



Timely News for Members of the Friends of Camp Mack

Winter 2023 Issue

## Friends of Camp Mack Board Members

Eric Shea - President  
Ben Wohlberg - Vice President  
Derrick Bransby - Treasurer  
Jim Castanzo - Secretary  
Bob Chaballa  
Gary Guare  
Connie Guare  
Tim Kotzmoyer  
Josh Peloquin  
Jayme Shea  
Logan Startoni

**REMINDER!**  
If you paid your 2022 dues before November of last year, your 2023 dues are due now!

See page 6 for instructions on how to pay your 2023 dues.

*Thank you for becoming a Friend of Camp Mack. Your membership fee supports our ongoing efforts to maintain, sustain, preserve, and promote Camp Mack. Thank you for being a Friend of Camp Mack!*

## OUR FIRST YEAR IN REVIEW

As we look back at this past year, we reflect on what we have accomplished, what our plans are for 2023 and to thank our members, donors, and especially those who helped on our Camp Mack projects this past year.

### Membership

We've had a great second year as an organization. In 2022, our membership increased to over 75 members, including nine members at the bronze level, five at silver and one at the gold level of membership. To our members, we say, Thank you! And welcome to all of our new members! We are looking forward to working with you all on helping make

Camp Mack a great place for youth in the Scouting program to experience the great outdoors, make lifelong friendships and have fun! We are always looking to recruit more members, so if you know of anyone you think shares the same passion for helping to preserve and promote Camp Mack, feel free to share this newsletter. A link to our membership form is included at the end of this newsletter.

### Financial Position

For an organization only in our second year of operation, we are in good shape to accomplish our immediate goals. However, we need to look long-term at those more significant and extensive projects. To accomplish those goals, we'll need more members and, more income. Like any non-profit, we rely on our volunteer's time, and outside contributions, and donations of materials. We have been very fortunate to have friends in the business community who have made material and financial contributions. We can only rely on their generosity to a point before

we will need to tap into our funds to purchase materials needed to complete our projects. One of the Board's goals for the Friends of Camp Mack is to be open with how we use our funds to better Camp Mack. You will always see a summarized statement of financial position in our newsletter. We also want to thank all of our 2022 donors for your contributions throughout the year. Thank you to our Bronze, Silver, and Gold donors for your extra contributions, and a special thank you to our corporate donors for your extra support this year.

### 2023 Events

We're very pleased to announce our 2023 Events Schedule! We'll be hosting three awesome events throughout 2023 – we hope you can join us!

**Saturday, May 6, 2023 – Pine Car Grand Prix & Chicken BBQ Fundraiser at Camp Mack**

**Sunday, June 11, 2023 – Camp Setup Day & Ice Cream Social with the Camp Mack Staff**

**Saturday October 7, 2023 – Annual Member Fall Camp Service Day and Meeting**

*More information about these events can be found on page 4 and 5 of this newsletter!*





### Give the Gift of Membership

Are you looking for a gift  
that keeps on giving?

Why not give a gift membership  
in the Friends of Camp Mack?

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### Treasurer's Report

It is a pleasure to provide a Treasurer's report annually to all Friends of Camp Mack. Since our founding, the Board of Directors has made financial transparency a priority in all we do. We hope that this brief report will reinforce that commitment. Should you have questions, please feel free to contact myself or another member of the Board.

I am happy to report that FOCM remains on solid financial footing. Thanks to the generosity of our membership and donors, revenues exceeded \$10,750. Expenses were \$6,922—two-thirds (\$4,593) of which

were material donations to Camp Mack, including a landscape trailer, robotic pool cleaner, and replacement stoves for two cabins. We closed the year with a positive change in our net assets and cash position. Our strong financial position will allow us to do great things at Camp Mack in 2023. Thank you for your continued generosity!

