

## Director's Corner

The June 2011 Newsletter is here and so is summer...yayyyy! Camp is only a couple of weeks away and so is my new baby....AWWWW....I am not ready! ☺

Seriously though, I wanted to thank my wife Michelle on the one year anniversary of writing the newsletter. Michelle offered to take it on last June and in my opinion has done an awesome job! With all that being said, with a new baby due June 15th, the July newsletter may be a little late since Michelle may be a bit tired and worn out. So if you have anything for July please let me know early.

As most of you may know, this is the start of my 20th summer at camp (12th as Executive Director). I have seen many changes occur good and bad. Many of our buildings have been remodeled, city water brought in, new equipment has been purchased, etc. None of the success I have had as Executive Director the past 12 years would have been possible without the hard work and extreme generosity of many, many volunteers, dedicated parents, great staff & campers and the loving support of my family & friends.

Shady Oaks has not been just a job for me, it has been my life. My brothers, parents, extended family and friends all have been involved at SOC somehow. At times it has put a strain on relationships I have had (missing birthdays, weddings, funerals, etc.). My dedication to camp has taken me away from home for hours, days and weeks at a time. Sometimes, unintentionally I have neglected those closest to me. It has not been easy, the past 20 summers. With all this being said, everyone close to me has understood how much SOC has meant to me and they in turn have sacrificed time, money and energy to assist me in my passion that is SOC.

I believe SOC has helped me become a better person, father and husband. For these reasons and many more I would never trade any of my experiences, good and bad, the last 20 summers for anything in the world. As I look back at all that has happened since I started at camp and it amazes me how fast life goes by. It seems like only yesterday I was being dropped off by my dad with my big suitcase and fancy shorts, shirt and silly haircut not knowing what to expect. Only to realize that I had gotten into much more than I bargained for. Over that first summer people who were strangers became friends. Some of those friends have passed away, some have moved on and others are still here, just a bit older. Each and every staff member, camper, parent and volunteer I have met since that first summer has had some impact on my life. I will be forever grateful to all of them for teaching me how to appreciate life and most importantly how to live.

Sooo... with yet another chapter of my life beginning, new baby coming, new marriage to a wonderful woman, and the expectations and goals for another 20 years at SOC I say....BRING ON THE CAMPERS!

Thanks everyone & Good Times,  
Scott Steele

## Upcoming Events

• *Tag Days*  
*Fri. July 8<sup>th</sup>*  
*Sat. July 9<sup>th</sup>*  
*Sun. July 10<sup>th</sup>*

• *Open House*  
*Sun. July 24<sup>th</sup>*

• *8th Annual*  
*SOB Poker Run*  
*Sun. July 31<sup>st</sup>*

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## Welcome Back SOC 2011

# ☯ Fundraisers ☯

*Our Fundraisers are guaranteed good times!*



For just \$1 donation you have a chance to win an autographed copy of **Jerry Yang's** (2007 world series of poker champion) autobiography "All In"

The drawing will be held on a future broadcast of Windy City Poker Championship (you can find a list of broadcast dates & times on our website)

For more info & to purchase your tickets visit [www.shadyoakscamp.org](http://www.shadyoakscamp.org)

*All donations made through our website will go directly to Shady Oaks Camp*

## Run Patrick Run!!!

*August 14<sup>th</sup>*

Patrick Pisano, brother of current camper Karen, will be competing in the Lake Stevens, Washington 70.3 mile Iron Man competition as a fundraiser for Shady Oaks Camp.

You can visit

[www.teamspeckpisano.com/index.html](http://www.teamspeckpisano.com/index.html)

for more information or to make a donation.

Good Luck and thank you Pat,  
We are all pulling for you!



**Sunday, July 31<sup>st</sup>**  
**\$15/Rider \$10/Passanger**

11:30am First Bike Leaves Shady Oaks Camp  
5:30pm Last Bike in at The American Legion

Prizes will be awarded for Low & High Hands  
After Party Held at The American Legion in Lockport  
(15052 Archer Ave. Lockport, IL 60441)

For only a \$10 donation non-riders can join the after party  
There will be plenty of food & entertainment provided by  
The Dancing Noodles



# ☯ Volunteers Needed ☯

*It doesn't matter if you're a group of 1 or 100; we are always looking for volunteers to help with various fundraisers & events. Call (708) 301-0816 or email [soc16300@sbcglobal.net](mailto:soc16300@sbcglobal.net) if you are interested in volunteering! Below is a list of upcoming event(s) that we are looking for volunteers to help with.*

## Staff / Airport Pick-ups

We have several staff arriving at both O'Hare & Midway Airports on

**Friday, June 10<sup>th</sup> & Monday, June 13<sup>th</sup>**

If you are available to help transport staff, please contact Scott at (708) 301-0816 for specific times & locations.

## Homer Glen Beer Tent

We are looking for volunteers to work the Homer Glen Anniversary Fest Beer Tent and festival clean up.

**Saturday, June 25<sup>th</sup>  
6pm-12am**

You can work the whole time or in 1 hour increments. Please call Scott if interested.

## Tag Day Volunteers

**July 8<sup>th</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup> & 10<sup>th</sup>**

at various locations. Please contact Scott for specific times & locations.

