

Sequanotes

FALL 2022

News from Sequanota Conference Center & Camp

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The 75th Anniversary Celebration

You know that feeling of seeing a familiar face across the room and being filled with joy? Or the feeling of sitting down with a stranger and after 20 minutes of good conversation you feel connected to them because of the what you've shared together? This summer these feelings were all a part of the 75th anniversary celebration. It was a wonderful event where over 250 campers, staff and guests from camp's legacy gathered to share stories, fellowship, eat, and worship in this sacred space.

June 24-26, 2022 was a gathering of Sequanota alumni and friends for the 75th Anniversary of camp's founding. It was a wonderful weekend of stories, memories, connections, and recreation. A long time alumnus said, "The 75th reunion was great! It was exactly what I needed this summer." Campers

of all ages enjoyed a relaxed schedule taking advantage of Sequanota's hiking trails, zipline, swimming pool, sports courts, craft cabin or just a shady spot to sit and talk. Past directors returned to share memories and make new memories with their family members. Dick Peterson, Tom Grote, 'Chelle Jelleff, Rev. Jack Timm, and Rev. George Mason provided laughs and a few tears as they remembered their time serving at Sequanota.

A special moment occurred when past campers told their memories from camp. Guests shared memories of Pastor Bowersox, working in the kitchen, sleeping in Girl's Staff cabin, the pool, camper jokes, staff high jinks, campfires, and hikes with Ms. Alice and Pr. Ross. Don Replogle shared a climatic tale about a

hike getting lost in the dark and the dramatic rescue from the camp staff. It had the whole gathering laughing and enjoying the memory. What made it better was that when

Sr. High campers ready to canoe



A few of Sequanota's directors



Don finished the woman sitting next to him shared that she was a camper for that crazy night hike.

Thank you to all volunteers and guests, who made the celebration a wonderful event. We will plan another reunion event for the 80th anniversary in 2027. Some alumni wanted to gather before that event. In 2023, Sequanota along with leaders from across the Laurel Highlands region will be hosting a new event June 22-25, 2023. It is a festival of fellowship, faith, music, arts, ecology and recreation. It is not planned to be an alumni reunion, but it is a gathering of God's people at Sequanota. Alumni, friends and family are welcome for the long weekend. Watch social media and the website for more information. If you missed the reunion, please connect with the website for the camp's history, archived pictures, videos and other fun connections from Sequanota.

Campers & staff from the 1960s reunite



Summer Camp Survey Responses

Hear what the campers said about this summer!

My favorite part of camp is...

The pool, because it was warm when you stayed in long enough.

I always enjoy being able to be super obnoxious for no reason.

Food, pool, sleeping, making friends.

My favorite part about camp was being able to sit in nature and listen to the surrounding sounds, and to look up at the night sky and see the stars.

Being with a group of people who are so kind and funny and who actually get me.

Bouldering - It was awesome to see how big rocks can grow, and to be able to explore.



How did you experience God during your time at camp...

Being in nature, singing songs all together

I experienced God all the time, but mostly during hikes.

When I stared at the sky in worship.

I experienced God during camp by meeting people who knew God.

Seeing the community at camp.

Whenever my family cabin would do things together.

Through Pastor Dave

How has your time at camp changed you...

I think that I'm just more comfortable with myself.

I learned that worshiping God doesn't have to be serious.

It changed me by not being scared of people (like always).

I feel closer to God than before, and I learned to appreciate nature more.

I learned to talk more and not be on my phone.

I'm happier, more loving, more forgiving, & more mature.

I changed because I don't play outside.



I want to come back because...

Camp is love, camp is life.

It's so good to see the people you miss and just a great community.

I was able to show my creativity and artistic skills.

I feel like camp is really fun, and I felt like I was really connected to God here.

I had lots of fun, and I want to see my counselor again.

It is a fun environment and a happy place.

I connect with my friends I've had in the past and make new friends.

Camp was really fun, and it kept me occupied.

It's a good way to connect with nature and people.

I felt closer to God, nature, and community.

Sequanota is genuinely one of my favorite places.



Goal: 75 partners in honor of 75 years. Become a Kindle Club Partner Today

While working on staff the summer of 1966, I met a counselor, Tank, who was to be my future husband. Tank had been a camper at Sequanota for nine years and on staff for one. I had been a camper for two years and on staff for four. For both of us,

Sequanota was a place that allowed each of us to grow in faith and spirit. For me, it was also a sanctuary from a dysfunctional and sometimes violent home life. There is a peace and comfort at Sequanota that blows on the breeze rustling the leaves and lifting the spirit. There is calmness in the rippling of the waters. It truly is one of the best examples of God's Creation.

