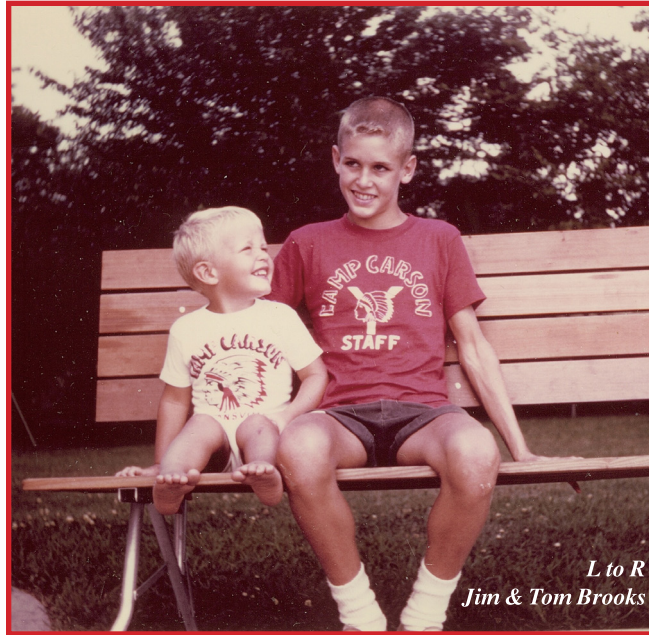
We appreciate Jim's personal investment in this program and look forward to introducing it to our campers for the first time this summer.



*Tom mountain biking in Guatemala*

### **In Memory of Tom Brooks**

The mountain bike program is donated in memory of Jim's older brother Tom. Jim is actually twelve years younger than Tom so we had to do a little homework to find out more about Tom's years at camp. From our discussions, we believe Tom attended camp as a camper from 1954-1960 and served on the staff from 1961-1964. His best friend, Larry Miller, had this to say about Tom. "Like me, at camp, Tom learned to swim, canoe, sail, cook on a camp fire, shoot bows and arrows, rifles, sing camp songs and play sports. Tom went to camp ALL summer, for weeks. He had the right attitude, was good at everything and earned a felt award in every activity possible. If you were a certain level as a swimmer and boater, you could take canoe trips on all the Indiana rivers, the Patoka, the White, the Wabash and the Ohio. Tom did all of them – even the 3 week trips."



*L to R  
Jim & Tom Brooks*

Because of the age difference, Jim says that his personal time at camp was separate from Tom's but he does remember that Tom loved diving off of the high dive and organizing the canoe trips. Leonard Schlamp, who led the Honor Cabin, said he actually remembers the first day Tom Brooks was in the Honor Cabin because he was just so much smaller than the rest of the boys. Tom was also the recipient of the Kerr Award which was awarded to the camper of the year each summer. It doesn't take long to learn that when Tom took an interest in something, he went "all out".

Tom was an orthopedic surgeon in a private practice, Upper Cape Orthopedics, where he remained a partner until his retirement in 1998. Throughout his life, Tom continued to be a very active outdoorsman. He routinely enjoyed mountain biking, big game hunting, rock climbing, ice climbing, fishing, skiing and also served on ski patrol for a few years. Sadly, Tom was killed in an automobile accident on January 2, 2002. After the accident, Leonard later wrote to Tom's mother and shared with her, that although he had come into contact with a huge number of campers, Tom stood out in his mind as one of the best.

We want to express our deep gratitude for Jim's gift and for the touching way he chose to celebrate Tom's vibrant life at camp and beyond. The joy we receive when we watch our campers ride those forest trails, with smiles on their faces, will be made all the sweeter when we reflect on how it came to be. Somehow, we think Tom will be smiling too.

# THANKS! to Craig Fenneman

Most of you don't know Craig Fenneman, but if you have been to camp in the past 3 months to 20+ years, you have seen the results of his support. Craig attended camp as a camper and later served on the staff. Over the years, Craig has become a very successful entrepreneur and we have been repeatedly blessed by his heart for camp and his generosity. Here are just a few of his investments in our facility and programs in the past 2 years. Join us in thanking Craig!



- **4x4 Diesel Chevy Silverado 2500** and the balance of the funds needed to secure a 30 foot trailer. This truck and trailer will allow us to transport our dirt bikes for the NYPUM program (North American Youth Project Using Mini Bikes). If you missed the article in the Fall newsletter about this program, please visit our website to view.

- **Pick-up truck** for our Property Manager to replace our old 1995 maintenance truck.

