



# CROSLEY COMPASS

CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION 1915-2015

## Camp Crosley YMCA is marking 100 years of camping excellence this summer.

Dear Alumni,

Camp Crosley is marking 100 years of camping excellence this summer with its Centennial Celebration on July 18, 2015, and we need your help in several ways:

Alumni Relations, on LinkedIn.

2.) Plan to join us for the Celebration, a day filled with food, fun and festivities.

3.) Share your story. As part of the dedication ceremonies for our brand new H2Whoa Zone, we are planning to bury a time capsule filled with My Crosley Stories. Whether it's something as simple as, *I learned to sail at camp*, to a deeper connection such as *I found my faith at camp*, your memories matter. Email your Camp Crosley Story along with your contact information to [priscilla@campcrosley.org](mailto:priscilla@campcrosley.org). Also, be looking online in a few weeks for new forms on the Alumni page of our camp website at [www.campcrosley.org](http://www.campcrosley.org). These will provide an even easier way for you to keep up with the Centennial Celebration plans.

Great things are behind us, and even greater things are to come. Stay connected with all the news, updates and events.

1.) Help us find other alumni. Like and Share the Camp Crosley Facebook page as well as the Camp Crosley Alumni Facebook Page with your camp friends. Send your snail mail and email addresses to [priscilla@campcrosley.org](mailto:priscilla@campcrosley.org).

so we can update our records and keep in touch with you regarding our plans. You can also connect with Priscilla Brown Jamora, Director of

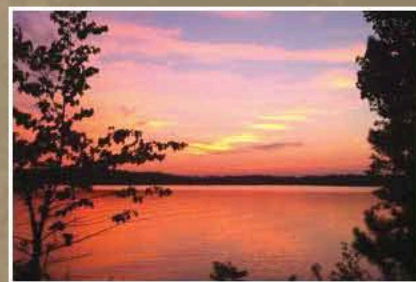
CAMP CROSLEY  
1920



5th Season  
Y.M.C.A. Boys' Department  
MUNCIE, INDIANA



## MY CROSLEY STORY



Did Camp Crosley have an impact on your life? Share your story with us! Stories submitted will be included in the time capsule buried at the Centennial Celebration.

Send them to:  
**Priscilla Jamora**  
**Camp Crosley YMCA**  
165 EMS T2 Lane,  
North Webster, IN 46555  
[priscilla@campcrosley.org](mailto:priscilla@campcrosley.org)

(If you do not want your story made public, just let us know and it will be kept private and placed in the capsule.)

## Are Your Children Signed up For Camp?

(Grandkids Count too!)

Sign up today so you won't be caught on the waiting list! You can register online at [www.campcrosley.org](http://www.campcrosley.org)





# CAMP CROSLEY HOME.

Camp Crosley is Home. Last year when we asked campers to describe why this place was important to them, they repeated this phrase over and over. It's the strongest message they gave us. Along with feeling at home here, they also expressed these sentiments:

OVER THE YEARS,  
WE HAVE WORKED  
HARD TO MAKE  
CAMP CROSLEY  
THE BEST CAMP  
THAT IT CAN BE  
IN EVERY WAY.

- You can do so many things that you can't do anywhere else, while making friends you will always have.
- Camp is energetic, hopeful, awesome, accepting, energetic and accepts you for who you are.
- Camp taught me to be respectful and to care about others.
- Camp makes me think about caring, respecting and supporting others.
- The staff treat you like you are their best friend; they want you to succeed.
- Camp allowed me to overcome my fears; it gave me confidence.
- When I come down the hill into camp, I can't not smile.
- If I didn't have camp, I don't think I would be the person I am today.
- Camp is my safe haven.
- Camp is life.

A staff member shared, My

camp memories and friendships are unique to this place, but universal to the rest of my life. Year after year Camp has changed so many lives, brought so many people to new heights - to be the best versions of themselves. Then they go into the world, and they share this with others and say proudly, "I am a Crosley kid."