Submitted by

*Derrick Bransby*

Treasurer

### Summary of Financial Activities as of 12/31/2022

#### Revenues

|                       |                    |
|-----------------------|--------------------|
| Member Dues           | \$1,525.00         |
| Donations             | \$6,912.90         |
| Merchandise           | \$1,685.12         |
| Other                 | \$659.71           |
| <b>Total Revenues</b> | <b>\$10,782.73</b> |

#### Expenses

|                              |            |
|------------------------------|------------|
| Support to Camp Mack         | \$4,593.07 |
| Event Expenses               | \$591.13   |
| Merchandise                  | \$1,387.00 |
| Printing, Postage & Supplies | \$279.88   |
| Other                        | \$70.94    |

**Total Expenses** **\$6,922.02**

**Total Change in Net Assets** **\$3,860.71**

### 2022 Donations

One of the key goals of our organization has always been to support Camp Mack anyway we can. Throughout the year, the Friends of Camp Mack donated various items to help support and improve Camp Mack. In 2022, we purchased a landscape trailer that the Ranger will use to transport the mower and

landscape equipment, a new robot vacuum for the pool, various tools and items for the Ranger shop, and two new gas-powered stoves for the upcoming Lodge Stoves project. We also purchased and donated enough ice cream from our friends at Fox Meadows Creamery to last all summer for members of the camp staff.



Friends of Camp Mack members attending our annual meeting discuss future camp projects.





## 2022 Completed Projects & Events

### Pine Car Grand Prix

On Sunday May 15, we held our first annual Friends of Camp Mack Pine Car Grand Prix, with 15 people in attendance. This event, held at Columbia Kettle Works in Columbia, was our first event held outside of Camp Mack and was a fun afternoon filled with competitive racing and judging for the Best in Show trophy! Eric Shea took home the Grand Champion trophy when the dust settled and Brooke Mancuso was voted as having the Best in Show winning car. A fun afternoon of Friendship, competition, and great food and drinks was had by all. Hope you'll join us in 2023 at Camp Mack!

### Summer Camp Staff Ice Cream Social

Our support of Camp Mack doesn't stop with our work on camp facilities and grounds. We want to show our appreciation to the young men and women who serve on our Cub Scout Summer Camp staff too. So, on Tuesday, June 11, just prior to the start of our Cub Camp sessions, several Friends of Camp Mack Board members provided an ice cream social for our summer camp staff. We provided the ice cream and served our deserving youth staff members. We think the effort was genuinely appreciated by our staff and look forward to continuing the tradition in 2023!

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### Fall Workday and Membership Meeting

On Saturday, October 22, close to 20 Friends of Camp Mack members pitched in at camp for a day of needed work. Members, many sporting their Friends of Camp Mack apparel, tackled several camp projects.

One group focused on the maintenance storage areas. This group collected trash and debris from various areas around the maintenance complex, Main Pavilion, and cabins, and filled the large donated dumpster. Thanks to GFL Environmental for donating the use of the dumpster and the related disposal costs! This group also helped organize the maintenance storage yard to prepare for a building project to be

completed by the Order of the Arrow in the same location.

A second group focused on the first phase of campsite platform restorations around camp by removing bowed and damaged platform decking from several locations around camp. That project included removing platform decking and tent tubing framework, transporting the damaged items to the dumpster and cleaning up the disturbed campsites. Significant progress was made in removing the damaged decking in Cherokee campsite to prepare for the summer 2023 camping season.

A third group worked to complete inventory and cleaning in the camp's Trading Post, Program Closets, and old Health Lodge. This group also generated piles of trash that we added to the dumpster and was able to prepare all the locations for summer 2023!

Our members worked until noon and then stopped for a hearty lunch prepared by our catering team. After lunch, we held our annual membership meeting and generated some great ideas for our upcoming projects. We all had great satisfaction knowing we put a real dent in projects that needed to be completed. After lunch, several members went back to work finishing the various projects around camp.

Bottom photos: A contingent of Friends begin dismantling the Cherokee campsite platforms.







## Completed Projects & Events (continued)

Top left: The Cherokee campsite platforms decking is removed.  
 Top Right: pallets of unusable block is being moved to the dumpster to make room for an equipment storage shed.  
 Bottom left and center: The dumpster is getting loaded with debris. By the end of the day, the dumpster was full!!  
 Bottom right: Work day volunteers break for lunch.



