# THEDREAMCATCHER



News from Camp Māk-A-Dream

GOLD CREEK, MONTANA

# "Do Good Things" Wes Moholt Makes Good on Sister's Vision

Levery summer, Wes Moholt (who turned 88 this January) joyfully defends his Camp record for "oldest person down the zip line." As impressive as that is, we're even more moved by Wes' tireless advocacy and ardent support for Camp. Generous, compassionate people like Wes make Camp possible.

Wes became familiar with Camp through his sister, Alice "Ali" Lee Lund. Wes describes Ali as often imploring, "do good things," and Wes has lived up to that challenge. Ali was a graduate of the University of Montana and a teacher. While she lived many other

places, she loved Missoula and returned to live there after retiring. Unfortunately, Ali passed away from pancreatic cancer in 2001. In her name, the Alice Lee Lund Memorial Trust was created to support organizations reflecting her passion for children, education, animals and

the elderly. According to Wes, Camp Māk-A-Dream was one of the organizations Ali wanted to support. He says, "It didn't take me long to be captivated by the program and become as enthused as Ali was."



Wes (far right) ready for his turn on the zipline

"It didn't take me long to be captivated by the program and become as enthused as Ali was." —Wes Moholt

Camp has been the fortunate recipient of grants from the Alice Lee Lund Memorial Trust over the past 15+ years. Throughout that time, Wes has made annual trips from his home near Portland, Oregon, to engage with campers and see the impact of his sisters' legacy, including our newest building, the Wellness Center, which bears her name. "It pleases me immensely to have Ali recognized for her commitment to children and worthy organizations." Wes adds: "Even on a difficult day, it makes me feel good to know I've done something good for someone. I've enjoyed every minute of it."

Wes attributes his longevity to remaining active. We would argue his benevolence and positive outlook also might have something to do with it. Thank you, Wes, for fulfilling your sister's vision and for making a significant difference in the lives of so many affected by cancer. We're humbled by and grateful for the generosity of people like you and Ali. We can't wait for you to join us at Camp again this year. The zip line is waiting.



Alice "Ali" Lee Lund

## **Our Mission**

Camp Māk-A-Dream empowers survivors and their families to live with and beyond cancer through life-changing Montana experiences where they strengthen life skills, gain resilience and develop lasting relationships.

# 2017 ANNUAL REPORT

- + 11 camp sessions from April to September
- + **568 campers** (271 new) from 43 states and Canada
- + 145 volunteers
  from 24 states and Canada
- + 15 summer staff
  2 brand-new to Camp, 7 returning staff
  and 6 former volunteers
- + 8 physicians & 22 nurses (15 new) among medical staff volunteers
- + More than \$66,400 in travel scholarships
- + 365 riders
  at the 16<sup>th</sup> annual RATPOD fundraiser
- + 21 acts & a sold-out show for the 2<sup>nd</sup> annual Lip Sync Battle at the Missoula Community Theater
- + New website launched in November, with online donation portal

# **Board President's Message**

Ah, 1995. Seems like it was just yesterday when...

- + Gas cost \$1.09 a gallon
- + The Dow Jones closed above 5,000 for the first time
- + eBay launched
- + Tom Hanks won an Oscar for best actor in Forrest Gump
- + DVDs became a thing
- + Toy Story was the first feature-length computer-animated film
- + Camp Māk-A-Dream held its first camp, with 46 children in attendance

Heading into our 24<sup>th</sup> year, it's hard to believe how much has changed since our start and, yet, how much remains the same. Lifetime friendships continue to be forged at Camp, and yet they are now strengthened after the week is over through social media, chat groups, email and our website. As in 1995, Shirley welcomes campers each and every year. Although she's retiring this year, her legacy will buoy Camp for many years to come. Our lodge has long been a central gathering place, and this year, it will enjoy much-needed renovations to keep it sound for another 24 seasons and beyond. And finally, we're fortunate to have the continued support of many who've been with Camp for all or much of its history. This newsletter honors *you*—our generous donors, volunteers and supporters. Just like those who kicked off Camp in 1995, you make Camp possible with every hour spent, dollar donated, every like or share on social media, and every hosted event. We are grateful for the tangible impact you make in the lives of those affected by cancer.

