



2023
2024

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2022

Wyldeewood Awards

Camp Wyldeewood is blessed to have many individuals and companies who help us throughout the year. On Saturday, February 18th, the Wyldeewood family met to honor our 2022 award recipients.

John & Gertrude Dykes Award

The Dykes Award is presented annually to someone who has shown a life-long commitment to Camp Wyldeewood. The 2022 Dykes award was presented to Bill & Sharon Perring.

Bill and Sharon have brought numerous groups to Wyldeewood throughout the years. Bill also served on the Wyldeewood Board for several years.



Hugh & Mildred Groover Award

Laura & Jeff Campbell were the 2022 recipients of the Groover Award. The Hugh and Mildred Groover Award is awarded to someone who uses their gifts as a service to Camp Wyldeewood.

Laura has served as our breakfast kitchen manager for almost 10 years and unofficial "camp mom" to campers and counselors. Laura and Jeff help to mentor our staff throughout the year.



Michael & Shelley Lincoln Award

The Michael and Shelley Lincoln Award is given annually to a business or organization who uses their expertise to help Camp Wyldeewood.

The 2022 Lincoln Award was given to Foster Family Charitable Trust for their continued support of Camp Wyldeewood. The Foster Family helps to provide camper scholarships each year by sponsoring the Wyldeewood Golf Tournament and making personal donations.



Joyce Rushton Award

Heather Burchfield was the 2022 recipient of the Joyce Rushton Award. The Rushton Award is given to a volunteer who dedicates their time and energy to campers of Wyldeewood.

Heather has served as our Session 1 nurse for over 5 years. She has also brought many local families to be part of Wyldeewood.



Latina Dykes Award

The Latina Dykes Giving Heart Award is given each year to a group or individuals who support Wyldeewood. Alison Mosher was chosen as the 2022 recipient for her continued support of Camp Wyldeewood. Alison served as a member of our Wyldeewood Golf Tournament Committee and Wyldeewood Board for several years before moving to Colorado last year.



CAMP STORE

This Christmas, give the gift of summer cheer with something special from our Camp Wyldewood store!

We have the perfect gifts and stocking stuffers for this Christmas, and on Black Friday, some of our older items will be on SALE!

- Sweatshirts
- Hoodies
- T-shirts
- Toys
- Stickers
- Hats
- Drinkware
- ...and MORE



SCAN TO VISIT OUR
ONLINE STORE!



Tribute to John

After 10 years of working as Camp Wyldewood's Maintenance Supervisor, John Castleman is moving on to new adventures.



There are not many people who are as passionate about Wyldewood as John is. The man has literally put his blood, sweat, and tears into making camp work over these past 10 years. John worked maintenance at Wyldewood from 2014 to 2023. He was a crazy camper as a kid, a summer staff member, and a volunteer firefighter as well. That, however, doesn't tell the whole story of what John has meant to many at Camp Wyldewood.



During his time as Maintenance Supervisor, John developed relationships with skilled workers and volunteers who have helped John make camp a better place. Bobby Webb, an electrician who has worked closely with John to update a lot of camp's electrical systems over the last several years, said, "I wish there were more people in the world like John. I have never been around anyone as kind as him. He always wants to help get kids to come to camp. For the past 3 years, he without fail always asks about my granddaughter's cancer and health and how my family is doing and asks if he can help do anything for us. I'm glad to have him in my life and call him my friend."

Another relationship at camp that John has grown close to is Ken Carter, a long time Wyldewood camper, staff member, and volunteer. When asked about John, Ken said, "John Castleman is a man of few words but many deeds. In his life, he has given so much to so many that most people don't know of. If you have any connection to Camp Wyldewood, you have seen the results. Most importantly, he is my friend. Not JUST a friend, but a close personal friend whose friendship I value. A true friend is one of the greatest things you can have. For me, and Wyldewood, John Castleman is a true friend. Thank you for your service and sacrifice and may our great God bless you in everything you do."



While John will be missed at camp, we are excited for his new adventures and are praying for him and his family. We imagine John will be annoyed that we even gave him this spotlight, but it is well deserved for his hard work, compassionate heart, and love for Wyldewood. Thank you, John, for your love for camp and all of the ways you sacrificed your time, money, tools, and energy for the mission of Wyldewood. We greatly appreciate everything you have done.

Where are they now

In many ways, Wyldewood was a blessing to Daniel and in return, Wyldewood was and continues to be blessed by Daniel. I know he has been a blessing to me.

Throughout the years, I talk to a lot of people about Camp Wyldewood. It is pretty common for people who haven't been connected to camp in a while to ask about people who made an impact on their lives when they were campers here. One of the most common questions in that regard I get asked from people who camped from the mid 90's to late 00's has been..

“Is Bon Bon still out there?”

Daniel Bontrager (“Bon Bon”) camped at Wyldewood from 1990 to 2004 and worked or volunteered in various capacities from 2000 to 2019. In addition to being a counselor, Daniel has held numerous leadership roles on staff over the years. Counselors and staff at camp come and go; Most of them only work for a year or two. Then there are the Bon Bon's of Wyldewood history who have been involved with the camp's ministry for 25+ years.



