

# THE LAKE PATH

THE NEWSLETTER FOR SUPPORTERS OF SKY LAKE



*Photo courtesy of Greg Milanich*

## SKY LAKE FOUNDATION, INC.

### MISSION

*Incorporated as a 501(c)(3) nonprofit with the mission to raise awareness and donations to help Sky Lake Camp & Retreat Center remain financially healthy for generations to come.*

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

*Sara Baron  
Tim Barnes  
Deedee Jones  
Nick Keeney  
Heidi McDonough  
Eric Yetter*

*Ex-officio, Matthew Williams*

## THE WINDS OF CHANGE

Quite a few changes have occurred since we last published this newsletter, chief among them the completion and dedication of the new exterior stairs at Founders' Lodge, the powering up of the Bluestone Wind Farm, and the laying of the groundwork for the launch of the Sky Lake Foundation. We also saw the return of "normalcy" to summer camp and the autumn retreat season in 2023.

The last few years have certainly been challenging, but your support has (and continues to) mean so much to the day-to-day ministry of Sky Lake. Our old slogan of "what happens here, shapes tomorrow" still rings true and gives me tremendous hope for the days to come. Thank you!

-Matt Williams, Director of Sky Lake

## INTRODUCING THE SKY LAKE FOUNDATION

One of the big ideas that sprang forth as Sky Lake and our sibling sites of Upper New York Camp and Retreat Ministries emerged from the pandemic, was the value of establishing a charitable foundation for each site. Such foundations make raising funds and grants for the sites easier while maintaining operations under the conference. The groundwork to bring this idea to fruition began in late-2021. Each foundation is currently in various stages of assuming stewardship responsibilities for the donations given to the individual site.

We are excited that on April 1st of this year, Sky Lake Camp & Retreat Center Foundation, Inc. will officially begin to live out its mission to raise awareness and donations to help Sky Lake remain financially healthy for generations to come. The Sky Lake Foundation has received official designation from the IRS as a 501(c)(3) charitable organization, meaning all donations are tax deductible.

To learn more or to be among the first to give, please visit the link to the left.

## UPCOMING OPPORTUNITIES

### REJUVENATE

MAY 3-5

*Rejuvenate provides women with an opportunity to get away, relax, and be rejuvenated in a fun, Spirit-filled environment.*

*Women, ages 18+*

### SPRING VOLUNTEER WORK DAYS

SATURDAY, MAY 18  
SATURDAY, JUNE 8

*Help get Sky Lake ready for summer. There'll be projects available from clearing trails to cleaning windows to using power tools. Lunch will be provided*

*All ages*

### OPEN HOUSE & REUNION

SUNDAY, JUNE 9

*An excellent opportunity for first timers to come see Sky Lake and for returners to visit with friends from across the decades. Hot dog roast and baked goods will be available.*

*All ages*

### GIVE THE GIFT OF CAMP THIS YEAR!

*As a supporter of Sky Lake, you already know the value of a week of camp. But did you know that you can sponsor the fees that will allow a child, youth, or adult with special needs to attend Sky Lake this summer? You can!*

*To learn more, visit [skylakecenter.org/donate](http://skylakecenter.org/donate)*



## AS THE TURBINE TURNS

One by one, the twenty-six turbines of the Bluestone Wind Farm were finally powered up last autumn, including the four located on the Sky Lake property. By early December safety testing was completed and the farm officially began producing electricity for the New York State grid. In theory, the power used to write and print this newsletter was generated in Sky Lake's literal airspace.

Thankfully, the turbines have been even quieter than we anticipated and guests have been mesmerized by the rotation of the blades. In addition to electricity, the turbines will also produce revenue for Sky Lake for the 30+ years to come—much of which will be used toward funding capital improvements on site.

## STRENGTHENING COLLABORATIONS

In 2019 Upper New York Camp & Retreat Ministries formalized a collaborative agreement between Sky Lake and Susquehanna CRM. The Board of Directors of Susquehanna CRM recently announced the findings of a lengthy study and has submitted a proposal to go before the Susquehanna Annual Conference in June. In overly basic terms, they propose to retain two sites (Camp Penn and Wesley Forest) and strengthen the collaboration with Sky Lake. While Sky Lake will remain fully under Upper New York Annual Conference, we are looking forward to strengthening the long-standing relationship with our friends in Pennsylvania. To learn more about the proposal visit: [suscrm.org](http://suscrm.org)

## OPEN HOUSE & REUNION, JUNE 9TH

Sky Lake's Annual Open House will occur from 1-4pm on Sunday, June 9th. Enjoy a guided tour, take out a rowboat, go for a wagon ride (weather permitting), pick up your bake sale pre-order (and splurge on some of the treats that will be on offer in person,) enjoy the free-will hot dog bar, and more.

The Sky Lake Foundation and the Wyoming Conference Alumni Association also cordially invite you to the Inaugural Wyoming Alumni Reunion that will run concurrently with the Open House. However loosely you may have been associated with the former Wyoming Conference, you are welcome to join this informal gathering to catch up with old friends.

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