We are committed now, as always, to helping survivors and their families live with and beyond cancer. Camp is a safe, inclusive place where campers can not only set aside their battle with cancer for a week to enjoy the beauty and adventure of Montana, but also discover new skills, renew hope and envision a future. This was true in 1995 and remains so in 2018. Thank you for being part of Camp. If our future is anything like our past, it will be remarkable thanks to *you* and your kind-hearted support.

All my thanks, Margot O'Leary Board President

#### **New Website**

We're still at www.campdream.org but with a whole new look and feel, thanks to the generosity and creative geniuses at Partners Creative. Be sure to check out the "People of Camp" section.



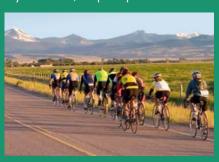
#### New Electronic Health Record (EHR) System Coming

We are implementing a new EHR system called CampDoc. It will improve our ability to care for the medical needs of campers and serve as a registration system.



#### New Shorter Route at RATPOD

Ever thought of riding in RATPOD, but nearly 130 miles just seemed too much? We added a shorter, metric century (62 miles) route! It's just as scenic, and pie stop is still included!



Vew at Camp

# 2018 Cost-free Programs

Open to cancer patients in or out of treatment







#### **April 26-30**

#### **Ovarian Cancer Retreat, Spring**

Women diagnosed with ovarian cancer (21+ years old)

#### May 3-7

#### **Women's Cancer Retreat, Spring**

Women diagnosed with any type of cancer (21+ years old)

#### June 5-11

#### **Young Adult Conference**

Young adults diagnosed with cancer (18-35 years old)

#### June 14-20 **Heads Up Conference**

Young adults diagnosed with a brain tumor (18-35 years old)

#### June 26-July 2 **Teen Camp**

Teenagers diagnosed with cancer (14-18 years old)

#### **July 5-11**

#### Teen Heads Up Conference, Session #1

Teenagers diagnosed with a brain tumor (13-18 years old); geared toward new teen participants or those who have attended Teen HUC once before

#### **July 14-19 Kids Camp**

Children diagnosed with cancer (6-13 years old)

#### July 23-28

#### **Siblings Camp**

Siblings and children of cancer patients (6-13 years old)

#### **July 31-August 5 Teen Siblings Camp**

Siblings and children of cancer patients (13-18 years old)

#### Camp Māk-A-Dream

Gold Creek, Montana (406) 549-5987

#### August 8-14

#### Teen Heads Up Conference, Session #2

Teenagers diagnosed with a brain tumor (13-18 years old); geared towards teens who have attended Teen HUC two or more times

#### **August 17-19 Family Camp**

Children under the age of 12 who have been diagnosed with cancer, accompanied by their families

#### September 6-10

#### **Ovarian Cancer Retreat, Fall**

Women diagnosed with ovarian cancer (21+ years old)

#### September 13-17

#### **Women's Cancer Retreat, Fall**

Women diagnosed with any type of cancer (21+ years old)

Applications for spring and summer sessions are available online, while applications for fall adult retreats open June 1, 2018. Visit our website, www.campdream.org, for more information.

# Renovations

Te are proud of our beautiful and welcoming campus. Our all-abilities facility is unique among oncology camps. However, as we enter our 24th season at Camp, renovations are required to maintain or improve safety, accessibility, energy efficiency and/or cost-effective routine maintenance.

