From the Board Chair

Looking back on Camp Widjiwagan’s year 2012, I see the Board and each of its committees looking forward. I am grateful for the many board members and alumni who give their time and expertise on Widji’s committees and taskforces. There is a breadth and depth to board activities that I have greater appreciation for in my first year as board chair. I see constant effort to improve the experience campers and parents will have with Widji, be it registering for a camp session, being on trail or attending a banquet at the end of a wilderness trip. Noted below are many, but not all of these efforts.

At right is a list of current Widji board members. Not listed are many Widji board alumni and volunteers who continue to contribute. I am so very thankful for their extensive volunteer efforts; they inform and support the work of our committed and tireless Widji staff.

Alumni/Community Relations Committee has led efforts to strengthen the connections in the Widji community, particularly focusing on reaching out through social media, creating and enhancing Widji’s website presence. Their activities have also included organizing the 2nd Annual Widji Rendezvous in September.

Board Development is a new committee this year, and it has expanded duties beyond those of the nominating committee it replaced. They plan the board’s October retreat and May spring social. The committee is exploring ways to enhance board member engagement and reviewing board committee structure and constraints.

Buildings and Property committee was instrumental in the needs assessment, planning, development and cost estimation of the projects comprising Widji’s capital campaign. Twice each year, spring and fall, the committee tours camp and reviews the physical status of each building and the grounds. Currently the committee is monitoring and advising on the new building and renovation projects occurring at Widji. Years of conceptualizing and planning are changing the facilities at camp, and the committee is enjoying the fruits of its efforts.

Camper Services develops policies to allocate financial aid and makes recommendations about the “camperships” and camper earnings programs. Each January the committee reviews applications and advises whether and how much aid might be given. This committee has the heartwarming task of allocating the contributions earned by Widji’s fundraising efforts.

Executive Committee is comprised of the executive director, board chair and chairs of the financial development and Widji Y Partner’s committees. The committee is also newly created this year and it replaced the prior years’ Finance Committee. The executive committee is responsible for initiating and directing new projects in addition to providing the board with financial information about camp operations and expenses, monitoring trends, advising on goals for fundraising and annually recommending camper fees for board consideration. On the committee’s agenda is initiating and directing completion of a new strategic plan and forming a task force to plan Widji’s 85th anniversary gathering in 2014.

Financial Development is concerned with the short and long-term philanthropic needs of Widjiwagan and serves as the planning and coordinating body for fundraising for current operating, capital and endowment needs. The committee works closely with the Alumni/Community Relations and Widji Y Partners committees to accomplish fundraising goals. The committee is currently working on a tool kit to educate all board members about endowments and other philanthropic mechanisms for giving. The success of this committee’s activity over the years is evidenced by the number and value of Widji’s family and memorial endowments. Endowment gifts to Widji far exceed the number of other Y camps and branches and they produce income that support Widji camp operations and financially assist its campers.

Outdoor Learning Program committee supports the work of environmental education staff and instructors who teach and lead school groups visiting Widji in weeklong sessions during the fall, winter and spring throughout the year. Student and chaperone evaluations from over 25 predominantly elementary and middle schools are reviewed. The committee discusses and advises on environmental education curriculum and activities, funding and outreach to additional school communities and weekend groups.

Risk Management reviews and evaluates all reports completed about incidents involving equipment and injuries to staff and campers in camp and on trail during Widji’s summer session. Incidents are rated for likelihood of occurrence and risk level and then recorded in a database used to direct investments in staff training and trail equipment the following year. The database documents and monitors the safety of Widji’s single staff-led advanced wilderness trips that are unique nationally.
Summer Program begins each year by reviewing parent evaluation forms, and all of the camper evaluations of their trips. Items of concern are addressed in the trail staff training conducted in June each year. Other issues may result in feedback and requests for changes in central administrative service functions. The evaluation forms are also reviewed for any changes that would improve receipt of qualitative information. Recently the committee initiated a project to update and reprint the Widji songbook.

Widji Y Partners committee formed last year to concentrate on the preparation and execution of Widji’s annual fund-raising campaign. The committee focused efforts on Give to the Max Day, call nights and on-line fundraising. These efforts resulted in a marked increase in donations as compared to last year.

In addition to these ten committees there is a Capital and Endowment Campaign Cabinet. They have designed and steered the campaign activities of the last two years. The final phase of this campaign will end this spring. Conclusion of this activity will ensure the continuation and improvement of Widji’s programs for future generations of campers.

I have sometimes heard the Widji community jokingly yet hesitantly describe itself as “cultish.” In my experience as chair this year I see that we don’t think alike, but we do think together. We are a mission-driven, relationship-based and volunteer board comprised of members united by shared values and working collaboratively. Widji is successful for lots of reasons, and key among them is our community of passionate and committed board members who always see something to improve. The journey to actualize Widji’s unique mission and enhance its program is never ending. My heartfelt thanks to my fellow board members, board alumni and Widji staff. In 2013 we are ever onward. —Tom Hiendlmayr

From the Director

From there, Listening Point, I have seen the immensity of space and glimpsed at times the grandeur of creation. There I have sensed the span of uncounted centuries and looked down the path all life has come. I have explored on this rocky bit of shore the great concept that nothing stands alone and everything, no matter how small, is part of a greater whole….

—Sigurd Olson, Listening Point

I am incredibly inspired by Sigurd’s words and believe that it encompasses so much of what it means to be a part of Camp Widjiwagan...no matter what your connection to Widji is, you are a part of the greater whole. At Widji, that greater whole is connected to generations of campers and steeped in tradition. The Widji community extends throughout Minnesota, across the United States and around the world. Traditions stem from 1929 and have been nurtured over the years to shape summer camp and the Outdoor Learning Program to what it is today.

I was a Voyageur in 1987 and this past summer one of my fellow campers sent her son to Widjiwagan for the first time. Aside from this making me feel a bit old, it was a thrilling connection to the next generation of Widji campers. Her son, who undoubtedly heard many stories and had seen pictures of his mom’s trips, now has his own Widji connection.