Daniel was well known at Wyldewood to be a counselor who knew camp like the back of his hand. We always used to joke that Daniel had an unfair advantage when playing capture the flag because he could probably play blindfolded and still run full speed across camp knowing where every rec, cabin, and weird stump was at and that he would still somehow win.

Not only did he know where everything was, he knew what camp was supposed to be like and what made it special. Michael Lincoln, the Wyldewood Executive Director during Daniel's time at camp, said it best when he said, “In many ways, Wyldewood was a blessing to Daniel and in return, Wyldewood was and continues to be blessed by Daniel. I know he has been a blessing to me.”

Wyldewood has been blessed by Daniel's service to its mission over the years and many have been impacted by his leadership and involvement at camp. If you're one of the many people who have wondered what Bon Bon was up to these days, here is some insight into his life at camp and where he is now.



What does Wyldewood mean to you?

“For me, Wyldewood is the place where I felt most connected to others and God at the same time which has led to lifelong friendships, a wife who loves and is committed to the Lord, and 3 kids who bless my life so much.”

What is your favorite memory from your time at Wyldewood?

“There are so many moments that it would almost be impossible to name a specific favorite so I will just name things I love that happened hundreds of times: Quality time with Maggie, laughing hysterically with friends, praising God in a dark Rec or under the stars, hikes to Bee Rock, exhausting myself playing group activities, canteen basketball, and the feeling of being at home.”

What are some ways you grew as a person during your time at Wyldewood?

“Wyldewood helped me experience God in a different way than my church and family did. The relationship became more personal and filled with grace. Wyldewood also helped me grow in my humility which helped me to be more comfortable in my own skin.”

What is your favorite camp theme?

“Favorite as a camper: *No Wall Too High* (2001) Favorite as a counselor: *Humble Yourself* (2006)”

Written by Brian Bullard



What have you been doing since you stopped working at camp?

“I went to Harding's Marriage and Family Therapy program for 2 years and I have worked as a therapist ever since. I worked at Capstone Treatment Center for 4 years and have been working at ReGroup Counseling in Searcy since 2017. My wife Maggie and I have been married since 2007 and we now have 3 kids, Caleb (10), Cooper (4), and Emma (1).”

What has it been like to send your child to camp after having such a long history here yourself?

“I've been excited to see Caleb enjoy it and I have been jealous that he gets to go! It's heartening to see that he has gone to camp enough now that he has friends returning with him and I am hopeful that they are building those lifelong relationships with one another. His favorite things are playing with friends at the Lake and gym time games like Gaga ball and golden goal. He loves having friends like Hudson and Olivia Ross that come back to camp every summer.”



2023-2024

Fruit of the Spirit

Galatians 5:22-23



JOY



PEACE



LOVE



PATIENCE



KINDNESS



GOODNESS



FAITHFULNESS



GENTLENESS



SELF CONTROL



Summer 2024

Session 1 June 2-7 **\$400**

Session 2 June 9-14 **\$400**

Session 3 June 16-27 **\$600**

Session 4 July 7-18 **\$600**

Session 5 July 21-26 **\$400**

Session 6 July 28-Aug 2 **\$400**

2014 - Kayla Rogers
2015 - Jasmine Brock
2016 - Austin Nightengale
2017 - Brynna Morgan
2018 - Lexi Jones
2019 - Nicholas Garner
2021 - Gabby Goddard
2022 - Trey Bailey

Davis Wilson

2023 Janie Kirby Award Recipient

Each summer since the summer of 2014, the Wyldewood Staff has selected a staff member to receive the Janie Kirby Award. Janie served as a counselor in the 1970's and is fondly remembered by those she worked with as a great example of what a Wyldewood counselor should be.

The 2023 Wyldewood staff selected Davis Wilson as this year's recipient of the Janie Kirby Award. Davis just finished his 2nd year as a counselor on staff and was a long time camper. Davis is currently a junior at Harding University and is majoring in Accounting. Davis is an excellent counselor and displays a calm patience with every camper and situation while also bringing a high level of energy to games and activities.

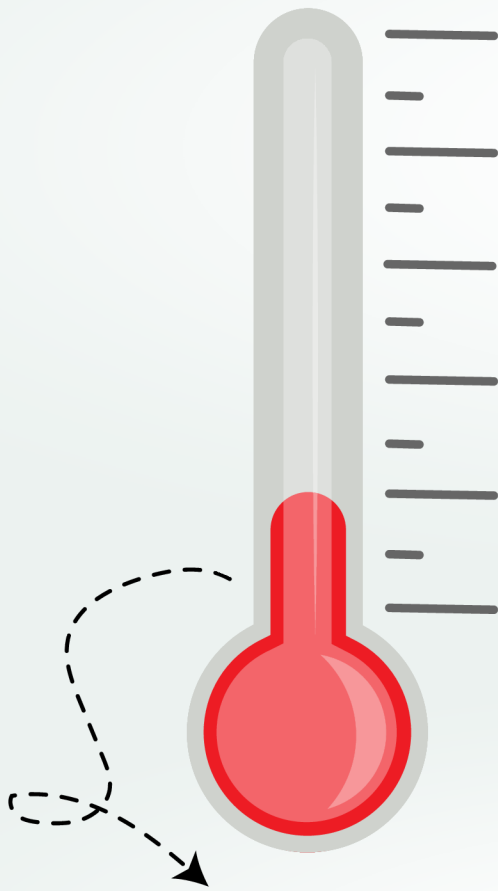
One of Davis' coworkers said, "Davis is one of the best counselors I know. He is always wearing a smile, even when he is faced with challenging situations. He makes every camper feel special. Working with Davis is the same way. He makes every staff member he's working with feel seen and heard. He's selfless and always willing to work hard." Another coworker added, "Davis was always willing to do anything and always put the campers first. He was a great coworker because he helped me with any questions I had and helped show me the ropes."

