

LAKETRAILS

LAKETRAILS BASE CAMP

Portage Runner - Fall - 2024



Sue receives a painted paddle honoring her tenure as Camp Director!

This summer the staff presented Sue Lemm with a painted canoe paddle in recognition of her upcoming retirement. The paddle features a hooded merganser and 15 daisies, symbolizing each year she served as our camp director.
Quack quack quack!

Staff Appreciation 2024: Rediscovering Laketrails

By Glenn Miller

It all started with a simple "Sure"! My son Joe, a current board member, was co-leading the staff appreciation weekend and needed help with the event and the drive to Young's Bay. Being recently retired, I've come to appreciate the spontaneity that retirement allows.

What began as an opportunity to assist my son and Laketrails turned into an incredible experience. The familiar feelings of excitement hit me as we approached Young's Bay, bringing back memories of my first visit to Laketrails 49 years ago. It had been 12 years since I last set foot on the island, and I was thrilled to see the smiling faces, hear the bell ringing in welcome, and marvel at the beautiful structures that make Laketrails special.



Sue Lemm and her staff have done an outstanding job maintaining the island's beauty.

We spent the next day preparing three meals for the staff, enjoying meaningful conversations while cooking. The appreciation team did a fantastic job planning and presenting the meals, topped off with my favorite dessert—homemade chocolate chip cookies and ice cream. The perfect weather made our boat tubing adventure behind the Hewey with Sue at the helm even more memorable.

As we sang and shared stories, the time came to say goodbye. It was bittersweet, as I reflected on how much Laketrails has impacted my life and the people I've met along the way. I also remembered those who have passed, grateful for their influence on me and Laketrails. I encourage fellow Laketrailers to say "Sure" when asked to help with a Laketrails event. I promise you'll be rewarded with fun memories and the joy of renewing old friendships.

Camper update

By Linnea

As a camper in session 3 this year, it was fun to be in a close knit group of staff and campers on trail as well as base camp. Our trip went to Astron Bay, Blueberry Inlet, and finally portaged/bogged our way into Gale Lake. Making it to all our stops early because of the perfect weather all week, we got to swim, explore, and admire the surreal views and sunsets at every campsite. Thank you to my Laketrails family who helped make this year the most memorable experience at Laketrails I've ever had!





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

Meet the Board! Sam Collette; Vice President.

Tell us about your first summer at Laketrails:

My first summer at Laketrails was in 2007 with the Eagan SSI group. We had an amazing trip to Arrow Lake. I have a lot of great memories from that trip including catching fish, seeing pictographs and paddling under the stars.

What is your favorite destination in LOTWs?

Arrow lake will always be a special place, but my favorite spot has to be Blueberry Inlet.

How did you get started building canoes and paddles?

I have always had an interest in woodworking and building unique items. As my interest in canoeing grew over the years I realized what better way to enjoy it than by having my own handmade canoe and paddles to use!



Join us for 1st Annual Laketrails Fundraiser Event! "Pass the Paddle" – October 27th

We are ringing the bell to gather the Laketrails family. Our first annual fundraiser is being held to reunite and build community while raising funds for camp scholarships. These scholarships play a significant role in allowing camp to "pass the paddle" on to the next generation of the Laketrails family!

WHEN: Sunday, October 27th from 1:00pm - 5:00pm

WHERE: Camp Sacajawea Retreat Center (5121 McAndrews Rd, Apple Valley, MN 55124)

WHAT: Chili cook-off, silent auction/raffle, games, music, hiking, bonfire, and more

WHO: Laketrails friends, family, and supporters – this is a family-friendly event!

To submit chili entries, donations to the raffle and silent auction, and other questions, contact Magnolia Ditzler-Salverda (mjditzler@gmail.com)



McGarry's Pub Charity Golf Tournament Supports Laketrails

By Janae Streufert (Krantz-Odendahl)

Sam and I had the honor of representing Laketrails at the McGarry's Pub Charity Golf Tournament. The weather was perfect for a day on the course, and we had the pleasure of connecting with a variety of golfers, including familiar faces like Laketrailers Dan Smith, Bobby Grones, and the Woitte siblings.

Sam contributed a beautiful paddle for the raffle, and two other Laketrails family members generously donated a quilt and architectural design services. All proceeds from the event will support camperships, Thank you Bill, Jean, Deb, and Anne!



Keeping up with Laketrails Alumni!

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