Schools that send students to the northwoods for a three- to five-day experience at camp find that same connection. While their experience might look different than that of a summer camper, it is no less impactful. In fact, one teacher from Seward Montessori in Minneapolis remarked that when his former students return to say hello to him, they routinely bring up their Widji experience as one of their most important from that period of their lives.

The Sigurd Olson quote is part of a longer quote posted above the fireplace in the Sigurd Olson Center at Widjiwagan. It is a reminder to all of us who are a part of camp, that our own Widji experience, while important, really is enhanced and shaped by being part of the greater whole. —Liz Flinn
A Boys & Girls Club group has first Widji adventure

BY BRIAN GEISLER

Last summer Widji began an exciting new partnership with the Twin Cities Boys & Girls Club. Five boys and one staff member participated in a five-day experience at Widji.

Although all had been to Camp Voyageur, the Boys & Girls Clubs camp in the western suburbs of the Twin Cities, they were not exactly sure what they were getting into when they signed up for a Widji trip. Traveling to the northwoods from their Minneapolis and St. Paul Clubs was a new adventure for everyone. With the help of Chris Lauth, their Widji counselor, they spent their first two days getting used to life at camp. They stayed in the newly renovated Bear cabin, learned new camping and canoe travel skills, shared in conversation and canoe talks with Jim, successfully accomplished the “T-rescue” during their Swim & Swamp time, and learned about cooking and nutrition through their Trail Building pack out. They also learned a few songs and cheers after meals in Kirby. In their downtime and evenings the boys tried out their fishing skills on Burntside and Fenske Lakes.

On the morning of their third day, the group was dropped off at Little Long lake and set out to paddle in to camp. The group met the challenges of headwinds and hot sun throughout the day and settled in for the evening at one of the channel campsites leading into the North Arm of Burntside. The group also dined in exquisite camp fashion with Calzones, did a little more fishing, and had a song and cheer exchange with the du Nord LDP’s (a teen Leadership Development Program) that were camping at the other channel campsites. After fishing a little more and then turning in for the night, the boys reflected on their experience and how different it was from being in the cities.

In the morning, the group enjoyed pancakes and packed into Burntside into camp. They cleaned their canoes and packed in their gear. In preparation for the banquet and closing campfire the group had their first sauna experience and cleaned up from their trail. At the closing campfire several members of the group reflected on the “enormous” spiders of the northern lakes and the fish that got away. Their Widji counselor, Chris, shared a thought about the overall experience, “I think the boys learned about pushing their comfort zones and trying new things (a couple of them were very nervous about canoeing and spending a night in the woods at the beginning), how they affect each other and how to work together as a team, as well as a chance to unplug and observe what is around them (many of them saw their first shooting star and the Big Dipper while we were at camp).”

At Widjiwagan, we are honored to have the opportunity to help our campers experience the greatness of the wilderness and create these experiences with groups like the Boys & Girls Club. Our partnership with our organizational groups helps provide Widji the opportunity to reach more participants in the Twin Cities that may not have the means to get to camp. We look forward to our continued partnership with the Twin Cities Boys & Girls Club!
Widji Outdoor Learning opens doors wide to local community

BY KAREN PICK

"Thank you guys! Everyone had so MUCH fun! Oh, and the food was really good!" – Ely 5th grader

"Thank you for having me come to your camp. I liked the games that we played. It was fun. My favorite was Predator and Prey. Thanks for everything." – Ely 6th grader

“I had an awesome time! Camp Widji rocks! Thanks for the great day! Hope to see you soon!" – Ely 3rd grader

These are all comments from thank you notes we received from Ely Public School students this past year. In 2012, the Ely 3rd grade, 5th grade and 6th graders as well as 45 girls from local Girl Scout troops all came to Widji for outdoor education experiences. Most of these students had never been to camp despite the fact that Widji is located only 25 minutes from the town of Ely. It is exciting to open Widji’s door even wider to our local community. Students, teachers, school administrators, parents and four local Girl Scout troops have all expressed their appreciation for our willingness to partner with them; helping them explore, understand and play in their backyard. We look forward to continuing and growing this budding relationship. The 7th grade science classes from Ely Memorial High School are scheduled to come to camp in the winter of 2013 along with a return trip for the 3rd, 5th and 6th grades! Widji is pleased to be able to partner with our local community.

GROUPS PARTICIPATING IN 2012 OUTDOOR LEARNING PROGRAM

Blake School
Boy Scouts
Carondelet Catholic School
Ely Brownie Troop
Ely 3rd, 5th and 6th Grade Classes
Ely Girl Scouts
Expo Elementary
Fall Women’s Weekend
Friends & Family of Anne Murphy
Groveland Park Elementary
Jefferson Community School
Kenny Community School
King of Kings
Lake Country Montessori
L’Etoile du Nord French Immersion
LSS Youth Services-Oh No 18!
Marshall School
Matoska International
Montessori School of Duluth
Northrop
Oak Hill Montessori
Olson Middle School
Open Door Ministries
Seward Montessori
Shakopee Area Catholic School
Simley High School
Sisu Design
Southern Adventist University
St. Francis-St. James United School
St. Paul Academy
St. Therese School
University of Minnesota ICD Group
Valley View Middle School
Widjiwagan Board
Winter Women’s Weekend
Yinghua Academy
Youth MEA Retreat
Advanced canoe and voyageur trip leaders undergo thorough training to prepare for summer campers

BY KURT SIMER

Providing our counselors with appropriate training so they are prepared to make sound decisions has long been a priority of Widjiwagan. One example of such training is provided annually to our Advanced Canoe and Voyageur trip leaders. It is our goal to train these leaders in three major areas. First, our leaders need to feel totally comfortable both with their own skills and with their ability to teach scouting and paddling techniques to their campers. Second, our leaders need to develop appropriate judgment regarding both the abilities of the group and the risks they will encounter. Third, our leaders need to have a strong knowledge of rescue techniques.

Their training began with a 4-day trip on the Flambeau River in central Wisconsin. Led by former Voyageur leader, NOLS Instructor, and current Board member, Mark Holloway, this session focused on individual paddling skills, river reading, and decision-making. With the intent of creating an expedition-style experience, the group spent at least 10 hours on the water each day, and they were pushed to the limit of their abilities. The goal of this trip, as with all paddling trainings, was to train our leaders to be able to paddle water that is far more challenging than anything they will paddle on their Widji trips, and to teach them the judgment to know the difference.