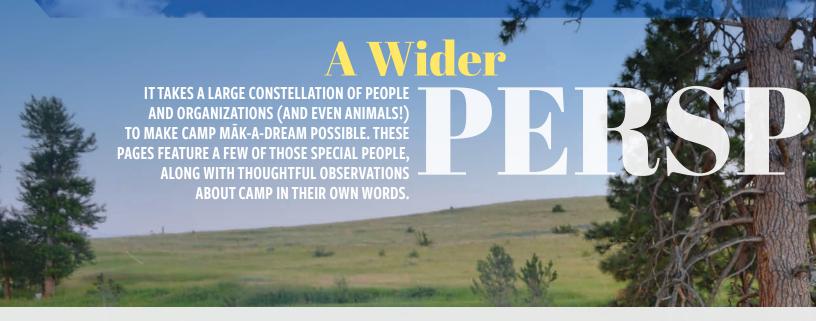
Camp Open House September 30, 2018 | 1-5 p.m.



Accordingly, we have embarked on several key renovations, including: 1) new lodge and cabin flooring; 2) energy-efficient heating and cooling systems; 3) replacement of building envelopes; 4) repair of concrete around the campus for enhanced safety; 5) energy-efficient lighting and plumbing fixtures; and 6) new furniture that is easier to clean and more accessible.

Renovations have begun and will be completed as funding allows. To date, several foundations, including the MJ Murdock Charitable Trust, Sample Foundation, KOA Care Camps and the Frank M. & Gertrude R. Doyle Foundation, have awarded us grant funding for these projects. We are grateful for their generous support and shared vision for ensuring that Camp remains as hospitable as it's always been.

See the completed renovations and have some fun at Camp at our Open House on September 30, 2018, from 1-5 p.m. In collaboration with our title sponsor for the event, Blackfoot, we welcome you to spend the day on our campus.



#### **ABOUT** STACIA WAGNER-SERRER

n 2007, representatives from Camp and the Children's Brain Tumor Foundation met to discuss how our two organizations might come together to better meet the needs of brain tumor survivors. Stacia has been an integral, dedicated and passionate part of Camp ever since. She is not only a skilled researcher and tireless advocate, she puts her heart into everything she does and is known for making the most of every moment at Camp. You are just as likely to find Stacia leading a workshop, calling out someone's name to say hi, climbing the butte at sunrise or singing along to "Don't Stop Believing" during the dance party. We

are grateful for our long-term partnership with the Children's Brain Tumor Foundation and for all that Stacia has contributed to our community.

#### IN HER OWN WORDS

Building partnerships is crucial to meeting the vast needs of the growing adolescent and young adult brain tumor survivor population. Together, Children's Brain Tumor Foundation (CBTF) and Camp Mak-A-Dream recognized the unmet social and informational needs in the brain tumor world. CBTF is focused on building community and improving the quality of life for childhood brain tumor survivors and their families. We recognized the passion and one-of-a-kind environment Camp Māk-A-Dream provides and knew bringing our organizations together would create a perfect partnership.

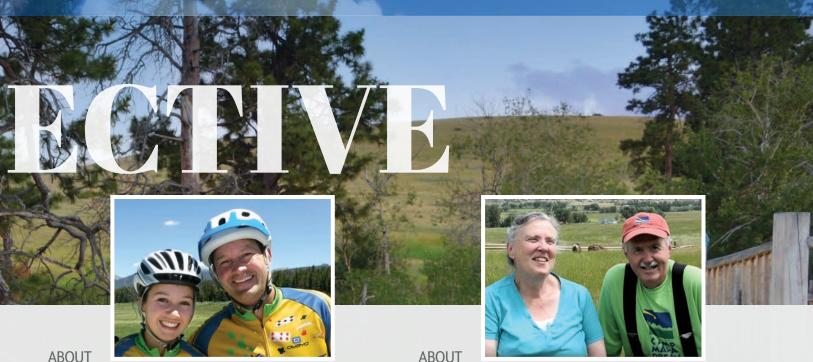


"We recognized the passion and one-of-a-kind environment Camp Mãk-A-Dream provides and knew bringing our organizations together would create a perfect partnership." -Stacia

A decade ago we held the first Heads Up Conference for young adults diagnosed with a brain tumor. The purpose of the conference was to engage, entertain, educate and empower the group. We hoped to build a community, increase independence and improve self-esteem. We had to overcome many challenges, including convincing parents their young adult children would be safe flying across the country and convincing the young adults that this would be a life-altering experience and not just hours of talking about brain tumors. This original group of 30 helped us design and refine the program, which continues to

evolve. Two participants in the first group even married later and now have two wonderful daughters.