Join us in congratulating Davis Wilson!

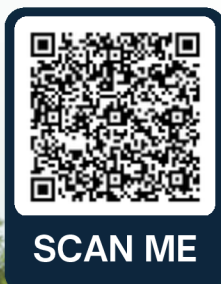
The Next 75 Years

As we celebrate the 75th anniversary of Camp Wyldewood, it is time we recommit to making sure Wyldewood will be in a position to impact the lives of young people for the next 75 years!

**Our goal is
\$3,000,000**



**We have raised
\$800,000**



How can you help?

Pray that God will continue to use Wyldewood to further His Kingdom.

Consider making a donation to the Next 75 Years Campaign

- One-time Donation
- Pledge (3-5 years)
 - Yearly Pledge
 - Monthly Pledge

How to give?

One-Time Donations

- **Check** - Mail to P.O. Box 1255, Searcy, AR 72143 (Please include *75 Campaign* in the memo line)
- **Online** - Use the QR Code below or type in this link: <https://donorbox.org/the-next-75-years>

Pledge

- **Check** - Mail to P.O. Box 1255, Searcy, AR 72143 (Please include *75 Campaign* in the memo line)
- **Online** - Use the QR Code below or type in this link: <https://donorbox.org/the-next-75-years>.

The online system will allow you to set up monthly or yearly donations.

**Please contact Chad Hudelson if you plan to make a pledge. You can email Chad@campwyldewood.org or call the office at 501-305-3000.



It is our hope that if you or someone close to you has been positively impacted by the ministry of Camp Wyldewood, you will consider being a part of this campaign.

We need the help of the Wyldewood family to make this dream a reality.



Over the past 75 years, the leadership of Camp Wyldewood has strived to be good stewards of what God has provided through the generosity of our founders, donors, and families. Our founders and early stakeholders were dedicated to building a camp that would impact the lives of future generations. Because of their vision, dedication, and sacrifice, thousands of lives have been impacted by the ministry of Wyldewood.



In reality, to attract families and groups to send their children to Wyldewood, we need to update our facilities. The Next 75 Campaign will focus on remodeling the 26 cabins on our property and building a gym that can be used year-round. The campaign will be divided into 2 phases. Phase 1 will include remodeling of our 8 elevated cabins and the construction of the gym. Phase 2 will be the remodeling of our 18 concrete slab cabins.



2023 Summer Camp Pictures





2023 Golf Tournament

Hole Sponsors



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 Sonic Drive In
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 Randy Holt Chiropractic
 Ace Hardware
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Golf Teams

- Morris Team
- Southern Bank
- Birch Tree Communities
- Custom Stone
- Vulcan
- Turner Construction
- Somers Ave Church of Christ
- Centennial Bank
- Leasure Golf

- Woodlands Pharmacy
- Unity Health
- BCBS
- House Team
- Little Rock Roofing
- Ruscini Team
- Community Bank
- First Security Bank
- Tate Team

- ### Door Prizes
- ✓ Trout Magnet
 - ✓ Agra Turf
 - ✓ Lowes
 - ✓ Prestige Auto Spa
 - ✓ Dale's Clothing
 - ✓ Shelter Insurance
 - ✓ Buff City Soap
 - ✓ Tractory Supply
 - ✓ Athlete's Choice
 - ✓ Sport Clips
 - ✓ Soree Gifts
 - ✓ Nooma
 - ✓ Harding University Book Store



Foundation Club

2022 Donors

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- David Burks
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- T. Thompson Services
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- Allyn & Sarah Walker
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Director's Club

2022 Donors

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- Michael & Fay Morris
- Michael & Alison Mosher
- Roger & Cynthia Rowe
- John & Karen Snyder
- Tri S Foundation
- Jeff & Lynn Wilson
- Jeremy & Rachel Wilson
- Bill & Laresa Yick

2022 Memorials

Betty Martin

- Gary & Pam Stephenson
- North Star EMS
- B.F. or Janie Shipman
- Mr. & Mrs. Steve Fowler & Mazie Fowler
- Dr. David & Nancy Hatfield
- Jay or Myra Shock
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- John & Anita Henderson
- Michael & Shelley Lincoln

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- Janaan Compton
- Roger Lowe

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PO Box 1255

Searcy, AR 72145 | 501-305-3000

Office@campwyldewood.org