Our Voyageur leaders then spent three days with the instructors of the Kayak and Canoe Institute (KCI). This Swiftwater Rescue Training further enhanced the paddling and river reading skills of the counselors while teaching them the requisite river rescue techniques to be able to calmly and efficiently manage any potential incidents. Swiftwater Rescue has become a standard certification for river leaders within our industry, and we are excited to have been able to provide this experience to our trip leaders. At the same time, our AE Canoe leaders worked with the KCI staff on a two-day training that focused on paddling and river-reading skills. All counselors returned to Widji feeling well-prepared for their summer to begin.

Finally, each of our AE Canoe and Voyageur groups spent a full day on the Kawishiwi River, near Ely, before they departed from Widji. This provided an opportunity for our counselors to teach paddling and scouting techniques and to judge the abilities of each camper before they got on-trail.

The safety of our leaders and campers is our greatest priority. We were comforted to know that these leaders were prepared to handle anything they encountered during the summer of 2012!
Distinguished Leaders

Kyra Bornong – Outstanding Youth Leader

Kyra Bornong is a junior at Southwest High School in Minneapolis. This will be her 4th summer at Widji and she will be going on an Advanced Explorer Canoe trip this summer. This is her 2nd year working with the Widji Leaders Program. She especially loves the Work Weekends at Widji and really enjoyed the Habitat for Humanity Project the leaders worked on this year.

“Kyra attends all of the planning meetings and events and provides great feedback and suggestions to support the program,” says Widji Leaders Coordinator, Rob Donisch.

Outside of her participation with the Widji Leaders, Kyra plays the saxophone in the wind ensemble and was in the pit orchestra for the production of Hairspray. She also plays catcher on the JV softball team and is the captain of the new, work-in-progress, Quidditch/Broomball team. She is interested in attending Carleton College when she graduates.

“I’m SO excited for this summer!”
—Kyra Bornong

Christy Hlavacek – Distinguished Adult Leader

Christy Hlavacek joined the board in 2006, a direct result of the impact that Widji has had on her two camper sons, Rob and Patrick. Their growth and development inspired Christy to return the gifts through her own volunteer commitment.

Christy has served as chair of the Financial Development Committee for 3 years and stressed the importance of stewardship. Following on former Financial Development Karen Crossley’s lead in reframing the discussion of financial development, Christy reminded the Widji community that joyful giving is an opportunity. Through her leadership, the Financial Development committee and fundraising in general have taken on a refreshing, rejuvenating new life.

When asked to volunteer time to the current Widji Capital and Endowment Campaign, Christy joyfully and positively responded. Little did she know that it would require weekly meetings, some lasting six hours at a time. Together with Joan Ostergren, Christy chaired the most difficult “middle ground” division, which involved recruiting volunteers, soliciting donors, planning house parties, meeting buses, and encouraging volunteers.

Her leadership and attitude shows through the positive results of the major gift division. Enthusiastic responses to the events and greetings have resulted in continued gifts to the campaign. Christy’s positive attitude shines through in every effort she undertakes. She never approaches a task with anything but a “can do” philosophy and that continues to inspire other volunteers and staff to perform with optimum enthusiasm.

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Taking Care of Widji

By Joe Smith

So why do we do it? What good is it? Does it teach you anything? Like determination? Invention? Improvisation? Foresight? Hindsight? Love? Art? Music? Religion? Strength or patience or accuracy or quickness or tolerance or which wood will burn and how long is a day and how far is a mile and how delicious is water and smoky green pea soup? And how to rely on yourself?

This is a quote from “On The Loose,” a Sierra Club book from the ’60s that explores the philosophy of wilderness travel. I read the book as a camper and counselor for the satisfaction I got from having the lessons I was learning through Widjiwagan put into words. My current role at Widji has added a new way to relate to those lines; I have found that the same type of questions asked are also asked in the effort of taking care of Widji.

My recent Widji adventures include the repair and renovation of Bear Cabin this past year.

Bear Cabin was built in ’49 with logs left over from the construction of Kirby Lodge. I was a close friend of one of the builders, Lloyd Larsen, whom I got to know by logging with him for several years. Bear was the first cabin I stayed in as a camper in 1968.

It was tradition then to put the smallest kids there. A counselor telling a story about a trip from those days might start with “I was out with a bunch of Bear Denners” and we would know the trail group was first year campers.

A variety of changes motivated the need to work on Bear Den. The Outdoor Learning Program had expanded to where another year-round cabin to complement Lynx on the west side of Kirby was needed. The foundation had shifted and the mortar in the chimney was crumbling. The goal was to finish with a high quality winterized cabin. To figure out how to get there I was helped greatly by Jim Richards, a local dirt contractor well known for his determination, invention, and improvisation. He figured to do it right, we needed to move Bear so that a proper foundation could be dug. Then we could pour a concrete floor with electric heat cables in it. He had a trailer he thought would be able to carry the building. My job was to tear the chimney down and lift Bear 38 inches from the ground.

The chimney came down relatively easy, lifting Bear took a little more time. I had six jacks. One at a time I would lift 1-1/2 inches and start a stack of blocks next to the jack to hold the cabin. Eventually the jacks needed blocks added as well to get the height.
(A short story that is a bit of an aside: at the end of one of the days working with raising Bear Cabin during deer season, I got the urge to try my luck at sunset. I paddled across the bay and found a place to sit. Almost immediately I heard the sound of brush breaking and a deer ran by me which I shot. As I was standing next to the deer, I heard more brush breaking and a wolf, pale grey with yellow eyes, came out and stopped 15 yards away with the deer between us. We took a good look at each other and the wolf melted back into the brush. As I was dragging the deer back to the canoe the pack started to howl and growl as they fed on the gut pile. Wolf howls echoed across the North Arm as I paddled home. For me this will always be another memory tied to Bear Den).

Once I had the cabin in the air we had to get the trailer under it, which meant we had to get a large trailer down cabin row, turn it in the right direction and then get it under the cabin without tipping the cabin off the stacks of blocks. We hooked the front of the trailer to a tracked excavator and I hooked the back of the trailer to the skidder and together we got it in place. In the spring we used the same technique to move the cabin back over the new floor and foundation.