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## Planned 2023 Projects

### Lodge Stoves

Plans are being finalized between the Friends of Camp Mack and the PA Dutch Council to assist with a project to improve the lodge kitchen areas in Dellinger, Blair, and Esbenshade lodges. These lodges are used most frequently by units during the winter and have not been updated in decades. The goal of the project is to replace the existing stoves with new gas stoves and range vent hoods and to clean up the existing area with new FRP backing. The Friends of Camp Mack agreed to partner with the PA Dutch Council to

help provide new stoves and assist with the installation of the project in all three lodges. Stay tuned for opportunities to help assist with this project!

If this installation goes well, we'll get approval for the remaining two lodges.

Friends of Camp Mack brokered a deal with the Council Properties Committee where Friends of Camp Mack would purchase the remaining two range ovens for Dellinger and Esbenshade lodges, the Council would purchase the remaining materials and hood vents for this project.

### Paddle Boat Replacement

The Friends of Camp Mack and the PA Dutch Council are also discussing our assistance in helping the camp purchase between 5 and 7 new paddle boats. The

paddle boats are very popular with the cub scouts, their leaders, and parents. The fleet of boats the camp had were leaking and beyond repair.



## Planned 2023 Events

### Pine Car Grand Prix and Chicken BBQ Fundraiser – Saturday, May 6

Coming in the Spring – Pine Car Grand Prix! Come and relive your childhood and race your own pine wood race car on an official track at Camp Mack on Saturday, May 6, 2023 starting at 10 AM! Participants will register via email to Eric Shea (eric Shea@friendsofcampmack.org) and will receive further information on receiving your pine car kit and event information. All registrations will include a car kit, commemorative item, and Chicken BBQ lunch!

#### Pricing:

Individual registration - \$30 for one racer

**Rent-A-Racer - \$40** – Want to race a car, but don't have time to build one? Rent one from FOCM!

***This event is open to anyone, both youth and adults. Proceeds from this event directly benefit our projects at Camp Mack! Register by April 14th!***

Want to come just for lunch? We'll be hosting our first Chicken BBQ event that will be open to the public too.

Interested in sponsoring our Pine Car Grand Prix event? We're always looking for great, local companies that support Camp Mack! Contact Eric Shea (eric Shea@friendsofcampmack.org) for more information!



### Camp Setup Day and Ice Cream Social with the Staff - Sunday, June 11

Come join us for our annual Camp Setup Day and Ice Cream Social with the Staff at Camp Mack on Sunday, June 11, 2023. We'll be starting at 8:30 AM and will be helping to set up the canvas tents and cots the summer campers will be using while staying at Camp Mack! We'll enjoy lunch and fellowship with the summer camp staff, finish setting

up camp in the afternoon and conclude the afternoon by hosting an ice cream social for the summer camp staff members! It's a great way to help, meet the young men and women serving the cub scout campers, and enjoy some awesome Fox Meadows Creamery ice cream! To register for this free event – please email Eric Shea (eric Shea@friendsofcampmack.org) by June 2nd!

### Annual Member Meeting and Fall Service Day – Saturday October 7

Join us for our third annual member meeting and service day, to be held on Saturday, October 7 starting at 8:30 AM. We'll be performing fall service projects around Camp in the morning

and enjoying lunch during our annual member meeting. Although the morning service projects wrap up at noon, members are welcome to remain after the meeting to wrap up the service projects we started in the morning. Stay tuned for more details!

To join and pay your dues by mail download the PDF of the membership form found **HERE**:

Complete the form and mail along with your membership payment to:

Friends of Camp Mack, Inc  
P.O. Box 56  
Landisville, PA 17538  
Make checks payable to:  
Friends of Camp Mack, Inc

Annual dues cover the period from January 1 through December 31.

**Who are the Friends of Camp Mack?**

Read our story about the history of Camp Mack and how we've grown from a small group of volunteers to a large organization that supports the Boy Scouts of America.

**Show Your Pride with Friends of Camp Mack Merchandise!**

Check out our new line of merchandise, including t-shirts, hats, and more. All proceeds go to support our projects.