- **New roof** on the Dining Hall.
- **Coin Operated Washers and Dryers** for a staff laundromat. This is especially helpful for our summer international staff who do not have personal transportation.
- **New cover** for the Blob
- **Three new Sunfish!** We are so excited about introducing these much needed replacements for one of camp's favorite activities.
- **Bleachers** on Soccer Field



## CONNECT OR RECONNECT WITH CAMP

– Links available via our website gateway page



**FACEBOOK** - Become a Fan – join us on the Official Camp Carson Facebook site



**YouTube Channel** – view our new DVD from gateway page. There are 3 videos: summer promo, parent comments, facilities tour.



**SUMMER CAMP BROCHURE & Other Publications** – View our new brochure and previous newsletters. Click on the brochure icon on our gateway page. To view the newsletter, click on “Author” on the right hand side of the screen – then scroll through the various years.

## Army Reserve Enrichment Camp

is a free, week-long, leadership camp for children of Army Reserve Families. Sponsored by the Army Reserve, this camp is offered for campers ages 12 - 16

**June 6 - 11, 2010**

For registration information, watch the Army Reserve Family Programs website at:

**[www.arfp.org](http://www.arfp.org)**



**ALUMNI WEBSITE** created by alum Lance Morton (Thanks Lance!!) – Enter the camp website and then click on the Alumni Tab. Take a fantastic trip down memory lane – camp songs, camp stories, brief bios on camp pals and “where are they now”.

*Special thanks to Brandon and Christy Hayes who included camp in their wedding gift registry! What an honor for camp - what a great idea! Gifts received totaled \$1875 plus a matching gift of \$1875 through Merrill Lynch, Christy's workplace.*

## WE INVITE YOU TO VISIT CAMP THIS SUMMER OR ANYTIME!

*When did you last visit camp? Consider this a personal invitation to visit camp – we love to walk our alumni through camp and it's especially fun when summer camp is going on. Drop in or call the office to schedule a tour. We look forward to it!*



# Thank You! Your Investment Makes a Difference

*Thanks to all those who gave to our Annual Campaign, Facility Improvements, Camp Endowment and Gifts in Kind in the last year!*

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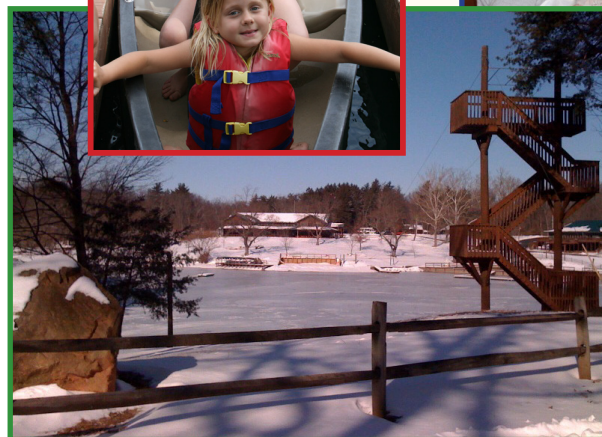
## WISH LIST and WAYS YOU CAN HELP

- Volunteer to help organize two annual **workdays at camp** (Spring/Fall)
- Volunteer to be a **Host Family** for a 2010 Camp Informational Night to introduce other families to the magic of camp
- Join or create a team of **campaigners** for our 2010 Annual Fund Campaign
- Used **Station Wagon** or Mini Van
- Sponsor a **Student Life Application Bible(s)**. We are able to purchase a case of 16 Bibles for \$176. (Traditionally these Bibles retail at \$20 - \$25 each.) It is our desire to make a Bible available to any camper upon request.
- Sponsor **NYPUM program (North American Youth Project Using Minibikes)**  
See article in last month's newsletter (click on brochure link on website gateway page)

### You can Sponsor...

- **GPS Cross Country** orienteering program
- **Digital Photography and Video Program**
- **Tree House or Tree House Village**
- **Frisbee Golf Course**
- **Fort in the Woods**
- **River Kayaks and Trailer**
- Purchase of new **Western Saddles**
- **Hammock Village** ☺

*To see more information about other needs and dreams  
– Click on the News Tab on the welcome page  
at [www.campcarson.org](http://www.campcarson.org)*



*Camp sure looks beautiful in the snow but winter is almost over - camp is right around the corner – only 2 months til' opening day!! Register today.*

# YMCA Camp Carson... Where values are always in play

Despite the turbulent economy, camp's mission is not in recession. In fact, our core values: *Caring, Respect, Responsibility, Honesty and Faith*, are always in play. At camp, children develop these **life skills** and more, as they **engage with others** from around the country and around the world. Camp is a safe, nurturing place to foster relationships and build self confidence. To experience opportunities to grow physically, mentally and spiritually through a variety of **outdoor activities unique to the camp environment**.