## SOB Poker Run

Interested in volunteering for the SOB's 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Motorcycle Poker Run

**July 31<sup>st</sup>**

contact Geno Francione at [geno60477@yahoo.com](mailto:geno60477@yahoo.com) or (708) 935-7777

## ☯ Camp Date Reminders....

Session I: Monday, June 20<sup>th</sup> – Friday, July 1<sup>st</sup>

Session II: Monday, July 4<sup>th</sup> – Friday, July 15<sup>th</sup>

Session III: Monday, July 18<sup>th</sup> – Friday, July 29<sup>th</sup>

Session IV: Monday, August 1<sup>st</sup> – Saturday, August 6<sup>th</sup>

### Sessions I, II & III

Campers arrive **NO EARLIER** than 9:00am on Monday and depart **NO LATER** than 6:00pm on Friday

### Session IV

Campers arrive **NO EARLIER** than 9:00am on Monday and depart **NO LATER** than 6:00pm on Saturday

## ☯ Condolences ☯

Kim Kelly, Mother of camper Amy Kelly, passed away on May 5<sup>th</sup>. Our deepest sympathies go out to Amy and her family. Kim you will always be in SOC's heart!

## .... and Notes ☯

- ✓ Camp **WILL NOT** arrange pick-ups and drop-offs. All arrangements be made by the parents/ guardians.
- ✓ No camper will be allowed to remain at camp in between sessions.
- ✓ Campers will be served an early dinner at 4:30pm on the last Friday of each session.
- ✓ Campers will have be served brunch at 11:00am on the first Monday of each session.
- ✓ If a camper has AM meds, parents/ guardians **MUST** administer the morning meds on the first Monday of each session, prior to or during drop-off.
- ✓ If a parent/ guardian would like medications to be sent home with a camper they **MUST** give the camp nurse at least a 48hr notice prior to picking up the camper.
- ✓ If a parent/ guardian would like clothes &/or toiletries to be sent home with a camper then an overnight bag **MUST** be provided to Head Dorm Counselor at least 24hrs prior to pick-up.



# Thank You



Our 3<sup>rd</sup> annual dinner dance was another great success!! There's no doubt it's due to all of **Kathy Borello's** hard work once again!! Additional thank yous go out to **Sheila, Tracey & Mary** for helping with organizing, setup and planning of the event as well as to **Girl Scout Troop 75** for making beautiful center pieces and selling raffle tickets.

We would also like to thank the band **Full Circle** and **Heart and Sole Dance School** for the great entertainment for the evening. This was Full Circles 3rd year performing at the event and each year they have donated back their pay for the evening.

Of course we cannot go without thanking our **VIP Sponsors the Bratcher Family and Kidtrax**. It means so much to us when our community gets involved and show how much we mean to them!

A huge thank you again to the **J. Edward Mahoney Foundation** for their extremely generous grant to help remodel building #1. The building has never looked better! Also a big thank you goes out to **Homer Glen Knights of Columbus** for their very generous donation as well.

Thank you again to **Boy Scout Troop 149** for another eagle project. **Matt Kubowitsch** scraped & repainted the windows on the pool house & installed new doors. Matt & his crew did an amazing job! Keep the Eagle Scouts coming Troop 149!!

We want to thank the **Marian Village Housekeepers & Maintenance Staff** for cleaning some of our building from top to bottom as well as completing several projects throughout camp. The Marian Village staff have been coming out for several years and your help is always greatly needed!

Of course we cannot go without thanking the **Deercreek Christian Church & School** for racking leaves, in a wind storm nonetheless! The **Chicago Christian High School, St. John's United Church of Christ Youth Ministry and JcPenny in Mokena**, thank you all for volunteering your time on a variety of projects like cleaning the dorms, planting flowers & cleaning gutters just to name a few.

Last but certainly not least, thank you **Thelma Rhind & Ruth Circle Quilting Group from New Lenox** for making new blankets for our campers. There are beautiful!!!



## ∞ Donations ∞

If you would like to donate to Shady Oaks Camp  
Please make checks payable to *Shady Oaks Camp*  
and mail to:

Shady Oaks Camp  
16300 Parker Rd  
Homer Glen, IL 60491

You can also donate online through our website  
[www.shadyoakscamp.org](http://www.shadyoakscamp.org)  
click the PayPal button



### **Corporate Matching Grant Program**

Several companies participate in matching grant programs meaning the amount of money raised by the individual or a group of individuals is matched by your corporation.

So don't forget to talk to your company's human resources department to see if they are willing to match a donation that you make to Shady Oaks Camp. If so, then spread the word to your co-workers as quickly as you can. Every penny counts!

## Save The Date...

### **JUNE BOARD MEETING**

Date: Sunday, June 12<sup>th</sup>  
Time: 2:00pm-4:00pm  
Location: Shady Oaks Camp, Dining Hall

### **Open House**

Date: Sunday, July 24<sup>th</sup>  
Time: 12:00pm-3:00pm  
Location: Shady Oaks Camp

### **8<sup>th</sup> Annual SOB Motorcycle Poker Run**

Date: Sunday, July 31<sup>st</sup>  
Time: Registration begins at 9:00am  
Location: Registration is at Shady Oaks Camp

*Shady Oaks Camp*  
16300 Parker Rd  
Homer Glen, IL 60491

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To view this newsletter & past ones, visit us at [www.shadyoakscamp.org](http://www.shadyoakscamp.org)  
Any additional news or corrections, please contact Michelle at  
[shadyoakscamp@writeme.com](mailto:shadyoakscamp@writeme.com) or (708) 301-0816.  
(Pictures and stories from campers & staff are always welcome!)