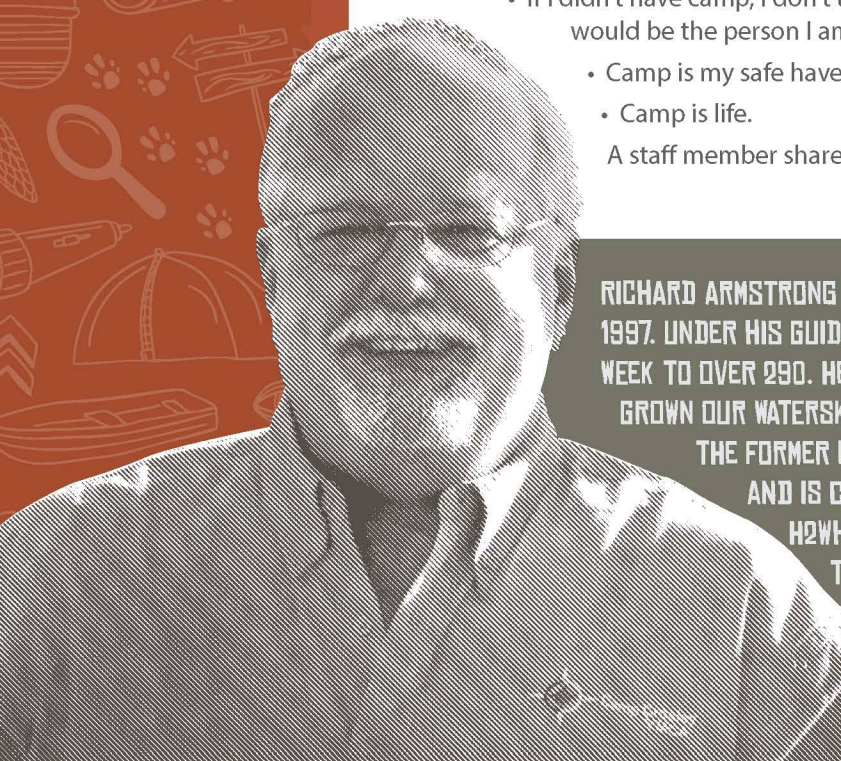
Any of these resonate with you?

These statements sum up why I have spent 18 years here at Crosley. It's a place that changes lives. It's a place I call home. I hope you do too, even if you haven't been here for years. I hope that you have some memories of this place that make you smile, that make you feel good about yourself and that connect you to others.

Over the years, we have worked hard to make Camp Crosley the best camp that it can be in every way. But in doing so, we didn't do a good job of keeping you, our "extended family," connected. So, starting this fall we have committed to changing this. Our first step was hiring Priscilla Brown Jamora as our Director of Alumni Relations. She is reaching out to alumni and helping put into place a framework to keep you informed and aware of what is going on here at Crosley. This is our first newsletter just for alumni. We have more coming this year as well as a new alumni section of our website. We are committed to reaching out to all of our family.

2015 is the Centennial year of camping for the YMCA of Muncie. We are celebrating here at Camp on July 18th,, and we're inviting all of you to join us. I hope that this event will be the first of many for all of our family. Isn't it time you came home?

*Richard*



RICHARD ARMSTRONG HAS SERVED AS CAMP CROSLEY'S EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR SINCE 1997. UNDER HIS GUIDANCE, CAMP HAS GROWN FROM AN AVERAGE OF 110 CAMPERS A WEEK TO OVER 290. HE'S OVERSEEN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF OUR HIGH ROPES COURSE, GROWN OUR WATERSKIING AND WAKEBOARDING PROGRAMS, HELPED CAMP CROSLEY BUY THE FORMER CAMP DICK RUNYAN, WHICH IS NOW OUR NORTH TEEN VILLAGE, AND IS CURRENTLY OVERSEEING THE CONSTRUCTION OF CAMP'S NEW H2WHOA ZONE. CAMP'S FORTUNATE TO HAVE A DIRECTOR LIKE THIS AT THE HELM. HE'D LOVE TO HEAR FROM YOU, ALUMNI!



