

Letter writing campaign

Lets have a letter writing campaign to let state parks officials know how much we want to replace the pool at Camp Silver Creek. This sample letter could go out in the CSCAA news letter and encourage our members to let their feelings be known. It might just be the nudge that is needed to finally OK the process.

Send the letters to me. Guy Greider 895 Chikamin Loop Silverton, Oregon 97381

I will deliver them to Mr. Ryan Sparks.

New Board Directors



Are you ready to give back to the place that gave you so much? Camp Silver Creek Alumni Association is looking for a few more alumni to join the board of Directors.

Former staff members of any age are welcome.

Directors are expected to attend meetings—which now can be done remotely—to the best of their abilities and be willing to help out with a project or two throughout the year, such as camp work day.

Each nominee should submit a personal statement describing their interest and potential contributions as board members. Expertise is welcome but not required. We especially encourage younger alumni to share their talents and improve our process.

Please send these to CSCAA@theyonline.org

So if you, or someone you know likes to hang out with “us camp folks”, please encourage them to write us by **June 30, 2026.**

Upcoming events

Mark your calendar for these upcoming events!

June 13, 2026

Staff Training Begins

June 16, 2026

Work Day

June 21, 2026

Camp Begins

July 13, 2026

CSCAA Golf Tournament

July 30, 2026

CSCAA Annual meeting

December Storm

Silver Falls State Park was partly closed in late December 2025 after the park late December 2025 after the park suffered “massive damage” from the extreme Pacific Northwest storm system.

Camp Silver Creek was included in the damaged areas. Below are a few pictures of the damage the storm caused.

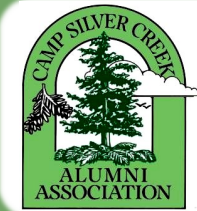


Dear Mr. Sparks,

I am writing to let you know how much we love using the swimming pool at Camp Silver Creek. The pool is a central part of the water front and is a great activity at camp. The pool has been part of families and campers experience for generations. Please allow the Family YMCA of Marion and Polk Counties to build a new pool.

Thank you.

Sincerely _____
Camper / staff member from (date) to (date)



CAMP SILVER CREEK ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

Ready? Set? Go!



Host Families wanted

Are you interested in hosting an out-of-state counselor from Silver Creek for weekends this summer? We are still looking for families who would like to take in one or more of our international staff members during their days off. This would entail picking them up from the airport on the 13th and taking them to staff training on the 14th, as well as hosting them during their days off during the summer (reminder, camp days off are from approximately noon on Saturday to noon on Sunday). If there is a weekend or two that you are not available, that would not disqualify you from hosting, as we could find alternate arrangements once or twice. If you are in the Salem area, the camp staff would be able to provide most weekend transportation to your house.



We have staff members coming from all over the country, so this is a wonderful opportunity to not only give back to camp in a meaningful way, but also to offer an exciting experience for a young person spending their summer at camp! If you are interested, please email Adrienne (Fraggle) at achodnowsky@theyonline.org

Work day plans

Join us at camp on Tuesday, **June 16**, from 9 am to ?? (including lunch), to prepare Camp Silver Creek for summer magic. All alumni and camp families are welcome and encouraged to join the fun and get to know each other before camp starts. Camp staff will already be in residence, allowing volunteers to work directly with them on projects.

- Project may include, but not limited to:
- Painting 2 bridges
- Replacing benches at campfire
- Trail clearing

Please complete the annual background check (required for all Y volunteers) at <https://dash.pointapp.org/events/691362>
Please call Connie Strong at 650-964-2014 with any questions.

The Camp Silver Creek Alumni Association mission is to support, preserve and strengthen YMCA camping at Camp Silver Creek. The CSCAA comprises any Camp Silver Creek alumni, staff (current and former), and community members who believe that camp is an essential part of childhood. Get more involved with the CSCAA by emailing contact.cscaa@theyonline.org



It happened at
summer camp.

What?

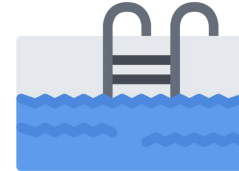
We aren't saying.

