



# Camp Nokomis Chatter

Fall 2018



## Notes from the Camp Director...

Hello Ladies! I hope you are all doing well and your school year is off to a great start. I can't believe we are already in the middle of fall! It feels like just yesterday we were at camp enjoying the beauty of the lake and having fun with our friends. I'm already counting down the days until we are back together on Bear Island.

The camp season ended with the Wilmington High School band having their 41st Band Camp at Nokomis followed by Women's Wellness weekend. Many of the women who attended were Nokomis alumnae, happy to have the chance to return to camp for a beautiful and

relaxing weekend. One of their activities is a sunset cruise on the Bear. The Bear was transformed with fairy lights, ribbons, beautiful plants and **Ryan** dressed in a fancy "Captain's" shirt for the occasion!

I left camp on Labor Day feeling sad to go home. The cabins were all closed down, the floors in the Dining Hall and Lodge were prepped to be sealed and **Brian** and **Ryan** were getting ready to paint the cabins, all of which has been completed. Shortly after I arrived home, **Hannah** and her sister Phoebe, who worked at another camp this summer, came to stay with us. They had just finished their East Coast Trek and a visit with **Cam** in New York City. Getting to spend time with camp friends always makes coming home a little easier, as well as watching this year's camp video. I hope you have had a chance to see it. Every time I watch it, I'm reminded of how lucky we are to spend our summer at Nokomis and how grateful I am to have an incredible staff who work so hard to make it all happen.

There are many highlights from this summer. There were paddle board trips and mountain trips and kayaking trips and swims to the Mail Dock. We gave out 56 five year pins, 6 ten year watches, 1 fifteen year necklace and 1 twenty year jacket! We had campers and staff from at least ten different countries, making the world feel like a smaller place. I feel blessed that camp provides us with this opportunity.

We had four Special Days: Maroon vs. White Day, Gnomekomis National Treasure Day, Jumanji Day and our annual Olympics. Each day was unique and filled with a ton of new and fun activities. We had a "Spooktacular" themed banquet at the end of first month and a "Secret Garden" themed banquet at the end of the summer. The plays and musicals, as always, were amazing. The plays were *Four for the Money* and *Winnie the Pooh*. The musicals were *Seussical Junior* and *James and the Giant Peach Junior*. The staff and campers did an incredible job. I am always in awe of what they accomplish in a month! We performed the story of *Jonah and the Whale* at St. John's Chapel in the middle of the island. I recently learned that Camp Nokomis has been doing services there longer than anyone else. Pretty impressive! Staff Skit was *Mamma Mia* and the theme for CIT Fair was "Phineas and Ferb."

It is clear from the amount of award cards we gave out this summer, that you were all very busy in your activities, not to mention all of the Full Lakes and a couple of Full Hills that were earned as well. At each banquet campers voted for the spirits. There really is no greater honor than that which comes from your peers. This year's first month spirits were **Morgan O'Grady** for Thoughtfulness, **Martha Davis** for Cooperation, **Gen Rubin** and **Claire McDonald** for Enthusiasm and **Ceci Crespo** for Princess. Second month spirits were **Emily Dunbar** for Thoughtfulness, **Hope Stafford** and **Sydney Zarlengo** for Cooperation, **Katie Iacomini** for Enthusiasm and **Charlotte Bedford** for Princess. **Riley Spring** was named Best Sailor. Our final awards for the season are Best Camper and Leadership. The *Best Camper Award* goes to the person who has a wide range of activity skills, embodies the Nokomis spirit and is a true "princess." That person this year was **Bella Houle**. The *Leadership Award* goes to someone who uses her leadership skills in a positive way. She is a role model and leads by example. This year, that award went to **Riley Spring**.

There are many more happy memories; running through the sprinkler on those hot days, clam farming in the third section, making s'mores, singing our favorite camp songs, building fairy villages and making life long friendships.

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(...continued from front) My wish for all of you is that on those days that feel hard, you close your eyes and remember your time at camp. I want to thank each and every one of you for being a part of my 2nd summer as camp director. I am filled with gratitude. You inspire me and give me hope for the future. All of our individual gifts come together at camp to create the perfect picture. You are all a part of the puzzle. Remember that kindness matters, and that you are strong, smart young women. And most importantly, Be Happy!

In the next Chatter, I will be providing more camper and staff news, so if you have anything you'd like to share, please email me at [gseifert@mvyymca.org](mailto:gseifert@mvyymca.org). For now, I'll leave you with a quote by Desmond Tutu " Do your little bit of good where you are; it's those little bits of good put together that overwhelm the world."

Love,

### **DON'T FORGET:**

**Registration for the 2019 season has begun.  
We already have several waitlists and the other sessions are filling up fast.  
Register online or call the Camp Office at 978-975-1330 before it's too late!**

**Help spread Camp Nokomis spirit!  
Encourage your friends and family to register for the 2019 season.**

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