

Friends of Camp Christopher 2021 Year In Review



Though the pandemic continued to limit the usual numbers of visitors to Camp Christopher in 2021, the quieter schedule allowed elbow room for a number of physical improvements. Friends of Camp Christopher was proud to supply needed dollars to two projects: the restoration of the Dining Hall and Rec Hall fireplaces, and the renovation of the Rec Hall bathrooms, making one wheelchair accessible.

As our organization hiked through its 10th summer of existence, we were overwhelmed to realize that in that decade, due to the support of people like you, FoCC approached \$100,000 in donations -- \$57,000+ in Camperships & \$40,000 for “brick & mortar” projects like the ones described above.

FoCC friend and former officer Jon Reiman held a July birthday fundraiser on Facebook in memory of departed staff alum Zander Onders. Jon’s goal was to raise \$1,000 for Camperships. Happily, he passed his goal with a total of \$1,215 which will assist FoCC’s support in this important area. Our Ways & Means Committee remained active, scheduling a fall Dining To Donate event at BJs Restaurant & Brewhouses in Mentor, North Olmsted & Fairlawn.

While our string of online zoom Membership Meetings was successful, it was with great joy that we returned to Camp on August 28th for our first in-person meeting in 18 months. It was our first “hybrid” attempt: members in the Rec Hall along with those attending via zoom. Thanks to Tessy Flannery whose tech savvy helped us pull it off.

The 8th annual Dinner & Reverse Raffle repeated as a virtual event with raffles for prize money and Browns football tickets as well as our 2nd Online Auction. 125 tickets were sold for cash prizes along with the chance to bid on artist Tom Mayer’s donated painting, “Welcome Home.” On Thursday September 16, several stalwart Reverse Raffle committee members met at Day Camp to help FoCC President Jerry Antonucci draw twelve cash winners of a total of \$3,225.00 in cash prizes. Congratulations to top winner Fr. Frank Basa (who donated \$200 of his \$1,000 back to FoCC), to Kathy Cable who won the tickets to the Browns vs. Lions game, and to our auction winner for the second year in a row, Dr. Joe Clark. Totals in ticket sales, donations and the auction helped FoCC raise \$5,701.18!

In addition to our donations which help to support Camp, volunteer hours continue to enhance the site. Volunteer Committee Chair Phyllis Richardson has documented more than 1,170 hours given to projects (some as simple as planting a tree) that extend beyond meeting rooms and committee work.

Congratulations to our elected leadership which will guide FoCC in 2022-2023: President: Jerry Antonucci, Vice-President: Kitt Kurtz, Treasurer: Larry Furman, Secretary: Barb Hertrick, and At-Large Board Members Bernadette Sovacool & Mary Truax.