I had left the old wood floor in Bear while moving it to give the building strength. (I had cut out some of the floor joists, Douglas Fir, for Ben Pawlak to use in making new tables for Kirby with wood that would match the original ones). Once in place I removed the wood floor exposing the new cement floor which made the ceiling 18 inches higher than before.

Bear Den went from a small dark cabin to an airy light one. Other improvements include replacing the doors and windows, insulation and addition of a metal roof, an expert job of splicing in log siding to fill the hole where the fireplace had been and new wiring. The first campers stayed in Bear Den this past summer.

So why do we do it? Widji is in the middle of a campaign to build new buildings and repair some of the old ones. Why? The answer is quite simple...to help Widji better achieve our mission. Without donors, volunteer labor, the help of trail staff, the vision of the Buildings and Property Committee—truly the whole Widji community—this restoration would not have been possible. Bear Cabin exemplifies the commitment the Widji community has made to ensure that Widji is well cared for, now and for generations to come.

"Without donors, volunteer labor, the help of trail staff, the vision of the Buildings and Property Committee—truly the whole Widji community—this restoration would not have been possible. Bear Cabin exemplifies the commitment the Widji community has made to ensure that Widji is well cared for, now and for generations to come."
In Memoriam

CLAUDE W. BEWELL
When it comes to volunteerism, Claude was an excellent role model for many. He joined the Downtown Y’s Men’s Club in 1948 and was actively involved for over 60 years. He was a link with the past and the future, a link between the former St. Paul Downtown Y’s Men and the present and future St. Paul Skyway Y Service Club. Claude was involved in the sale of Christmas trees all of those years and was motivated to volunteer his time and energy because he knew the proceeds would provide an opportunity for kids to go to camp. In 2006, at the age of 82, Claude was interviewed for the Star Tribune regarding the long-standing Y’s Service Club Christmas tree lot. He was asked what kept him motivated to volunteer for so many years and he said it was the ability to assist kids that need help. He said he looked forward to the opportunity to be useful.

Claude created an office in the basement of his home to operate an insurance business. He enjoyed work on machines of all kinds and eventually an offset printing press found its way into that basement office. A hobby soon developed into another way to be in service. Claude and Bernell worked with YMCA staff developing and producing promotional materials for the Saint Paul Y camps and branches for several decades. He served as the editor for the Y Service Club U.S. Area publications for many years and was motivated to volunteer his time and energy because he knew the proceeds would provide an opportunity for kids to go to camp. In 2006, at the age of 82, Claude was interviewed for the Star Tribune regarding the long-standing Y’s Service Club Christmas tree lot. He was asked what kept him motivated to volunteer for so many years and he said it was the ability to assist kids that need help. He said he looked forward to the opportunity to be useful.

Claude was ahead of his time when it came to technology. He was computer savvy and had a gift for audio visuals. Claude put that gift to good use at his church, Arlington Hills Methodist, one of the early churches to display their hymns on screens for all to see and sing along. He also developed a power point presentation for the church’s services.

Claude passed away on August 18, 2012, was preceded in death by his wife Bernell and is survived by his children Chris, Becky and Craig, ten grandchildren and six great grandchildren. Claude and Bernell’s legacy lives on through their endowment fund, insuring that campers for generations to come will have the same experience that their children experienced.

BOB BINGER
Bob Binger would be the first to tell you what a powerful influence Camp Widjiwagan had on his life. He was a camper in Widji’s earliest years, and, as a counselor, led an exploratory trip to Hunter’s Island. That trip was a forerunner of Widji’s advanced trips program. His early wilderness experiences nurtured a deep devotion to the land and Bob went on to make a distinguished career of land management.

Bob served many terms on Camp Widjiwagan’s Board and committees. His contribution to Widji carried two distinctive hallmarks: they were made with an eye towards the future, and they were strategically planned to generate the greatest benefits. In his retirement years, he looked to the future, determined to find a way to preserve financial accessibility for Widjiwagan, du Nord and St. Croix, and the camps are forever grateful for his vision and foresight. Campers for generations to come will benefit from his generosity.

CYNTHIA DRISCOLL
Cynthia Brackett Driscoll, who passed away on September 7, 2012, served on the board of Camp Widjiwagan in the early 1980s. She will be remembered as a person who got things done, whether in public service, writing, gardening or serving on not-for-profit boards.

Cynthia was a member of the first Master Gardener Class offered by the University of Minnesota. She published over 100 articles in national magazines and wrote one book “One
In Memoriam

BOB HENGFELDT

Camp Widjiwagan lost a beloved volunteer, Bob Hengelfelt, on March 7, 2012. Bob possessed endless energy, optimism and good humor. He was a “can-do” guy who always answered “yes” to any request for help. When Bob and Sue first offered to host a garage sale on the front lawn of their Roseville home in 1970, it didn’t seem to be a big deal. Friends from the Widji Friends Club lent a hand and the sale became an annual event for nearly three decades. Over the years, the Garage Sale at the Hengelfelt’s raised nearly three-quarters of a million dollars. They started the Garage Sale because they wanted to do something for Widji and thousands of campers have been impacted by the proceeds of the sale. The Garage sale moved to the Minnesota State Fairgrounds in 2000, but the joy and dedication of Hengelfelt family traveled with it.

Bob volunteered for many terms on the Widji Board from the 1970s thru the early 1990s, serving on a variety of standing committees. He served as the Board Chair from 1988-1990 and in 1989 he led the search committee when Rolf Thompson was named Executive Director. Bob was also involved with Widji’s annual campaigns and several capital campaigns for over five decades, raising thousands and thousands of dollars. The impact that Bob has had on Widji’s fundraising efforts is priceless.

He also kept a watchful eye on land development that would impact Widji and du Nord. In the early 1980s, a threat of a condo development next to Camp du Nord appeared. Together with Bob Binger, Bob played a significant role in the preservation of the area that would have ended the peace and solitude of both Camps du Nord and Widji.

Bob was not a camper, but he understood the impact that the camp had on his wife Sue and her sisters. When his four children were old enough, all of them became campers and later became seasonal staff. Bob was proud that his grandchildren became Widji campers.