**Friends of Camp Mack Merchandise Order Form**

Fill out this form to order your merchandise. We'll ship it to you as soon as it's available.

**Annual Membership Application**

Thank you for becoming a Friend of Camp Mack! We're excited to have you on board. Please fill out this form to complete your application.

**Help Us Continue the Legacy of Camp Mack**

Our organization exists to support the Boy Scouts of America and its programs. We need your help to continue this legacy. Please fill out this form to let us know how you can help.

**Planned Projects**

Some of our planned projects include:

- Construction of new, upgraded facilities to be utilized as part of the youth summer program.
- Renovations and refurbishing existing program facilities and structures.
- Enhancements and maintenance to the new summer throughout camp.
- Additional projects to provide youth with a safe and fun environment.

We're always looking for new and creative ideas to help us continue the legacy of Camp Mack. We hope you'll join us and help us make a difference in the lives of our youth.

**Information, Membership and Merchandise**

Visit our website at [friendsofcampmack.org](http://friendsofcampmack.org) for more information.





Looking for a unique gift  
for someone special?  
Why not consider something  
from the Friends of Camp Mack  
merchandise collection.

### Merchandise

We encourage all members to purchase some of our great looking merchandise so you can show your support of our organization and our beloved Camp Mack. We currently have a great selection with more items being considered. Sales of our Friends of Camp Mack merchandise have been robust. The Pennsylvania Dutch Council has been gracious in allowing us to sell our

merchandise at the Camp Mack Trading Post and their Pennsylvania Dutch Council Scout Store. Be sure to visit the merchandise section of our website to see what is available and to purchase for yourself or as a gift. If you order merchandise online, you'll be able to pick it up at any Friends of Camp Mack event! To place a merchandise order, click [HERE](#).



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## Summer Camp Staff Update

Hi Friends!

I wanted to take a moment to give all our members a quick update about Camp Mack's main activity, our summer camp program. As most of you are probably aware, we run Cub Scout programming during the summer, which for many scouts and their parents are their introduction to scout camping. Because of your support, we saw an increase of almost 200 scouts join us last summer. We also had several out of council packs join us, with some saying that their local camps were no longer offering overnight sessions. We started a separate STEM program area and are looking at ways that we can continue to create fun, hands-on activities for our participants. Overall, we had a fantastic 2022 season and are looking forward to an even greater 2023!

As a Friend of Camp Mack, you might be wondering what you can do to help keep our summer program strong. Here's just a few things we are looking out for:

- Staff - Now's the time where we're looking for dynamic individuals that make up our great staff. We can start

filling counselor and counselor-in-training positions as young as 15, and even need director positions for those that are at least 18 years old. Please feel free to reach out to [campdirector@campmack524.org](mailto:campdirector@campmack524.org) if you have any questions.

- Promote Camp! - If you know of any scouts in your area, get them excited for camp. Tell them all the great stories that you might have from camping. Even just wearing some of our great FOCM gear might just start a conversation!

- Just Be A Friend - As always, all of your support of Friends of Camp Mack is greatly appreciated. I look forward to seeing you at one of our upcoming events.

Finally, I just want to thank you for everything that you do for both Camp Mack and the Friends of Camp Mack. Because of your support we have been able to keep camp as a special place for those young scouts camping for the first time or those of us who have been coming here for years. Thank you.

*– Ben Wohlberg, Camp Director*



## Help Us Continue the Legacy of Camp Mack

As our organization grows in support of Camp Mack, our need for financial assistance will also increase. With our goal of preserving and promoting both the property and programs at Camp Mack, the Friends of Camp Mack will seek to continually

increase our level of support over time. In order to prepare for the future needs of Camp Mack, we plan to establish a restricted endowment fund to help produce earned income each year through managed investments. The income earned each year will help to fund

our projects at Camp Mack, while the fund principal will remain in perpetuity. If you are interested in helping to jump start our efforts to create an endowment fund, please contact [endowment@friendsofcampmack.org](mailto:endowment@friendsofcampmack.org).