

2023 Annual Report

Supporters of Camp Archbald



PO Box 22 • Mehoopany, PA 18629

socamparchbald@gmail.com

Supportersofcamparchbald.org



About Supporters of Camp Archbald (SoCA)

Supporters of Camp Archbald (SoCA) is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization dedicated to supporting and preserving Camp Archbald for Girl Scouting. We are essentially, the “friends” society that work directly with Girl Scouts in the Heart of Pennsylvania to ensure that Camp Archbald remains the beautiful and historic property it is.

About Camp Archbald

Camp Archbald, a 168 ½ acre camp, was founded in 1920 by the Scranton Pocono Girl Scout Council at a site in Susquehanna County on the shores of Ely Lake in Kingsley, PA. Camp Archbald is the second oldest Girl Scout camp in the United States. Camp Archbald’s major highlights include boating, swimming, climbing wall, zip line, low ropes course, hiking trails, archery and running across Schooney lawn! Camp’s facilities include the full range of Girl Scout outdoor overnight progressive experiences ranging from rustic platform tents to heated lodges with flush toilets and showers.

SoCA Committees

MarComm – Emily Loder – mediaforsoca@gmail.com

Research and History – Noah Penny – researchforsoca@gmail.com

Property – Pat Acker – propertyforsoca@gmail.com

Membership – April Caruso – membershipforsoca@gmail.com

Program/Events – Holly Legate – programforsoca@gmail.com

Fundraising – Vacant – fundraisingforsoca@gmail.com

Resident Camp – Jamie Puchalski – residentcampforsoca@gmail.com

Welcome to our 2023 Annual Report

The Supporters of Camp Archbald (SoCA) Board of Directors invites you to discover our 2023 year-end results contained throughout this report. We are positive you will be impressed with the vast variety of programming and outdoor experiences we hosted for the girls, teens and adults of our community. Most notably, we dedicated most of 2023 to two major projects - our two-week overnight resident camp (which exceeded expectations) and Greenwood, which received a massive overhaul (although we are only half-way done)!

SoCA is solely comprised of volunteers, which we are extremely thankful for. Indeed, this year volunteers spent over **12,000** hours helping us fulfill our mission. A record-breaking number indeed! Whether it was getting ready for resident camp, running events (including resident camp!), fundraising, spearheading workdays, completing administrative tasks, holding meetings, designing the camp brochure, working on Greenwood, planning for the redesign and overhaul of Mariners or promoting SoCA via social media – volunteers ARE SoCA!

This year we directly impacted more than **700** girls and adults via our various programs and events, including resident camp.

We raised over **\$112,000** from event income and donations (restricted and unrestricted).

We have over **40** trained and certified facilitators dedicated to safely serving the girls and young adults who attend Camp Archbald. Whether it be archery, boating, waterfront, hiking, high and low ropes, backpacking or CPR/First Aid/AED certification our volunteers take this commitment very seriously. Speaking of, we need more volunteers and facilitators to keep operating! Email us to learn more!

All in all, 2023 has been another great year for SoCA. We are proud of our work and hope you are too! Camp Archbald is and forever will be unlike any place on Earth. Thank you for taking the time to discover, appreciate and invest in SoCA.

Hats off,
The 2023 SoCA Board of Directors



Nicole Morristell,
President



Eileen Head,
Vice President



Laura O'Malley,
Secretary



Gail Rees,
Treasurer



Kate Crowley,
Member at Large



Alan Gillow,
Member at Large



Jeremy Leaidicker,
Member at Large



Holly Legate,
Member at Large



Emily Loder,
Member at Large



Merritt Pedrick,
Member at Large

Financials

January 1, 2023 – December 31, 2023

| | |
|----------------------------------------|-----------|
| Support & Revenue | |
| Programs & Resident Camp | 81,736 |
| Fundraising, Donations, Grants & Gifts | 30,825 |
| | \$112,561 |
| Expenses | |
| Programs & Resident Camp | 81,833 |
| Marketing & Fundraising | 1,929 |
| Professional Fees | 4,000 |
| Maintenance & Repairs | *32,296 |
| Supplies & Office Expenses | 618 |
| Insurance | 572 |
| Technology/Computer | 2,375 |
| Bank Fees | 62 |
| | \$123,685 |

*SoCA planned to overspend this year, as we are firmly dedicated to fixing Greenwood. We used money from our fund at the Foundation.

Note: Upon printing and posting of this annual report, SoCA's audit was not yet complete. Our audit and Form 990 are completed by Barbetti McHale, LLC, Certified Public Accountants.