Bob enjoyed a long career in finance. He is survived by wife Sue, children Carole, Bob, Jenny, and Tom, and six grandchildren.

Bob has left a legacy at Widji and many friends have honored him with memorial gifts to Widji’s General Endowment.

DOROTHY LUNDAHL

Though she had visited Widji only once, Dorothy Isabelle Shipman Lundahl understood its value to her daughter and other young men and women. She supported Widji as a continuation of her and her husband’s support of other Ys and of her love of the outdoors through an endowment fund, which benefitted Chapel Point. She asked about the progress and use of Chapel Point until the last years of her life.

Dorothy died August 13, 2012 in Naples, FL. She was born in Chicago in 1918 and graduated from the University of Michigan in 1940 with a degree in elementary education. She married Arthur (Bud) Lundahl in 1940. He was chair of the YMCA board when a new Y was built in Des Moines and co-chaired the campaign to raise money for a new Y in Rock Island, IL.

In Des Moines, she was the leader of her daughter’s Camp Fire Girls group, and to set an example for the other girls, sent her daughter off to camp at age seven. That began her

continued next page

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daughter’s camping career which led her to Widji as camper and staff. Dorothy always wanted to go along on a canoe trip.

When widowed in 1981, Dorothy moved permanently to Naples, FL, to sail her boat and play golf and tennis. Even when dementia put her in a nursing home and she could no longer walk, her blue eyes still sparkled and her spunky spirit remained.

**HERB PICK**

The Widji community lost a dedicated volunteer and avid supporter when Herb Pick died last summer. Herb served on the Widji Board for six years and beginning in the mid-1980s was a longtime volunteer at Y Partners call nights, the garage sale, the Camper Reunion and many other Widji functions. He also spent time volunteering at camp digging ditches and shoveling snow with Joe Smith and program staff. In fact, pretty much any opportunity to help Widji that came his way, Herb enthusiastically participated in and enjoyed. His cheerful nature was contagious and he made whatever Widji project he took on a lot more fun and interesting for everyone through his presence and conversation.

Herb, the grandfather of two 2012 Widji summer campers and father of former camper, counselor and current Program Director, Karen Pick, instilled a love of outdoor adventure in his entire family. He and his wife Anne took their three daughters camping on Lake Vermillion, on sailing trips in Maine and California and on Boundary Waters camping trips. After Karen discovered Widji as a teen, Herb took great joy in supporting and encouraging her participation as a camper and counselor. In addition to these family endeavors, Herb treated each of his children to a father/daughter adventure of her choosing; biking from Minnesota to Maine with Cindy, sailing from Minnesota to Naples, FL, to sail her boat and many other Wideji functions. He also spent time volunteering at camp digging ditches and shoveling snow with Joe Smith and program staff. In fact, pretty much any opportunity to help Widji that came his way, Herb enthusiastically participated in and enjoyed. His cheerful nature was contagious and he made whatever Widji project he took on a lot more fun and interesting for everyone through his presence and conversation.

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Herb mentored hundreds of graduate students during his 49-year career as a professor at the University of Minnesota’s Institute of Child Development. Along with offering his academic wisdom, for more than 30 years, Herb shared his love for the outdoors by leading students and faculty on winter camping trips in the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness.

Herb believed very strongly in the positive outdoor experiences that Widji provides to students and summer campers. He and Anne together placed great value on the benefits that young people gain from exploring, playing and learning about the outdoors and made a commitment to help make sure that Widji’s programs are available to all who want to participate. This commitment continues through Anne and the many people who made a contribution in honor of Herb.

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**In Memoriam**

**Capital & Endowment Campaign Volunteers**

- Jim Alexander
- Roger Andre
- Matt Anfang
- Marty Babcock
- Matt Bailey
- Walt Bailey*
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- Peter Currie
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- Betsy Fabel*
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- Amery Robinson
- Tracy Robinson
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- Sandra Samuelson
- John Saxhaug
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- Mark Scott
- Matt Seltzer
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- Arlene West
- Skip Wilke

* Capital Campaign Steering Committee members
How you can help sustain Widji

YMCA Camp Widjiwagan endowment funds provide essential support for camperships, programs, operations and more. Your donations will help.

Gifts to the YMCA Camp Widjiwagan General Endowment Fund provide support to Widjiwagan where needed most.

Tribute gifts to any fund may be made in honor, memory or appreciation of friends or loved ones.

Include Camp Widjiwagan in your will or estate plan and be recognized as a Heritage Club member.

For information on establishing a named fund, please contact Linda Ramacier or Liz Flinn at 651 645 6605 or linda.ramacier@ymcatwincities.org or liz.flinn@ymcatwincities.org

Send donations to "YMCA Camp Widjiwagan Endowment" and write the name of the fund you are contributing to in the memo line.

YMCA Camp Widjiwagan, 532 County Road F, Hudson, WI 54016
2012 Endowment Gifts

C. Robert Binger
Camping Endowment Fund
which benefits YMCA Camps du Nord, St. Croix, and Widjiwagan
C. Robert Binger Estate
in memory of Bob Binger
Armand and Beverly Ball
Alexandra Bjorklund
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Evelyn Buetow
Tom and Cheryl Kranz
Norman Lorentzen and Donna Boller

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in memory of Bob Bjornsdahl
Betty Felix

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Boening Family Endowment Fund
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Linda Brown Harris & Norman Harris

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William Brown

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Molly Burke

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in honor of first two grandchildren–
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Georgianna Grace Bussey
Michael and Marcia Bussey

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in memory of Jack & Susan Cornwell
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in memory of Herbert L. Pick
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in memory of Waid Johnson
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16 | YMCA CAMP WIDJIWAGAN
2012 YPARTNERS CAMPAIGN SUCCESS

The 2012 YPartners campaign reached a total of $207,282 in donations with a goal to achieve $245,000. Camp Widjiwagan is fortunate to have dedicated volunteers who donate time every year to contact our alumni, campers, staff, family members and friends to raise money for this important campaign. The funds raised support camperships, which helped 57 summer campers fund their 2012 summer trip. In addition, 122 participants received assistance to the Outdoor Learning program during the fall, winter or spring. The annual YPartners campaign also supports staff development and repairing and replacing trail equipment, wood canoe maintenance and other important projects.

