
[TEST] YMCA Camp Potawotami Alumni - August 2025 Newsletter

From Topher Schlatter <YMCAofGreaterFortWayne@mailman.bloomerang-mail.com>

Date Mon 8/4/2025 11:52 AM

To Karen Kasprzak <Karen_Kasprzak@fwymca.org>

THIS IS A TEST EMAIL



Alumni Event: Join Us at Camp!
105 Year Celebration and Family Camp

Summer CAMP

IN A MINUTE... NOT YET

GOODNIGHT BUT NOT GOODBYE

FIRST AID

Y M C A CAMP POTAWOTAMI

Alumni from across the US (and possibly the world!) are planning to gather to celebrate YMCA Camp Potawatami's 105th anniversary this Labor Day Weekend!

What to Expect:

Take a tour of the Potawatomi of today and learn about future plans.

Delicious Camp meals while reconnecting with old friends.

Participate in Camp activities with your family and friends including all the classics: archery, climbing tower, canoeing, campfire and more!

Camp trivia, family talent show, and campfire skits & songs.

Time to reflect and revisit meaningful spaces like Arrowhead Porch, the gazebo overlooking the lake, or strolling through the trails.

How to Sign Up Your Family & Reserve Lodging:

[Register](#) your family for this weekend of fun! Options include day passes as well as entire weekend lodging.

Reserve your lodging today, some cabins are already full!

Questions? Contact: Angie Miller at camp@fwymca.org

We hope to see you this Fall to reconnect and reflect on YMCA Camp Potawotami's rich history.

New Lodge at Camp: Lawrence Lodge



On July 8, 2025 we celebrated the completion and grand opening of our newest lodge with a ribbon cutting ceremony and celebration. Lawrence Lodge will allow YMCA Camp Potawotami to serve 168 additional campers throughout the summer season. Lawrence Lodge is named for long-time Camp supporters Dan and Ginger Lawrence and the Lawrence family, with additional support from the Ardelle and

Theresa Glaze Foundation, The Dekko Foundation, and others. Representatives of the YMCA of Greater Fort Wayne and the Lawrence family cut the ribbon with campers. We are excited for what this new lodge offers Camp. As one camper put it best "this new lodge, means more new friends!"

Summer 2025 is in the Books!

We had another record-breaking summer at Camp! Summer 2025 we served even more campers than last year! Camp keeps growing and we are so grateful for the additional of Lawrence Lodge to support our growth. All of this made possible by the people in the photo below. Our Camp Staff are what makes Camp magical. The Camp staff have special place in our hearts because they are the heart of all we do at Camp! A huge thank you goes out to this amazing group of young adults and camp leaders!



Camp Alumni Spotlight: Alyssa Semak



Name: Alyssa Semak

Years at Camp and Positions: 2004 - 2007 as a camper and 2011 - 2016 on staff. I started going to camp at 12 years old and attended camp as a camper for 4 summers. I then came back at 19 and was on staff for 6 years. During my time on staff I was a counselor, Teen Leadership Director, Waterfront Director and Outdoor Education Instructor. As a camper I met my oldest friend and on staff I met my best friend and also my spouse :)

Favorite Meal & Memory: Always a fan of the corn dogs. One year as a layover camper we overslept and the kitchen did not serve us breakfast. We decided to raid the kitchen eating as much cereal as possible. We were then immediately served lunch and had many corn dogs. Wampum has always been very special to me and is such a meaningful way to end the week at camp. Being able to lead the camp to wampum is one of my favorite camp memories.

Lesson Learned at Camp: Camp taught me confidence and made me realize that I can be a leader. Also learned I am very allergic to poison ivy.

What do you hope for Camp's future? I hope Camp is around for another 100 years so kids and staff alike can experience the joy of Camp and have a place to be themselves.

Where is Alyssa now? Currently, I am located in Fort Wayne, IN and recently joined the Camp Potawatami Alumni Committee.

Shout out to anyone from your Camp past that you would like to reconnect with! Shout out to Ashley Evans. I met her my first year as a camper and she is the reason I applied to be a counselor!

Email: arnoam02@gmail.com

Thank you, Alyssa for your continued commitment to Camp!

If you know a Camp Alumni that you would like to recognize email Karen at karen_kasprzak@fwymca.org.



Reconnect with Camp Join us on Facebook!



Alumni Form

The Alumni Committee is coming up with new and exciting ways to reconnect with you and reignite your camp memories. Let's celebrate the adventure and fun we had together at camp!

Use the button below to share your contact information and let us know about your camp experience. This form can be used multiple times so you can add yourself and also friends from camp.

We also have an active group of [alumni on Facebook](#). Join the fun to see camp updates in real time, reconnect with past friends and enjoy an uplifting space online.

Use button below to add alumni to our list.

Join the Alumni Committee!

We are looking to add a few more alumni to YMCA Camp Potawotami's alumni committee! We would love if alumni were represented from each decade. The alumni committee meets quarterly throughout the year in Fort Wayne and once at Camp. A virtual option to participate may be available.

If you are interested in joining or learning more please reach out to Topher. Topher's email: tophercbs@aol.com



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