Make a Donation!

All donations are tax-deductible. No donation is too small! Visit our website and use our online form to pay via credit card or mail us a check made payable to SoCA - PO Box 22 Mehoopany, PA 18629.

Other accepted forms of donations: Venmo - @supportersofCA Paypal - paypal.me/supportcamparchbald

The Community Foundation Fund

Wishing to have a permanent vehicle for donors to accomplish their philanthropic goals while supporting the legacy of Camp, SoCA created "The Supporters of Camp Archbald Fund." This fund serves as a repository for donations and will provide an essential stream of income needed to restore, support and maintain Camp Archbald. At the end of the year, the balance of this fund was \$30,852.97 (plus or minus gains or losses). Thank you to everyone who contributed to the Fund!

Support our efforts of respecting and preserving Camp. Donations can be mailed or made online.

"The Supporters of Camp Archbald Fund"
The Community Foundation
270 Lake Avenue, Montrose, PA 18801
www.community-foundation.org

Programming & Fundraising Events

Throughout 2023, we are proud to report that we directly impacted over **700** girls and adults through a variety of programs and events - all in support of our mission! In doing so, we facilitated, participated and/or hosted events that promoted outdoor programming, community partnerships and the preservation of camp. In addition to the events we have highlighted below, SoCA is also proud to have offered the following in 2023:

- Archery facilitator training
- Archery events for troops and service units
- High and low ropes facilitator training
- High and low ropes course facilitation for troops and service unit
- Boating and Waterfront facilitator training
- Boating and Waterfront facilitation for troops and service units
- Lifeguard training
- Service unit camporee support
- Badge and patch support (tree identification/birding/hiking fire building/campfire cooking/nature/leave-no-trace principles)

Giving Tuesday

Giving Tuesday is a day that encourages people to do good through financial gifts. This past November, SoCA raised **\$2,000** which was strictly earmarked for Resident Camp!

NEPA GIVES

NEPA Gives is an online giving extravaganza that's all about giving back to the community. It is under the leadership of the Scranton Area Community Foundation, Carbon County Community Foundation, The Luzerne Foundation, Greater Pike Community Foundation, Wayne County Community Foundation, Community Foundation of Endless Mountains. For 24 hours, donors may make secure donations to their favorite local nonprofit organizations through the NEPA Gives online platform. Donations to participating nonprofits will be enhanced with bonus funds provided by NEPA Gives sponsors—making donor dollars stretch further! Nonprofits will also be eligible for cash prizes. Thanks to your love for SoCA we raised **\$3,054**! We allocated these funds to camperships, which help defray the cost of resident camp tuition to eligible girls in need.



Holly Jolly

🎄🌟 23 girls immersed themselves in the holiday spirit, crafting everything from snow globes and macramé angels to ornaments and garland made from recycled holiday cards. The magic continued with special jars filled with camp fairy snow and more delightful surprises! Participants savored cocoa, homemade cookies, and the warmth of a beautifully decorated fireplace scene in Schooney Hall. 🍪🍪❄️



Sew Your Heart Out

This Junior, Cadette and Ambassador event was "sew" much fun! Over 30 girls learned basic hand and machine sewing skills.

Yarn Party!

10 girls and 9 adults enjoyed an afternoon at camp learning to crochet. Starting with a simple chain, participants first learned the basics, got to see several future projects they could make, and took home a swag bag including hooks and yarn!

Earth Day

In celebration of this important day, we gave back - not only camp, but our beloved Mother Earth. Program attendees learned about nature, enjoyed a stroll around camp, planted trees, and discussed the importance of this international, modern-day movement.

Winter Weekend

Ice hearts and support valentines have become a tradition at our winter weekend event. Around 20 attendees enjoyed a mild winter weekend at camp and were even able to hike the south trail (in February....can you imagine? For the first time ever, this event had a lack of snow). Overall, the weekend was a blast and enjoyed by all.



Fall Weekend

Guests were mesmerized by a campfire singalong, accompanied by three, talented guitar players, and the collective celebration of a SoCA member's birthday. These moments, along with warmth and laughter, made this Weekend truly unforgettable.

STREAM Girls

In a partnership with Bass Pro Shops, 10 Cadette-aged Girl Scouts came to camp and participated in this unique program. Attendees learned about bodies of water, macro invertebrates and more!