The campaign to raise funds for 2012 took place in the fall of 2011 and was chaired by Bill Kellogg. Many thanks to Bill, the following chairs and all of our other volunteers:

YPARTNERS TEAM

General Calling: Shelley Carpenter, Mary Stoick
Board Division: Ned Patterson
Major Gifts: David Kilpatrick, Tom Hiendlmayr
Team Leaders: Matt Bailey, Ed Garvey, Tom Hiendlmayr, David Kilpatrick, Mary Lou Lamain, Ned Patterson, and Court Storey

A special thanks to the 103 general call night volunteers and to the 35 major gift campaigners who dedicated time and energy to support experiences for youth at Widji.

YPartners

HUDSON BAY
$5,000-$9,999
David & Virginia Anderson
Ruth & John Huss
Joyful Women Fund
Keo Rubbright Lukefahr & Robert Lukefahr

ADVANCED EXPLORER
$2,500-$4,999
Matt Bailey & Kris Gendron
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Sarah & Jerry Caruso
Julia & Frank Ladner
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Alda & Bill Messinger
Tom & Sally Patterson
R.C. Lilly Foundation
Keo Rubbright Lukefahr

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Jeri Glick-Anderson & Charles Anderson

Upper Lakes Foods, Inc.
Jerry & Sonja Wenger
John W. & Jan Wilke

ENROLLMENT HISTORY

<table>
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<th>CAMPERS</th>
<th>2012</th>
<th>2011</th>
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<td>Organizational Group Campers</td>
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<td>Outdoor Learning Campers</td>
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<td>Outdoor Learning Campers</td>
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Albert & Janice Hammond
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Amy Blumenshine & Michael Troutman
Marjorie Boening
Susan Boynton
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Chris Brown & Susan Goodale
Donald Brunquell & Sally Scoggin
David & Lisa Bruns
James & Carolyn Brusseau
Christine Buetow
Evelyn Buetow
Roger Burkhardt & Jane Fankenhuis
Nicholas & Kay Cahill
Alex Calingaert & Suzanne Candell
Patrick Campion & Elizabeth Fabel
Sarah Carlsson & Christopher Deike
Judd & Leslie Carpenter
Richard & Elizabeth Charbonneau
Kenneth & Michele Chin-Purcell
Jeanne Cochran & Andrew Wallace
Emmett & Carrie Coleman
James Collinge
Jonathan & Beth Commers
Timothy & Kelli Commers
Philip Connor
Mary Jo Erickson-Connor
Alexander Cook
William & Maureen Cosgroff
Elizabeth Cowie
James & Kathleen Cowie
Lawrence & Kathryn Craighead
Paul & Rachel Craighead
Michael & Pamela Crane
Samuel Crossley

---

**YPartners**

My son LOVES his experiences with Widji. They take him seriously, give him real responsibility, and encourage him to be his best. He has learned leadership skills and teamwork. And he loves the wilderness, even more so because of Widji.

---

John & Grace Curry
Marilynn Curtis
Blake & Toni Davis
Ruth Deitz & Robert Green
Jock & Sara Donaldson
Steven & Terry Dondlinger
Maura Donovan & David Whitman
Charles Driscoll
James & Jean Dunn
John & Jodie Duntley
Ross & Sally Dyer
Robert Eberle & Hope Hartup
Arthur Eddleston & Katie Davis Eddleston
John Ekberg
Doug & Susan Elsas
Lisa & David Erickson
Dwight & Ann Ericsson
David Feroe & Linda Switak
Nancy Feurer
Louis Fink & Pamela Grich
Frederick & Dorothy Forro
Gregory & Marilyn Franzen
Deborah Fulton
Frances & Michael Galvin
John & Susan Gardner
William & Judith Garrard
Kandis Garrison & Paul Fish
Judith Gavin
Tom & Judy Gehrz
Brian and Nicole Geisler

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Widji gives our young people an opportunity to be in pristine, untouched nature, with a group of similarly-minded young people, who may be the stewards of our earth’s preservation, but also to challenge themselves, to work together, in a unique experience.

Robert & Michele Graves
Leah Gruhn
Jean Guttmann
Susan Guzmich & James Timothy Kunin
Lee & Ann Haase
Scott & Jenny Hagberg
Jacob & Mary Pat Hansen
Tom & Jan Hardel
Daniel & Sandra Hart
Geoffrey & Marin Haynes
Dana Hazel & Michael Vespasiano
Susan Hengelfelt
Lisa Henner
Jeffrey Henriques & Laurie Frost
William & Charlotte Herman
Thomas & Elizabeth Heywood
Russell & Cynthia Hobbie
Greg & Samantha Holloway
Frances Homans & Allan Torstenson
Jan & Katherine Horak
Randy Horick & Grace Renshaw
David & Allison Kolb
And Cheryl Kranz
Betheanee Rochlin Kronick
Kevin Lagos & Mai Lee
Vanessa Laird & Timothy Raylor
Jeffrey & Gretchen Lang
James & Erika Langford
Gail Laursen
Barbie Levine & Sara Lynn Newberger
Jonathan Levy & Beth Virnig
Bradley & Jean Lewis
Darwyn & Marie Linder
William & Sue Linder
Karen Lindig & Gary Bond
Peter & Karen Loewenson
Jesse Lorenz
Heidi Losinski & Steven Hamer
Thomas Ludlow
Armin & Virginia Luehrs
Jean Macconnachie & John Kearns
Ted & Julie MacLeod
Gregory Madsen & Nancy Gates Madsen
Bronnie Mairs
Sara Mairs & Dan Steinhaacker
Chris & Ann Malecek
Dave & Sherla Mayer
William & Elspeth McClelland
Jennifer Mehmel & Sixto Guiang
Hugh & Mary Meier
Howard Mielke
Shayle Miller & Jin-Soo Kim
Ran & Beth Miner
Robert & Jane Mitchell
Bjorn & Margot Monson
James & Betsy Moore
Jonathan & Martha Morgan
Richard & Barbara Morrison
James & Nancy Mulvey
Dwight & Patrice Jewson
Eric Johnson
Frank & Meredith Johnson
Nick Johnson & Amy White
Larry Jones
Thomas Kasper & Ann Rulseh
Douglas Kelley & Janice Whitney
Stephen & Jane Kilgriff
Philip & Ginna Kilpatrick
Brien & Jane Kise
Alexandra Klass & Stephen Warch
Douglas & Melissa Kleemeier
John & Susan Kolb
Tom & Cheryl Kranz
Betheanee Rochlin Kronick
Kevin Lagos & Mai Lee
Vanessa Laird & Timothy Raylor
Jeffrey & Gretchen Lang
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Bjorn & Margot Monson
James & Betsy Moore
Jonathan & Martha Morgan
Richard & Barbara Morrison
James & Nancy Mulvey

