



**March &  
April 2023**

**CAMP BA YO CA**

**Future Highlight: Silent Auction May 4th, 5:00 - 7:30pm**

KCAB office (7709 Westland Dr. Knoxville, TN) Supports Child to Camp Scholarships



### Program Highlight

- BaYoCa hosted 5 retreat groups with over 380 guests!
- We sent out almost 4,000 letters for our Child to Camp campaign, & have been blessed as donations have started to come in. We have already given over \$4,000 trusting God to provide.



### Facility Highlights

- The Trivette Gym Foyer had a revamp with a new snack counter/storage custom built and installed. The old doors were repurposed to create a cool sliding barn door.
- After masive rains overflowed the lake and washed out the road, we had volunteers help build a stronger retention wall to help protect the road.
- The dining hall buffet was dismantled and removed. While it served well these last few years, we are able to move back to family style meals with camp and this provides more space for larger groups.



**Page 2 - Carter Tales | Page 3 - Future events**





I was fifteen when I started working at Camp. I was told I would be a “Counselor in Training.” Up until this point in my life, I was a child, focused on little more than having fun and collecting as many football cards as possible. I wasn’t ready yet to be a counselor, but it was an important first step.

In the months leading up to the summer, I decided I no longer wanted to play football. I know this seems insignificant, but to me it was a big deal. I was incredibly nervous about telling my parents. I was sure I was going to be such a disappointment to them both. But I mustered up the courage and called a meeting with them and laid it all out. At the end of this conversation, my father said, “Well, if you’re not doing summer football workouts you could always work at Camp.” Way ahead of you, Dad.

As I finished counselor training and started into week one, I was hooked. I was having so much fun, but for the first time I also had real responsibility with real consequences. I was still a child and couldn’t help but terrorize the program staff with some of my decision making. But while it may not have been obvious to anyone else, I was starting to grow up.

By my third week at Camp, Lloyd would have had to ban me from the premises to keep me away. That actually happened my next summer and I came back anyway, but that’s a story for another day. I started arriving earlier than required on Sunday afternoon to spend a few hours roaming the property fishing and catching crawdads with my new friend Tylor. We spent our time exploring as much of the 360 acres of camp property as possible, with no one telling us where to go or what to do. That afternoon, as I stood next to Tylor in the creek behind the Manor, I looked at him and all that was around us, and thought to myself, “I have a friend.”

It wasn’t that I didn’t have any friends. I had plenty of friends growing up. They were school friends, church friends, and friends from sports teams. But all these friends were in flux; they changed when I got a new class. They changed when I moved to a new Little League team. As a child, I wasn’t really capable of deep connection that went beyond similar interests. But I knew what was budding with Tylor was somehow more. This was a friendship that could last, the type of friendship that was built on more than just the surface. I didn’t really know how to have or keep a friendship like that, but I knew I wanted to spend my life figuring it out with the guys I met at Camp. I was still a child, focused on little more than having fun and collecting as many crawdads as possible. I wasn’t yet ready to be a man, but it was an important first step.



## Future Events

- **May 4th** - Silent Auction
- **May 22** Start of Staff Training
- **May 29** Start of Counselor Training
- **June 5-7** Little Rascals Camp
- **June 5-9** Spec Ops Camp
- **June 12-16** Boys Camp
- **June 19-23** Youth Traverse Camp
- **June 26-30** Man Camp

[Register Here](#)



## Ways to Help

- Buy specific needs from our Amazon wishlist
- Like & Follow @CampBaYoCa pages on IG & FB
- Donate towards Child to Camp
- Donate towards our general fund

[Amazon Wishlist](#)

## Camp BaYoCa

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United States of America



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