# Hi EVERYONE,

Boy, it's nice to be able to start connecting with all of you. I'm Priscilla, the Director of Alumni Relations here at Camp Crosley. I was a Crosley camper in 1984 and then returned as staff during the summers of '88, '89, '90 and '94. Like many of you, when I drove down Tony McNeal Lane to leave camp the last summer of my employment, I headed out into the "real world," filled with hopes, dreams and a lot of memories.

Some of those dreams grew into reality. Some of those hopes were fulfilled, but all of the memories remained intact. I didn't realize how much so until my father, a Crosley camper back in the 1930's, passed away in 2007. I hadn't been back to or thought about camp until this time because it was the one special place he and I shared.

I love the words he used to describe Crosley - a sacred space. So simple, yet so true and profound.

I wanted to do something to honor that connection. So, I poked around the internet and found the camp website. It just so happened it was advertising a Girlfriend's Getaway Weekend so I called one of my oldest, dearest childhood friends and said, "Let's go!" I can't explain the myriad of

feelings I experienced walking down that hill into the camp dining hall after being away for 13 years. Now, a wife, mother and teacher, the only hat I wore at that moment was Crosley camper.

That weekend I laughed, I cried. I thought about life and connected with other people different from me...you know...just like we all did at camp. Simply put...I belonged.

This past summer I was fortunate enough to run into Bishop John Hopkins (or as some of us remember him, the guitar playing Chaplain John) at camp while my own daughters were campers. He was there getting some respite, and I love the words he used to describe Crosley - a sacred space. So simple, yet so true and profound.

I hope in starting this newsletter, we are kicking off the chance for many of us to share memories, reconnect, laugh together, cry together, and learn more about life from people different from us. We tell kids camp is a place where they belong. It's no different for us - the adults.

You and your Camp Crosley memories matter.

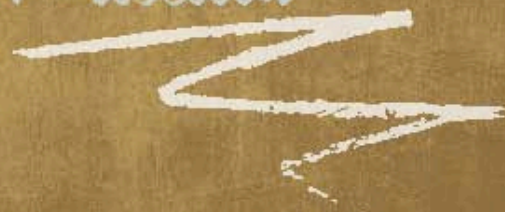
*Over the years many things at camp has changed, but the Dining Hall remains a constant center of activity.*



*Priscilla (Brown) Jamora, Director of Alumni Relations, Former Crosley Camper, Staff and Board Member*

Will you please share them with me? Email me at [priscilla@campcrosley.org](mailto:priscilla@campcrosley.org). Update me on your life and your family. Share a camp memory and a photo or two. Connect with Camp Crosley on Facebook. Look for me on LinkedIn. Come join us for the Centennial Celebration on July 18. If Camp is Home, then you are Family. It's time for a Reunion.

*Priscilla*





# CAMP CROSLEY'S **H2WHOA! ZONE**

WHERE FUN HAPPENS.

## WELCOME TO H2 WHOA! ZONE

Many of us share fond memories of camp – especially the waterfront. It was there that we gazed at sunsets, learned to canoe, swam with our cabins and got up on skis for the first time. Today's campers enjoy the same activities along with wakeboarding, log rolling and stand up paddleboarding.

However, times are changing. It's now more of a challenge to get kids into the lake to swim for several reasons, the main one being the invasion of zebra mussels. These require that everyone wear swim shoes at all times, and their presence has spurred on algae and weed growth, making the bottom of the swim area murky and unsafe. Campers aren't swimming in the lake like they used to, and we think water activities should remain a top priority for campers. So what's the answer?

We thought about building a pool, but that isn't the natural experience we desire campers to have not to mention the cost of maintaining a camp pool would significantly add to the cost of attending camp. In researching options, we discovered one of our partners, Commercial Recreation Specialists, had a customer who'd built five different natural swimming ponds at their commercial campgrounds in Wisconsin. Staff and Board members visited these sites and saw first hand how these ponds offered every water toy imaginable. These campgrounds had pools as well, but they sat empty. Kids were swimming in the ponds.