Math in Nature Badge Day

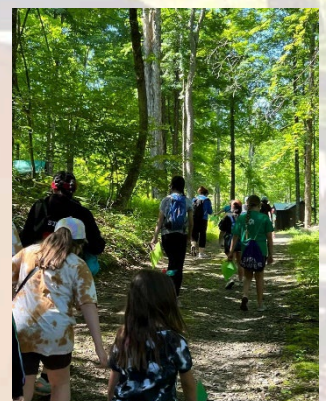
22 Brownies and Juniors came to camp and earned 3 badges – in one day! – as part of the “Math in Nature” series. Girls learned how to create and use a sundial, plan and pack food for a hike, time walking distances and more!

Art in the Outdoors Badge Day

9 girls, ages Daisies through Juniors, came to camp and earned their Art in the Outdoors badge. They spotted art created by nature, made art with found objects, created music with natural objects, constructed solar prints, made a night sky bandana wearable and learned basic photography principles.

Fairy Day

11 girls, ages Daisies and Brownies, came to camp and learned about its history and the fairies who live there. They searched for fairy doors at Beechwood, made wands in Heritage and had a bubble party on Schooney lawn.



BBQ and Ice Cream Social

SoCA held its annual, summer BBQ, ice cream social and general meeting once again at camp. Campers, families, board members and adult volunteers enjoyed some delicious food and treats while hearing about our resident camp impact, upcoming projects, events and volunteering.

Winter Market

Once again, we had the opportunity to be included in Scranton's 2023 winter market which was held in early December around Courthouse square. Several volunteers assisted with manning the booth which sold SoCA merchandise and displayed camp/SoCA informational materials.

Resident Camp

Camp kicked off on Sunday, July 9th, welcoming 133 campers – just for week one! Our second week of Resident Camp boasted 114 more campers! We also once again hosted a mini, “Taste of Camp” which included 6 campers for session one and then 12 more for session two - our highest attendance yet!

Campers predominantly came from in and around NEPA, but some live as far away as Carlisle, Plymouth Meeting, and Erie. We also had some campers from neighboring states which included New York, Delaware, Virginia, New Jersey, and North Carolina. And of course, we couldn't make Resident Camp possible without the help of volunteers. This year, we are proud to say 40 adult individuals made this incredible experience possible.



Because of the financial generosity of several individuals, we were able to supply 12 girls with “camperships” which allowed them to attend camp at a reduced tuition rate!

Our water programs for both Juniors and Cadettes were some of the most popular sessions this summer. Campers has lots of fun in and out of the water...even slip and sliding across Schooney lawn and have some competitive, but thrilling water fights!

“River Rats” is a two-week program that 10 girls attended this year. This experience concluded with a five-day Susquehanna River canoe trip. Upon returning, the counselors noted a growth in their independence and reflected on how much their confidence and self-sufficiency grew and improved.

“Whip it Up” was back again this year, as it has turned out to be a very popular request, don't worry, it will be back in 2024. Junior aged-girls made delicious food, learned handy tips from several guest chefs and restaurant owners, and even prepared and cooked a meal in the dining hall which fed 40 people.

A few other local guests joined us at Resident Camp this summer as well. Deborah Courville, a local author, spent an afternoon with “The Write Stuff” campers and George and Jen from 3rd Kingdom Mushrooms gave a lesson on mushrooms with our “Fun with Fungi” campers.

All in all, Resident Camp really was a great success! Our fearless leader, Jamie Puchalski, and her camp committee, staff and volunteers worked countless hours all year round to plan and prepare for the arrival of our campers. Specifically, we estimate it took over **680** hours to plan resident camp, and over **235** hours to implement it! That’s a total of over **900** hours!



"One thing I liked about camp was swimming! I was happy I got my green cap this year. My favorite thing was arts and crafts when we made sun catchers" – Grace M. (age 8)

"I like that at camp you get to meet a whole new group of people and make lifelong friendships" – Molly M. (age 10)

Thank you staff for showing our girls the beauty of camp.

Thank you volunteers for helping to get camp ready.

Thank you parents and caregivers for trusting SoCA with your girls.

Most importantly, thank you campers, for wanting to return every year to experience the magic of Camp Archbald.

residentcampforsoca@gmail.com



Property Report: General

How do we keep Camp Archbald looking great? It shines and sparkles thanks to the hundreds of hours of volunteer help! Some volunteers came almost every month, some came for several work days, some came for Tents Up, some came as part of a corporate volunteer workday, and some helped just once. Every single volunteer hour counts and matters! No matter how many times you assisted or how many hours you spent, SoCA extends a heartfelt thank you! You made Camp Archbald a better and safer place for our campers.

And what did those **80+** volunteers do with their **over 1,000** hours?