Since that time, we have added two Heads Up Conferences for teens, as well as peer mentors, a goal-setting group and this year, a leadership-in-training component. We have team-building activities and chats led by Camp staff and mentors, encompassing topics that only other brain tumor survivors would understand. We have partnered with dozens of hospital staff and academic presenters and have brought participants from almost all 50 states. We continue to connect them through Facebook groups and online chats. This is a life-changing experience not just for the young adults and teens, but for all of us.



ABOUT PHIL GARDNER

Phil, a Missoula-area physician and co-founder of the RATPOD (Ride Around The Pioneers in One Day) event, donates countless hours advocating for camp and making RATPOD a continued success. He is as gracious and kind a human being as you could ever meet. Pictured with Phil is his eldest daughter, Stella, who has been exposed to Camp her entire life and has become a volunteer herself.

#### IN HIS OWN WORDS:

As an old camp counselor, I understand the powerful force that a camp experience has on young people. The combination of fellowship, risk taking and intimacy with the outdoors is a wonderful soil for personal growth. Camp Māk-A-Dream offers this to a unique group of campers. Facing obstacles that are unfathomable to their peers back home, Camp is the stage for extraordinary experiences.

I first became involved with Camp through RATPOD, which has grown to be a successful fundraiser for the past 17 years, raising

"...Camp is the stage for extraordinary experiences."
-Phil Gardner

more than \$3.5 million dollars. Through RATPOD, I have worked with nearly all of the camp staff and administrators, forming lifelong friendships. I have heard stories of courage

from campers that have pierced my soul. Visits to camp to witness the joy on long Montana summer nights have further emboldened my passion for the place. But what strikes me the most is the selflessness that all of these folks exhibit for the common cause. This selfless service lifts kids up to astounding heights in the face of uncertain trials. It has been a profound pleasure to be a small part of this group.

# JIM AND ARLETTE DEMING

Jim and Arlette first came to Camp in 2007 as cabin counselors. Since that time, they have led our horse program, bringing their horses from Belgrade to Gold Creek each week so that campers can pet, groom and ride these amazing animals. Jim and Arlette understood the therapeutic power of the horse program and its impact on campers' lives. We are thankful to them for initiating and facilitating this program over the years and for always putting the safety and well-being of campers above all.

#### IN THEIR OWN WORDS:

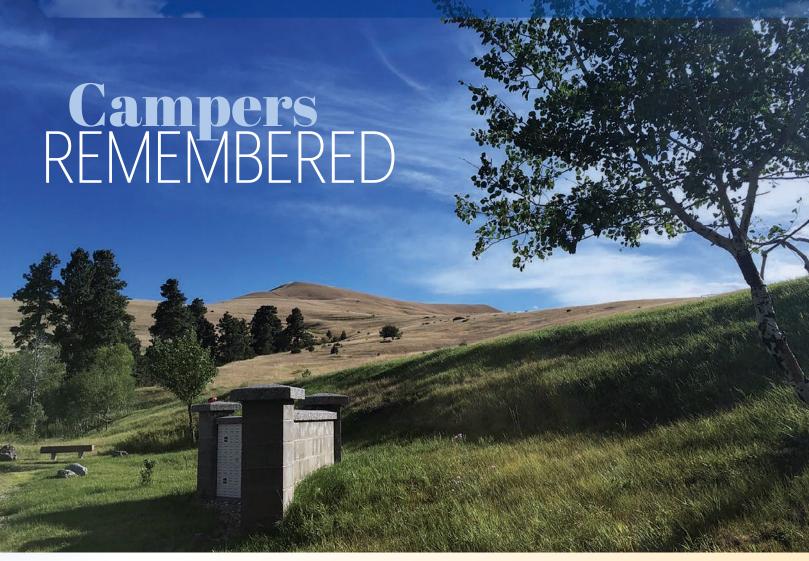
"There's something about the outside of a horse that is good for the inside of a man." This quote sums up our experience at Camp. Early on, Arlette saw the need for a horse project at Camp. We were the proud owners of two mountain horses who