The lessons learned at Camp were lessons of a lifetime. No matter where we lived, stateside or overseas, home was always Pennsylvania and more specifically Sequanota. Seldom did we come to the area and not stop by.

After Tank's death, it seemed fitting that I find a way to honor his love for a place that meant so much to him. Camp touched our lives and by doing so touched the lives of confirmands and Sunday school students, co-workers, and everyday people that we met along the way. While on the Sequanota website, I came across Kindle, an easy monthly donation, and knew that was the route to go. It's a monthly draft that I don't have to remember, it can be done in large amounts or small, and it helps provide a consistent source of income for Camp. More importantly for me, it helps to support a place that we held dear, spreads the love and joy of knowing our Lord Savior, and can be the bedrock of a lifetime.

Upon returning for the 75th Anniversary Reunion, I immediately felt a peace and comfort that I had been missing. That connection is important to me and as the song goes – "I want to pass it on."

Peace, Susan Livingston Baughman

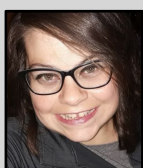
Transitions in the office staff



If you have called, emailed or been to Sequanota over the last 20 years then you have been blessed to have connected with Ann Ferry.

Her warm welcome and friendly personality has helped campers and guests feel comfortable during their preparation and visits to Sequanota. Ann has loved the ministry of Sequanota through her constant willingness to serve in about every job at camp. Whether it was office work, housekeeping, doing dishes, landscaping or building relationships; Ann shared her love for God through her work at camp. Thank you Ann!

Ann has decided to shift her work at Sequanota to create more time for family, especially her granddaughters. She will be continuing to bless this ministry through her work in maintaining the Bowersox Center. This will give her more flexibility in her schedule while also providing a way to continue her love and support for Sequanota. Thank you, Ann, for the care you share for campers, guests, donors, and other staff members. You have inspired thousands of us by your servant's heart and hard work to make all of God's people feel valued.



Randi Newlin is our Guest Registrar for summer camp and retreats and takes over

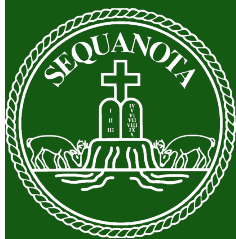
office communications. She follows her kids, Emma and Charlie, who worked on staff this past summer.



Barb Cotchen joins our team as Development Associate. She will work with Pastor Nathan to coordinate and plan fundraisers and events for Sequanota.

Tami Knopsnyder joins the staff as a Gift Processor after spending almost two decades in the insurance industry. Tami is also a sports photographer and travels extensively for assignments.





SEQUANOTA

Lutheran Conference Center & Camp

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U.S. Postage
Paid
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15547
Permit #1
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Return Service Requested

Breakfast with Santa

December 10, 2022 from 9 AM - 11 AM

Freewill donations accepted at the door

Families can enjoy continental breakfast treats and an opportunity to talk with Santa. While waiting for their turn kids can ice cookies, listen to a story, or create a craft. Parents may bring a camera to take pictures.

New Year's Day Hike

January 1, 2023 @ 10 AM

Meet at the Dinning Hall. Hot cocoa to follow.



By becoming a KINDLE monthly partner you will help ignite our ministry to serve in new ways. KINDLE club encourages people to provide support for Sequanota through monthly gifts. When you give in this way, you provide regular and consistent income to help Sequanota kindle the faith of our campers.

Here are some ideas for what your monthly gift could do or provide.

- \$10: Craft or archery supplies
- \$20: Garden plants and seeds
- \$25: Sport courts balls & equipment
- \$50: Help a child attend a week
- \$100: Paint the pool (done annually)
- \$150: Update a cabin
- \$200: Sponsor a counselor

Sign up online to become a member today.
www.sequanota.com/donate

Winter & Spring Retreats for Everyone in 2023

Check the website for more information
www.sequanota.com/events/descriptions

IGNITE -- January 21-22

Overnight winter retreat for youth in grades 2 - 8

SNOW CAMP -- January 27-29

Weekend winter retreat for youth in grades 6-12

SUSTAIN -- February 24-26

Weekend retreat for all adults. Free childcare is available.

YOUNG ADULTS -- March 24-26

This weekend is targeted to those 19 to 35

LOVE YOUR MOTHER - April 22 or April 21-23

Earth Day Retreat -- For individuals, youth groups, & families
Stay all weekend or just one day.

Sign up for emails

We are updating our database. Please help us make sure we have your current contact information by submitting a form on the website. www.sequanota.com/update