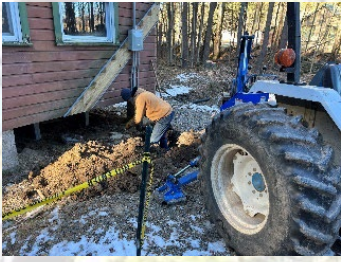
- Pressure washed, sanded and painted various wooden steps, ramps, cabins and more
- Cleaned and scrubbed windows, walls, and floors
- Cleared units of blow down and invasive species
- Repaired doors and windows
- Put tents up in the spring and helped Council staff take tents down in the fall
- Put cots in the tents in the spring and stored cots away in the fall
- Put mattresses in the tents in the spring and stored mattresses away in the fall
- Cleared trails and completed a new wooden step bridge
- Checked and restocked the unit chuck boxes
- Scrubbed and cleaned some more....and more and more



We would also like to highlight some critical partnership that grew even stronger in 2023.

- Our partnership with council is stronger than ever. They continue to invest in Camp, not only with projects, but preventative maintenance and by hiring new staff members – one who is solely dedicated to Archbald.
- Our partnership with Marywood University continued as well. Their architecture students are working on a carbon-neutral redesign for the Mariners Unit, and even won second place at the US Department of Energy's Solar Decathlon competition. As of today, the students are continuing to develop construction plans as they envision what Mariners can and will be.
- Our partnership with CIGNA, a local company, continued with over 20 volunteers arriving at camp the day before Tents Up to sweep platforms, clean and they even put up several tents.
- A new partnership was forged with the US Coast Guard Auxiliary based in Williamsport. Their volunteers inspected all the rowboats, canoes and kayaks. One kayak, several rowboats and several canoes were taken out of service. We are thankful for their knowledge and advice.
- Emma Troy, recently earned her Gold Award and completed an install/build of a kayak/canoe launch on Ely Lake. We are all very proud of Emma's hard work and determination to complete her Gold Award, even when interrupted by a pandemic, equipment shortages, and shipping delays.
- Two local Cadette Girl Scouts, Giada and Gwen, completed their Silver Award at Camp Archbald. They build a library book nook, revitalized the Quiet Place and constructed an entrance sign for this special place (which is the former site of Beechwood).





Property Report: Greenwood

A major emphasis of SoCA during the 2023 calendar year was raising funds for, and working on, Greenwood. Our volunteers spent over 200 hours this year working on Greenwood. We are determined to open this building once again so campers and renters can enjoy it year-round!

To give you a little history lesson about Greenwood, in 1925, it was the third unit constructed at camp, a Robin Hood themed unit with four Adirondack shelters. Four more shelters were added in 1932. In 1947, tents replaced the shelters. The troop house at the foot of the hill was built in 1954. Considered a winterized structure, Greenwood housed campers and troops for decades. The last years of use during resident camp saw it used by the Counselors-in-Training (CIT) program.

We have broken our efforts into three phases, which are explained in detail below.

Phase 1: Completed

We removed the front porch and clivus and emptied the building. Liberty Basements was then hired to lift, jack and level the building. The price tag for phase 1 was just over \$50,000 in which Girl Scouts in the Heart of PA split the cost.

Phase 2: Completed

We finished cleaning the area around the building and removed the remainder of the front porch. Liberty Basement's scope didn't include the front sill beam and concrete piers that were encumbered by the porch and we discovered the rear sill beams were beyond repair. So, with the help of semi-skilled laborers/volunteers, we jacked-up the front of the building, removed existing failed concrete piers, excavated and set new concrete piers and set the building level on the piers. We jacked and supported the rear corner building and replaced the rotten sill beam and leveled the building corner on the pier. During this work, we found structural deterioration of the rear wall. The siding and studs were removed and replaced.

Next, we shifted attention to the electric service of the building. The primary cable feeding Greenwood (and the pump house) ran through dense rotten trees and had two poles that had already failed. The repair scope included removing hazardous and interfering trees and running a new primary service to the Greenwood and the pump house along the road. This work was performed with a combination of volunteer workers and two contractors. Council hired BK Electric to place three new poles and reroute the electric service. They also hired a tree removal company to extract rotten and interfering trees. Volunteers then excavated the existing buried cable to the pump house tied Greenwood and the pump hoses back into the new service.

Ginger Goodrich (camp name Ginger Snaps), a longtime Girl Scout from Dickson City and valuable SoCA member, retired from her job at The Greater Scranton Chamber of Commerce after 58 years! \$5,000 in donations were collected in honor of her retirement and will be used to rebuild the porch and purchase a glider swing. In addition, AZEK, a company based in Scranton, has agreed to supply most of the porch building materials.