were calm and accustomed to surprises on the trail. We felt they would be a perfect fit. What we did not realize in those days

"There's something about the outside of a horse that is good for the inside of a man." -Jim & Arlette

was the series of moments we would be privileged to experience as campers face their fears of horses, master a riding element or just plain enjoy petting such a powerful yet gentle animal.

In the arena, time stands still. What matters is the gift of life we call "the present." Horse and rider have one simple purpose: to enjoy the moment. One such moment makes the time and energy we expend to provide this opportunity to the campers worth it. We are blessed with such experiences with every ride and rider. We consider ourselves the lucky ones and will continue to provide a horse program to Camp Māk-A-Dream as long as we are physically able.



All of our past campers are remembered in Granader Gardens at Camp.

Ann Benusa Eagan, MN

Sami Bienkowski Toms River, NJ

Johnny Cathcart New York, NY

Zachary Eder Cologne, MN

Shane Fors Coon Rapids, MN

Jessica Gladstone Brooklyn, NY

Roberta Heck Portland, OR

Sydney Hedges Colstrip, MT

Lillian Hines Helena, MT Nicole Hunter Macomb, IL

Arden Jacobs Lolo, MT

Meranda Johnson Pillager, MN

Sharon Johnston Missoula, MT

Jacqueline Larson Maple Grove, MN

Linda Letcher Superior, MT

Haylee Lewis Portage, MI

Janice Lienhard Palmyra, NJ

Jennifer Lowe Grimes, IA

Griselda "Gwen" Macias San Antonio, TX

Joanna Macpherson Newnan, GA

Sarah McGettrick Brunswick, GA

Ginger Ortiz North Augusta, SC

Brianna Payne
Wolf Point, MT

Lynn Post Boulder, CO

Ali Powers Kenosha, WI

Arlene Quezada Cape Coral, FL

Mary Ann Radigan Deer Park, WI Laura Rinset Rancho Cordova, CA

Marlene Sague Los Angeles, CA

Paula Scharf Kohn Mamaroneck, NY

Trent Spangler
Apple Valley, MN

Mindy Swan Columbia Falls, MT

Christine Taylor McKinleyville, CA

Pamala Tharp Bethel, ME

Lisa Verzani Helena, MT

Daphne Williams York Haven, PA

<sup>\*\*</sup>List current at the time of printing.



# **Creative Ways to Support Camp**

- + The Underriner family loans Camp a vehicle from their auto dealership each summer.
- + The Missoula Quilters' Guild creates unique pillow covers for each camper to take home as a memento.
- + Hellgate Corvette Club brings its classic cars to Kids Camp so children can see these cool cars up close.
- + A group of retired women volunteered in our foundation office when we were short a staff person.
- + The local Beta Sigma Phi chapter's "Meet for Bingo, Bingo for Meat" event benefits Camp.

These are just a few of the ways our supporters help Camp. We are inspired by and immensely grateful for each and every one. Camp wouldn't be possible without such creative generosity. Interested in supporting Camp, but not sure how? Check out www.campdream.org/ways-to-support/10-ways-to-support/.

Or, if you would like to host an event, see www.campdream.org/events/camp-event-kit/. Every bit helps and makes our mission of empowering survivors and their families to live with and beyond cancer a reality.

#### KIM McKEARNAN EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

without such creative generosity.