John & Anne Munholland
Phil & Lynda Murray
Joseph & Kathryn Nasvik
Joseph & Priscilla Nauer
Sallie Neall
Sarah Neimeyer & Joe Warren
Doug & Sue Nelson
Roger Nelson
Joel & Julie Nickson
Ben & Evelyn Nordman
Caragh O’Brien & Joseph LoTurco
Gary & Mary O’Brien
Patrick O’Connor & Kerin McTeigue O’Connor
Jesse O’Keeffe & Mary Harrington
Daniel O’Shea & Alexandra Muschenheim
Roger & Marilyn Otte
Thomas Paper & Eleanor Bigelow
John & Elizabeth Schifffmann
Fritz & Kathleen Schwarz
Richard & Sandra Scott
Richard & Jane Scott
John & Sheila Seaberg
Stephen & Sharon Segal
Keith & Pamela Sessoms
Craig Shaver
Stanley & Lucy Shepard
John & Mary Siegler
Kurt & Fay Simer
Kyle Simonson
Douglas & Katherine Skor
Henry Slawson
Thomas & Susan Smegal
Benjamin Smith
Helene Smith
Sarah & Ryan Solberg
Susan Roe & Rene duCrett
Donna Roles & Terrance Neavin
Thomas & Dorothea Rose
Chuck & Katherine Rothstein
Maureen Ruddy Schulz
Ronald & Carolyn Rude
Marilyn Ruttan
Alan & Sally Ruvelson
Dennis & Kelly Ryan
Jennifer Sahlin
Charles Sawyer
Paul & Karen Schanfield
Charles Scherado
William & Suzanne Scherado
John & Elizabeth Schifffmann
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Kurt & Fay Simer
Kyle Simonson
Douglas & Katherine Skor
Henry Slawson
Thomas & Susan Smegal
Benjamin Smith
Helene Smith
Sarah & Ryan Solberg

2012 Leaders:

VOYAGEURS:

Jack Weise - Kazan River
Martha Sample - Kazan River
Joe Goldes - Coppermine River
Nina LaFave - Hanbury River to the Thelon River
Emily Ranta - Hanbury River to the Thelon River
Austin Danicic - Elk River to the Thelon River

MOUNTAINEERS:

Nat Shepard - Gates of the Arctic National Park
Dana Crawford - Gates of the Arctic National Park
Megan Schleck - Arctic National Wildlife Refuge
Dan Kise - Arctic National Wildlife Refuge
In a small group of colleagues and counselor in NATURE, without the usual diurnal electronic distractions and artificially imposed limits and privileges, gives my son significance in his life that is not of a material world. As he said to me after a previous Widji trip, “Mom, the mountains are in my blood...they speak to me!” This year had an equally profound impact on him, coming to terms with experiences that affected the others’ welfare in his group. When he’s on trail, nothing is insignificant! These are life experiences and memories that he will have his lifetime, I know. And knowing others in deeper than superficial relationships is great for developing interpersonal skills.
Each trip my son has taken, and particularly this last one, have been transformative experiences. Beyond the obvious wilderness and water skills that he’s developed, the time on trail has expanded his thinking—his art and writing, made him more self-reliant, and given him lasting friendships.

—Casey Knips

Gifts in Kind

Casey Knips
Ken Koehler
Theodora Koeppen
Roger & Jennifer Kramer
Marian Kramer
Myrtle Kranz
Rick & Katie Krause
Colleen Krebs
Barclay Kruse
John & Madelyn LaFave
Juanita Lagos-Benson & Chris Benson
Mary Lou Lamain
Maury & Julie Landsman
Caroline Lauth
Catherine Lay & Henry Jerome
Joy Leibman
Greg & Molly Leifeld
Anthony & Christine Lema
Robert & Esther LePage
Irving & Gwen Lerner
Christina Lewis
Daniel Liljedahl & Lisa Himmelstrup
Albert Lindeke & Terese Campbell Lindeke
Betty Lindwall
Nancee Lundeen
Nancy Mackenzie
Margaret MacNeal

Macy’s Foundation
Hilary & Fritz Magnuson
Roxanne Mahan & Tristan Markert
Robert & Helen Mairs
Dan Mammel
Teresa Mastrangelo & Eric Bendickson
Karen Mattison
Robert & Linda McAndrew
Shannon & Ann Macaulay
Andrea McCormack
Marguerite & Robert McCormick
Michael & Nicole McCullough
Timothy McGree & Patricia Curtner
Pam McInnes & Kevin Lee
Donald & Teri Meyer
Microsoft Foundation
Microsoft Matching Gifts Program
Mark Miller & Laura Cripps
Thomas & Cathleen Miller
George & Ria Mills
Hannah Miner
Cyrus Mistry
David & Fredi Montgomery
Anne Moore
Ana Moreno & James Solem
Sophie Munholland & John Porter
Patty Murphy

Garage Sale Volunteers: Numerous and dedicated volunteers drove the garage sale to success. Sale proceeds benefit both Widji and du Nord camp programs.