Phase 3: Earmarked for 2024 and 2025

We must rebuild the porch, front steps, back steps, and fire escapes, and then patch and paint the exterior of the building. We will install a primitive bathroom and make improvements to the kitchen including “new” appliances, cabinets and countertops. This of course includes a new sink, along with reconnecting to the water and discharge supply. We wish to paint the old cinderblock wall in the kitchen. We also need to finish repairing the back two corners of the building, as this is an “ongoing maintenance” issue from Phase 1. The interior door to the old cleviss must be removed, patched, and covered. Several small areas of rot inside the closet and along the chimney roofline need to be repaired. Oh, and the trim on the exterior windows needs to be spruced up!

In closing our 2023 property report, we must say THANK YOU once again to any volunteer that helped make Camp Archbald a special place...for the girls of today, tomorrow and future generations.

Get Involved!

The wonderful work of SoCA would not be possible without the continued support of our members, supporters, donors, partners and volunteers. We need you!

- Make a donation – Giving Tuesday is a great example, or anytime you feel generous
- Volunteer at resident camp – we need day and overnight help
- Join a committee such as fundraising or events
- Become a rowboat, low ropes or backpacking facilitator
- Donate new supplies like a stand-up paddle board, mixing bowls, saws, life vests, scissors, hot glue, tin foil or cans of corn for programs, camp or events (check our Amazon wish list for items big and small)
- Bring a friend and help at camp work days
- Spread the news about SoCA via social media
- Send your favorite Girl (Scout) to resident camp
- Hold an event at camp – your family can rent camp for the day, night or week
- Help plan and run SoCA related events – we need volunteers to step up! We need you to plan and implement programs. Commitments can be a few hours, to a whole weekend. We also need specialized volunteers like lifeguards, arborists, beekeepers, RN's and plumbers



Thank you...

Individual and business donations are the reason SoCA continues to exist. Thank you for your financial contributions to our cause! Below are our 2023 financial donors. (We apologize for any omissions).

| | | | | | |
|-----------|--------------|--------------|-------------|------------------------------------------|---------------|
| Alicia | Kinney | Isabeau | Vandenhove | Noel | Cowles |
| Amy | Bates | Janet | Comerford | Pam | Jubon |
| Andrea | Tinsley | Janet | McCabe | Patricia | Green |
| Anne | Wain | Janice | DeLozier | Patricia | Hunter |
| Barbara | Gember | Janine | Kinney | Patrick | Kinney |
| Barbe | Sieg | Jeff | Lyall | Rev & Mrs Edwin | Rehrauer |
| Caitland | Hawk Grasso | Jeralyn | Adams | Ron | Sechler |
| Catherine | Buck-Kennedy | Jim & Susan | Connors | Roxanne | Soto |
| Cathy | Barber | Jodi | Crimmel | Ruth | Warburton |
| Cheryl | Sabella | John | Morrison Jr | Sandy | Dunbar |
| Christina | Mellow | Karen | Noyle | Sarah | Beth Rosen |
| Daneece | Jones | Kate | Crowley | Sarah | Marquis |
| Diane | Dalton | Kelly | Matulevich | Shawn | Jones |
| Donna | Scardino | Kimberly | Mead | Shirley | Kelly |
| Donna | Smith | Laura | O'Malley | Sue Anne | Snell |
| Edwin | Rehrauer | LouAnn | Smacchi | Susan | Cleary |
| Eileen | Head | Louis & Barb | Nivert | Susan | McCabe |
| Elaine | Legate | Louis & Mary | Vitale | Susan | Vining Brooks |
| Elizabeth | Bonczar | Lucinda | Neubert | T.D. | Watkins |
| Elizabeth | Snell | Margaret | Reese | Virginia | Goodrich |
| Ellen | Lee | Mary | Hart | | |
| Emily | Carter | Mary | Thompson | Harford Rod & Gun Club | |
| Emily | Loder | Mary | White | United Way of Wyoming Valley | |
| Eunice | Alexander | Mary | Winslow | SoCA Board of Directors | |
| Florence | Jones | Mary Beth | Corrigan | Community Foundation of the Endless Mts. | |
| Gail | Rees | Matthew | Mackie | Michael Straub Photography | |
| Ginger | Selander | Megan | DiNinno | United Way of Susquehanna County | |
| Gretchen | Warner | Nikki | Morristell | Cigna | |