This year's newsletter features just a few of the many, <u>many</u> people who have supported Camp over the years. It is these dedicated individuals who make Camp possible. And there may be no individual who has shown more dedication than Shirley Hummer.

Shirley will retire this year after 23 years at Camp. Though her colleagues and I are in a perpetual state of denial, we are also overwhelmed by our gratitude for having had the opportunity to work with, learn from and befriend Shirley. We know we are not alone. Shirley is often the voice on the other end of the phone who has all the answers. It would be impossible to count the number of times that people crossed the bridge looking to meet the person that helped get them to Camp. There is not a camper, parent or volunteer out there—former or current—who hasn't benefited from Shirley's knowledge, compassion, humor, adaptability and advocacy.

From assuring parents we are ready to take care of the children they are sending across the country, to being the resident "chicken," to cooking delicious meals, to catching campers at the tail end of the zip line, to folding laundry, to booking countless airline tickets,

to being the master of details: Shirley has done it all. It is difficult to imagine what Camp will be without Shirley in its future. However, it is impossible to imagine what Camp would have been without Shirley as such a big part of its past. Please help us thank Shirley for all she has done for all of us over the years, congratulate her on her retirement and wish her well for the wonderful adventures to come.

## DED-I-CA-TION | dedə'kāSH(ə)n

the quality of being dedicated or committed to a task or purpose

SYNONYMS: commitment, diligence, resolve, enthusiasm, zeal, tenacity, persistence, staying power, **Shirley Hummer** 











#### **Children's Oncology Camp Foundation**

P.O. Box 1450 Missoula, MT 59806-1450 www.campdream.org

#### 2018 Camp Māk-A-Dream Events



3rd Annual **Lip Sync Battle** April 8, 2018 LipSyncMissoula.com Missoula Community Theater



17th Annual RATPOD Ride Around The Pioneers in One Day June 23, 2018

Ratpod.org Dillon, MT



#### **Showin' Off for Camp** Māk-A-Dream Car Show July 8, 2018

campdream.org Missoula Fairgrounds Missoula, MT

Missoula, MT

Many everyday items are needed at Camp! These are just a few. 2018 Wish List Many everyday items are needed at Camp! These are just a few. For a complete list, visit our website. Donations may be tax-deductible.

- ★ Gift cards (Visa or MasterCard) to: Target, Michael's, Best Buy, REI, Costco, Staples
- ★ Nylon, hemp, silk, lanyard and leather cord for jewelry making
- 🖈 Glass beads
- Leather craft tools
- ★ Sharpie markers (assorted colors)
- ★ Themed decorations (1950s, rock 'n' roll, diner/soda fountain, sock hop)

- ★ Solid-color lunch or cocktail-size napkins
- ★ New, plain white cotton t-shirts and ankle socks (child & adult sizes)
- 🖈 Balloons (12" assorted colors)
- ★ Office copy paper (letter and legal size)
- ★ USB thumb drives (2 GB or larger capacity)
- ★ External hard drives
- ★ Batteries (AAA, AA)

- ★ Packing tape (clear, 2" width)
- ★ New, unopened bottles of sunscreen
- New cans of insect repellent
- ★ Embroidery thread (assorted colors) for friendship bracelets
- ★ Inflatable/pool toys and games
- ★ Arcade games free standing (call for details)
- Pool cues

#### o How You Can Help $\epsilon$

- Make a general donation
- Give in memory or honor of someone or a special occasion
- Make a pledge or planned gift
- Give an item from our wish list (see above or visit our website)
- Display our literature in your business or professional office
- Have us speak at your civic organization or business meeting
- Volunteer with us—at Camp, in our office or at a fundraising event
- Rent our camp facility for a meeting, group retreat or family reunion
- Host an event in your area (see "creative ways to support camp" for more information)
- Donate unused ad or media space
- Take advantage of your company's corporate matching gifts program
- Like/follow us on Twitter, Pinterest, Instagram, flickr, YouTube, and Facebook
- Share your connection to Camp with others