This is where we got the idea for the H2Whoa Zone. It combines both water and land recreation and is designed with both safety and water quality in mind. Our Zone will include the following: Dual 100' water slides called the Wet Willie, 120' Zoom Flume, The Blob, a wakeboard cable, a huge beach to include a beach volleyball area and water park with over 20 inflatables. We'll have large pavilion holding up to 200 people that includes restrooms and a snack bar. Walking trails, gaga pits and a jumping pillow will surround the outlying areas.

The wake cable is going to be the first of its kind in Indiana, and more campers will get to try wakeboarding. It's safer and more cost effective as camp doesn't have to spend as much money on boats and fuel. (Campers will still ski and wakeboard on Little Tippy, but beginners will learn on the wake cable.)

The Zone will free up our lakefront, allowing us to expand all our boating activities. We can serve more campers in our classes, and with over 300 campers a week, this is a priority.

This transformational project would not be possible without two generous donations. We are grateful to the Ball Brothers Foundation for its generous gift of \$600,000 for the Zone. This marks its largest gift to camp to date and speaks of its support of this camp expansion. The George and Francis Ball Foundation donated \$400,000. These gifts have moved this project off of the planning board and into the construction phase.

So, alumni, this summer when you come for our Centennial Celebration on July, 18, as you drive down Tony McNeal Lane into camp, look to your right. You'll see lots of activity and hear shouts of laughter coming from the Whoa Zone. We can't wait to have you!



### FEATURING:

- BEACH
- FIRE PIT
- WATER SLIDES
- ZOOM FLUME
- KAYAKS & PADDLE BOATS
- WAKEBOARD TOW LINE

CAMP CROSLEY'S  
**H2WHOA!  
ZONE**  
WHERE FUN HAPPENS



# CAMP CROSLY

Dear Friend,

Camp is over, and as we both look back on these Camp periods we have spent together, we are wondering if you really got something more than a good time through your association with us. Have you learned to be a good sport, and take the bitter with the sweet without complaining? Have you learned to take the good natured razzing of your companions without getting sore? Have you learned to be on time and take better care of your personal belongings? Have you learned to share your little lot with your companions, whether it be part of your blanket on a cold night to some of the cake your mother

sent you? Have you learned to quit asking for favors and stand on your own two feet? Have you found out that there are some other lads in camp who are much better in some particular activity than you are, when you felt you couldn't be beat in that particular activity - and have you taken your trimming like a man? Have you learned to stand by and watch someone else win some prize which you wanted, and hold no

malice toward the winner? And best of all, are you trying to stick by that decision that you made either in Chapel or Campfire to cut some things out of your life that do not belong there? If you honestly feel that you have really progressed in some of these, then your summer at Camp with us has not been idly spent.

Herbert Pettijohn,  
Camp Director | 1915-1955







# Katie's Camp Crosley

## ► *As Told to Priscilla Brown Jamora*

EVERY CAMP HAS ITS "STAPLE" CAMPERs. You know who they are – the kids who come with trunks instead of suitcases. They hang out over the weekend, their laundry sent out every Friday night and returned on Saturday morning. They come not for just a week, but for the entire summer. During my time as a counselor at Camp Crosley, our staple campers were Katie and Mike, a brother/sister duo from Illinois.

What I remember most about Katie was her quick wit and her easy ability to make new friends every Sunday when the new crop of girls showed up to Miami Cabin. Her older brother, Mike, was quiet, but knew everything that was going on at camp. I like to say he flew under the radar because at first glance you'd think Mike wasn't engaged in all the activities, but oh, he was. He was soaking it all up – processing the people and the relationships.