## 2010 Annual Fund Campaign – Helps Fulfill our Mission in 3 Ways:



### Camper Scholarships

As a YMCA camp, *our mission* includes, within our available resources, making sure **no child is denied a camp experience** due to inability to pay. These funds also help *keep our fee increases to a minimum* and enables us to offer the *3 Tier pricing system for help to families at middle income levels* that don't qualify for traditional financial assistance. **Your gift can help make camp accessible to all children.**



*Camp Carson's financial assistance program made camp possible for my daughter. I am a single mother and would not have been able to afford it. She has attended camp since she was 8 (and is 16 now). Camp helped her grow into a very spiritual, responsible, kind young lady. I thank God for the donors and their generosity. May the Lord shine on them. — Camp Mom*

### Programs - Summer and Extended Season

In addition to the *amazing waterfront* you see as you drive into the camp gate, you will also find *exciting land activities* on the camp grounds. Did you know we also *run programs during the spring and fall months?* Programs like *NYPUM (incentive based dirt bike program for youth at risk)*. **Your gift can help us expand and maintain the quality of existing programs as well as create new programs year round.**



*There is tremendous potential to influence the behavior of a child when using the bike riding experience as leverage. This experience has allowed us to form a bond at a deeper level than our typical after-school activities.*

— Greg Allen, Impact Ministries  
NYPUM User Group



### Quality Facility

**Your gift can make a significant investment towards insuring that funds are available to remain good stewards of our buildings, lake, grounds, forest and trails.**



**We invite you to participate with a tax deductible pledge or gift towards the 2010 Annual Fund Campaign.**

*Please print clearly. Complete, detach and mail to YMCA Camp Carson, 2034 Outer Lake Road, Princeton, IN 47670*

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Address \_\_\_\_\_  
Street City State Zip

Daytime Phone number: \_\_\_\_\_ Evening Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

Desiring to share with others in maintaining and extending vital programs conducted by YMCA Camp Carson, I commit

Gift/Pledge Amount:  \$100  \$250  \$500  \$750  \$1000  \$1500  \$2500  \$5000  Other \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please Check One:  **GIFT ENCLOSED**  **PLEDGE** (to be fulfilled by **December 15, 2010**)

Credit Card \_\_\_\_\_ I will make a payment towards my pledge on the 15th of the month for the following number of months (please circle # of payments desired) **1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8**

Exp. Date \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_ Visa Mastercard

Designate my gift to:  Camper Scholarships

Name on Credit Card: \_\_\_\_\_

Program

Facility

Donor Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Area of Greatest Need

# YMCA Camp Carson

An Experience That Lasts A Lifetime!

2034 Outer Lake Road  
Princeton IN 47670

A Branch of the YMCA of Southwestern Indiana, Inc.  
222 NW 6th Street - Evansville IN 47708

Phone: 812-385-3597  
Fax: 812-386-1654  
Email: [campinfo@ymca.evansville.net](mailto:campinfo@ymca.evansville.net)  
Web-site [www.campcarson.org](http://www.campcarson.org)

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Mr. Gene Dawson	Mr. Steve Minor
Mr. Tom Elsner	Mr. Leonard Schlamp
Mr. Bob Fenneman	Dr. William Wooten
Mr. Steve Fritz	

## Executive Director

Mr. Mark Scoular

## DATES TO REMEMBER

### Summer Camp Registration Now Open

Register online today at [www.campcarson.org](http://www.campcarson.org) or call camp to register over the phone.

### Volunteer Work Day, Saturday May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2010

We welcome volunteers at any time but if you'd prefer the warm weather, this is your chance.

### Open House, Sunday May 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2010 1 – 4 pm (Central Time)

For families looking into summer camp. Please pass the word on to any friends that may be interested in attending.

### Calling All Scrapbookers – September 24 - 26, 2010

Join us for our Fall Scrapbooking Retreat – a weekend which offers hours of scrapbooking and some fun leisure time at some of our camp activities. Call or e-mail the camp office for more information.



Go to our website at  
[www.campcarson.org](http://www.campcarson.org)  
for more information  
on these events.



## Operation Purple®

A program of the National Military Family Association

### Operation Purple® Camps Are Back

We are privileged to have again been selected as one of the host sites for the National Military Family Association's "Operation Purple® Camps"

This is a **FREE WEEK OF CAMP FOR KIDS OF MILITARY FAMILIES**

For more information and to register go to [www.MilitaryFamily.org](http://www.MilitaryFamily.org)

**MUST register via their website between March 15-April 15, 2010**

Camp Carson Dates

June 27 - July 2

July 25 - 30

A program of the National Military Family Association, the camps are sponsored by the Sierra Club and Sierra Club Foundation



The YMCA of Southwestern Indiana, Inc., following the example of Jesus Christ, responds to community needs by serving all people, especially youth, through programs that promote healthy spirit, mind, and body.