Health Professionals:

Madelyn LaFave
Ann Hundertmark-Fryklund
Candace Ginsberg
Kevin Lagos
Sharon Sivertsen-Modrijan
Rollie Brusseau
Sarah Steele
Mary Jo Erickson Connor
Karen Loewensen
Erin Omann
Pat Eid
Jeff Peters
Deb Boehm

Non-Board Committee Members:

Mark Bixby
Janie Finn
Mike Grace
Dave Mayer
John Saxhaug
Kaj Thompson
Laura Wellington

Chris Murray & Shannon Riley
NBBJ LP
C. Roger & LaVonne Nelson
Katie O’Brien
Maura O’Brien
Cathy O’Dell
Carl Ohrn & Peggy Reichert
Kristen & Richard Olson
Rick Olson
Leigh Onkka

Tom O’Rourke & Karen Petersen
Alan Ose & Anne Sherve-Ose
Robert & Michelle Ott
Potter Palmer & Maggie Groening
Jen Patti & Pat Twiss
Rolf & Carolyn Peterson
Stuart & Corrine Peterson
Jay & Barbara Pfander
Karen Pick & John Pierce
Tim & Kimberly Pilgrim

Casey Knips
Ken Koehler
Theodora Koeppen
Roger & Jennifer Kramer
Marian Kramer
Myrtle Kranz
Rick & Katie Krause
Colleen Krebs
Barclay Kruse
John & Madelyn LaFave
Juanita Lagos-Benson & Chris Benson
Mary Lou Lamain
Maury & Julie Landsman
Caroline Lauth
Catherine Lay & Henry Jerome
Joy Leibman
Greg & Molly Leifeld
Anthony & Christine Lema
Robert & Esther LePage
Irving & Gwen Lerner
Christina Lewis
Daniel Liljedahl & Lisa Himmelstrup
Albert Lindeke & Terese Campbell Lindeke
Betty Lindwall
Nancee Lundeen
Nancy Mackenzie
Margaret MacNeal

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Karen Loewensen
Erin Omann
Pat Eid
Jeff Peters
Deb Boehm

Non-Board Committee Members:

Mark Bixby
Janie Finn
Mike Grace
Dave Mayer
John Saxhaug
Kaj Thompson
Laura Wellington
### Foundation Support – 2012

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Foundation Support</th>
<th>2012</th>
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<tr>
<td>Anonymous - Capital</td>
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<tr>
<td>Amelar Family Foundation - YPartners</td>
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<tr>
<td>Andersen Corporate Foundation - Wilderness Outreach and Environmental Education</td>
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<td>Armand and Beverly Ball Family Foundation in Raymond James Charitable Endowment Fund - Capital</td>
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<tr>
<td>F.R. Bigelow Foundation - Capital and Endowment</td>
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<td>Brown Family Foundation Inc. - YPartners</td>
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<td>Judd and Leslie Carpenter Fund of the Minneapolis Foundation - Capital</td>
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<tr>
<td>Comfort Family Foundation of the Fidelity Charitable Gift Fund - YPartners</td>
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<td>Disomma Family Foundation - YPartners</td>
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<tr>
<td>Steve Euler &amp; Nancy Roehr Family Charitable Fund - Capital</td>
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<tr>
<td>Greater Twin Cities United Way – Y Partners and Capital</td>
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<td>John and Ruth Huss Fund of the Saint Paul Foundation - Capital</td>
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<td>Sam and Donna Jordan Family Fund of the Minneapolis Foundation – Y Partners</td>
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<td>Joyful Women – Y Partners</td>
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<td>Wynn and Pamela Kearney Foundation - YPartners</td>
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<tr>
<td>Martin and Esther Kellogg Fund of the Saint Paul Foundation - Capital and Endowment</td>
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<td>R.C. Lilly Foundation - Capital</td>
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<td>Lucky Seven Foundation - YPartners</td>
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<td>Dorothy Lundahl Charitable Trust - Endowment</td>
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<td>William and Katherine Mackenzie Family Fund of the Saint Paul Foundation - Endowment</td>
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<td>McCarthy-Bjorklund Foundation - Capital</td>
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<td>McKeev Jones Charitable Fund - Capital</td>
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<td>Meredith Fund of the Women’s Foundation - Endowment</td>
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<td>Morgan Stanley Charitable Spending Account - YPartners</td>
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<td>Marcie and Robert Musser Advised Fund of the Aspen Community Foundation - Endowment</td>
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<td>Philip and Katherine Nason Fund of The Saint Paul Foundation - YPartners</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nicholson Family Foundation, Richard and Nancy Nicholson Fund - YPartners</td>
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<td>Tim and Francine O'Brien Charitable Fund of the Saint Paul Foundation - Capital</td>
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<tr>
<td>Robert Olander Ecology Fund of Orange County Community Foundation - Endowment</td>
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<td>Douglas &amp; Phyllis Ostergren Family Fund of the Saint Paul Foundation - Endowment</td>
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<td>John and Libby Pearson Family Fund of the Saint Paul Foundation - Capital</td>
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<td>Carl and Eloise Pohlad Family Foundation - Capital</td>
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<td>John and Arlis Riedel Donor Advised Fund of the National Philanthropic Trust - Capital</td>
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<td>John and Sandra Roe Foundation, a Signature Fund of the Minneapolis Foundation - Capital, YP</td>
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<td>Philemon C. Roy and Barbara Blanch Roy, Jr. Fund of the Saint Paul Foundation - Capital</td>
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<td>Rosenthal/Drach Family Fund of the Fidelity Charitable Gift Fund - YPartners</td>
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<td>David S. Sanborn Gift Fund of the Fidelity Charitable Gift Fund - YPartners</td>
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<td>Sewell Family Foundation - Capital</td>
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<td>Gordon and Jeanne Shepard Family Fund of the Saint Paul Foundation - Capital and Endowment</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kenneth W. Skully Endowment of the Catholic Community Foundation - Endowment</td>
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<td>Terhuly Foundation Inc. - YPartners</td>
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<td>Troutman Blumenshine Family Fund of the Vanguard Charitable Endowment Program - Capital</td>
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<td>William and Barbara Welke Charitable Fund of the Vanguard Charitable Endowment Program - Endowment</td>
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<td>Windover Foundation - YPartners</td>
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### Matching Gifts

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<th>Bank of America Charitable Foundation</th>
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<td>Chevron Humankind Program</td>
<td>HP Company Foundation</td>
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<td>GE Foundation</td>
<td>Microsoft Matching Gifts Program</td>
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<td>Nuveen Investment Holdings</td>
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