For years I'd made assumptions about these two. I'd assumed they were rich kids from the suburbs whose parents were too busy with their own social lives and engagements to spend the summer with their children. A few years ago, I learned my assumptions couldn't

be farther from the truth. I'd like to share with you Katie's Crosley story. She and I met up at camp a few months ago to start planning the Centennial Celebration, and as she started sharing with former camper/counselor, Emily Allen, Executive Director, Richard Armstrong, I thought to myself, *Everyone needs to hear this!*

My parents divorced when I was little. Katie began. My mom worked retail, which meant her hours didn't always coincide with ours, especially on weekends. We did a lot at the Hammond (Indiana) Y, and that's where our mom found out about Camp Crosley. She didn't want us to be in day camp all summer so she saved and saved to send us to Camp Crosley. Mike and I were just talking the other day about how different our lives would be if we didn't come to camp. We loved it so much. Our mom would drive two hours to come see us on her day off, and we barely noticed her because we were having so much fun.

Katie grew up and married her camp crush, Gene, and together they have two daughters. She works in network recruiting for a large insurance company. Mike is married with





# Story



Katie (Fitzgerald) Ward and Mike, Fitzgerald with their mother Donna (Fitzgerald) Koenen ready to come to their second summer at Camp Crosley.

CHILDREN AS WELL, AND IS ENJOYING GREAT SUCCESS IN THE WORLD OF FINANCIAL PLANNING. BOTH ARE GIVING BACK TO CAMP, LENDING ME THEIR THOUGHTS, IDEAS AND EXPERTISE IN PLANNING SUCH A BIG EVENT.

THE POWER OF CAMP IS SO SIMPLE. KIDS COME TO US FROM ALL WALKS OF LIFE, CARRYING ALL KINDS OF EXPERIENCES AND EMOTIONS, AND CAMP MEETS THEM WHERE THEY ARE. CAMP WELCOMES THEM INTO CABINS AND CAMPFIRE CIRCLES AND SAYS, WE'RE ALL THE SAME HERE. THIS IS A SAFE PLACE - A PLACE WHERE YOU BELONG. WE KNOW THERE ARE THOUSANDS OF KATIE'S AND MIKE'S OUT THERE WITH THOUSANDS OF STORIES. YOU ARE ONE OF THEM. WE'D LOVE TO HEAR YOURS. IT CAN BE AS SIMPLE AS I LEARNED TO SKI AT CAMP, OR I MET MY BEST FRIEND AT CAMP. MAYBE IT'S A LITTLE MORE PROFOUND LIKE KATIE'S AND MICHAEL'S. NO MATTER THE STORY, WE WANT TO HEAR IT. WE'RE COLLECTING THEM TO PUT INTO A TIME CAPSULE TO BURST DURING OUR CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION. YEARS FROM NOW, WE ENVISION FUTURE CAMPER'S AND STAFF OPENING THE CAPSULE AND READING VOICES FROM THE PAST WHO HELPED SHAPE THEIR FUTURE. WOULD YOU PLEASE TAKE A MINUTE AND EMAIL YOUR STORY TO

PRISCILLA@CAMPCROSBLORE. OR SNAIL MAIL IT TO CAMP CROSBY, 165 E. M. T-2 LN, NORTH WEBSTER, IN 46555, ATTN: MY CROSBY STORY. THANK YOU IN ADVANCE. WE CAN'T WAIT TO HEAR FROM YOU.

YOURS FROM CAMP,  
PRISCILLA



# BRING YOUR FAMILY TO CAMP!

EACH SUMMER CAMP THROWS OPEN IT'S DOORS FOR FAMILIES TO ENJOY THE MAGIC OF CAMP CROSLEY TOGETHER. WANT TO RELIVE YOUR CAMP MEMORIES AND SHARE WITH YOUR FAMILY? THIS IS YOUR CHANCE:

FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO REGISTER CALL PAM AT (574) 834-2331

MEMORIAL DAY FAMILY CAMP  
MAY 22-24

LABOR DAY FAMILY CAMP  
SEPTEMBER 4-7

ONLINE REGISTRATION FOR FAMILY CAMP IS COMING IN MARCH, 2015!



[www.campcrosley.org](http://www.campcrosley.org)

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