

LAKETRAILS

LAKETRAILS BASE CAMP

Portage Runner - Winter - 2024

Incoming Camp Director, Troy Douglas

By Janae Steufert

The Laketrails Board is excited to announce that Troy Douglas will be our incoming Camp Director as of January 1st, 2025.

Troy began his journey at Laketrails as a camper in the early 2000s. Since then he has been a camper worker, guide, program director, maintenance director and self-proclaimed "island plywood boarding champion" (wakeboarding on a piece of plywood). He is currently a teacher in Duluth, MN.

Many of us hold feelings about how special and unique the Laketrails experience is, but Troy says it quite perfectly in that "Laketrails is a community that changes lives."

Sue will continue as Camp Director this summer while onboarding and training Troy through the end of this year.

We look forward to supporting Troy and watching him thrive!



Laketrails at La Doña Brewery- March 22nd

Join us March 22nd at 6:00pm at La Doña Cerveceria in Minneapolis! All members of the Laketrails Family are invited to gather for a night of fellowship ahead of the March Board and Corporate meetings.

Come reconnect with old friends and learn more about what's going on today with Laketrails. La Doña offers a variety of craft beers, including non-alcoholic and gluten free options as well as delicious house made Mexican food.



BONUS: We'll have Laketrails merch available for purchase!



Laketrails Spring Meeting

Attention all corporate members, join us at our spring meeting:

March 23rd

9:30a - Noon

Golden Valley Library

830 Winnetka Ave. N.

Golden Valley, MN 55427

(North of McDonald's South of the train tracs)

Meeting room located in the east lobby

Interested in becoming a corporate member to stay connected with what is going on at camp, or opportunities to help out? Reach out to any board member for more information.



LAKE TRAILS
BASE CAMP
ON OAK ISLAND, LAKE OF THE WOODS

2024 Dates are here! Sign up now by visiting the Laketrails website!

Session 1	June 16-24	Session 4	July 15-23
Session 2	June 25-July 3	Session 5 (Middle School)	July 25-August 2
Session 3	July 5-13	Session 6	August 5-13

Meet the staff! Sue Lemm; Camp Director

Tell us about your first summer at Laketrails:

My first time at Laketrails was right around 1996 or '97 when the Lodge was just being completed. After having heard about Laketrails for many years from some of my students in Warroad, I had the opportunity to go on an adult canoe trip with Jack Wollack. With a fun group of four other women we completed the O'Dell circuit, managed to lose two of the other gals, burn up a pair of shoes, and enjoy fresh walleye served "wilderness style" that even Martha Stewart would envy!

Whats your favorite destination in LOTWs?

There are SO many beautiful places on Lake of the Woods that it's really difficult to choose a favorite spot. I do enjoy the sunsets in Redwater Bay and also paddling through Thompson Creek and the view from the Turtle Island campsite. But, when I think of favorite destinations, it really comes down to the people I'm with—that's what makes any campsite special.

What is your favorite recurring camp skit?

My all-time favorite skit was (probably 20-some years ago) when Blake Hatling played Alex Trebek in a Laketrails version of "Jeopardy." "I've never seen another skit so funny! Currently, there's a recurring skit called the "Ghosts of Laketrails Past" that's really funny. The Guides are so creative and always come up with something to make us all laugh.

What is your favorite camp song?

My favorite song varies from year to year, depending on how good we are at singing. But, overall, I most often enjoy "My, My, My Lake of the Woods." It's a fun song to sing just because the tune is great, and I also like the historical references.



Sue - The Bird Whisperer - saving a Merganser from the lodge fireplace

Giving back to Laketrails

Have you considered maximizing your impact through corporate giving programs? Many companies include a gifting programs in their benefits packages, in which they match donations made by their employees to eligible nonprofit organizations like ours.

By checking if your employer offers such benefits, you could effectively double or even triple your contribution to Laketrails, allowing us to provide more and more transformative experiences for generations to come. Research your employer's giving benefits here:

<https://doublethedonation.com/matching-gifts/double-the-donation>

Keeping up with Laketrails Alumni!

Join the official Laketrails Facebook group to stay in touch with alumni: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/817651550006673>