Pool replacement update

There has been no progress in the talks with the State Parks Department (OPRD) regarding the swimming pool replacement at Camp Silver Creek. In previous meetings it was pointed out that we have spent \$14,500 (\$7,000 from the CSCAA and \$7,500 from a private donor) to develop a preliminary design.

We won't be able to determine what the project will cost until the plan is approved by OPRD and by the State Historical Preservation Office (SHPO) incase changes are required. Once we have approval from both of those agencies we can proceed with technical drawings, permitting and scheduling. It was also indicated that this project will be at no cost to the State.

State representatives have said that accessibility has become more important throughout all the state parks. At Silver Creek camper experience has been placed at the top of the priority list replacing historic preservation. It has been known for a long time that camp has



an accessibility problem. The cabins, the dining hall and the shower house are all in need of modification to improve accessibility. These are

among the issues that OPRD wants to address. Funding however is an ongoing problem.

The new pool has been designed to be accessible to all with a zero-depth entry at one end. Our proposal is to replace the pool in its present location. Negotiations are ongoing.

Please stay tuned.

Deep Thoughts by Jim

It's hard to believe, but the 2026 Camp Silver Creek season begins in just one month away. The staff has been hard at work preparing for another unforgettable summer filled with adventure, friendship, growth, and fun. From campfires and outdoor games to new activities and special events, we can't wait to welcome campers back to Silver Creek.

I would like to encourage anyone interested in becoming more active in the Camp Silver Creek Association to apply to join the CSCAA Board of Directors. We do have some openings coming on the Board. The Board meets quarterly through the year. Board members can attend in person at the Salem YMCA OR participate virtually. There are also officer positions open. If you don't have time for the Board but could give an evening, join our nominations committee. This committee reviews nominations and provides a slate of candidates to the membership at our annual meeting

We are also looking nominations for our annual awards. If you know someone who has provided outstanding service to the CSCAA and camp, you should nominate them for the Heart and Sole Award. The Peavey Award is presented to someone who has provided outstanding service at our annual work day at camp event.



By the way, if you would like to help out with this year's annual work day at camp, it will happen on Tuesday, June 16th from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm.

Lunch and Dinner will be provided by camp.

To nominate yourself OR someone else please reach out to us by June 10.

Finally, PLEASE, plan to attend the CSCAA Annual Meeting on Thursday, July 30th at Camp Silver Creek. Dinner is provided by camp and the meeting starts right after dinner. If you have the time, you can attend campfire.

We will provide more information as we get closer to the date.

Have a GREAT summer! **Jim**

The 2026 CSCAA John Mistkawi Memorial Golf Tournament

Please join us for the
**CSCAA 29th Annual
John Mistkawi Memorial
Golf Tournament**
July 14, 2026
At Creekside Golf Course
go to salemymcagolf.com
for more information

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Nominations for the Heart & Soul Award

The "Heart & Soul" award is given annually in recognition of volunteers who have demonstrated extraordinary dedication, commitment and service to YMCA Camp Silver Creek. Nominations are confidential. If you wish to nominate an individual you may do so by sending your nomination in letter form, citing the merits of dedication, via email to: the executive board at CSCAA@theyonline.org

Nominations need to be received by **June 10, 2026**. Co-signatures and endorsements are welcome. The selection committee, consisting of the President of the CSCAA and the past recipients of the award, will review the nominations and make the award decision which will be announced in the future, probably at the fall CSCAA annual meeting (TBA).

Previous recipients: (2013) Scotty Washburn, Mike Smith, John Mistkawi; (2014) Dick Simpson; (2015) Chuck Hudkins, Joel Woodcock; (2016) Jerry Woodcock, Cliff Lawrence; (2017) Kevin Couey, Vic Lippert, Dan Moore; (2018) Tobin Knowles; (2019) Kris Russom. (2022) Erin Chambers, Jeremiah Rasca. (2023) Guy Greider, Jim Trett, (2005) Jo Jablo.

Volunteer requirements

All alumni that are looking to volunteer or visit camp this summer (**including for the annual meeting**) need to sign off on the YMCA's volunteer booklet. It is available at <https://www.theyonline.org/form/>

