



RED CANOE

— FOUNDATION —

FY 2022 Annual Report



Back to paddling together!



RED CANOE

— FOUNDATION —

***Red Canoe Foundation is
dedicated to providing youth
access to transformative
wilderness experiences.***

Red Canoe Foundation

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Red Canoe Foundation is a
U.S. 501(c)(3) organization.

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Josephine Moore

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Libby Moore, *in memoriam*
Founding Director & Chair

Staff

Gail Coleman, Executive Director



October 2022

Dear Red Canoe Foundation Friends and Supporters,

Once again, I am humbled by the kind and supportive words you have shared with me and for your generosity during this past year. You recognized the importance of RCF's ability to provide financial support to as many campers as possible this summer, and every donation, from those of \$10 to those of over \$1,000, ensured we surpassed our goal of \$125,000. I am so deeply grateful for each of these gifts. You shared of yourselves, and not just of your excess. Thank you so much.

The pandemic took a toll on all of us, but especially on young people. With your help, we were able to provide partial or full tuition support to every eligible camper who applied for assistance, which totaled \$85,570 for 16 campers to attend Camp Wabun, in addition to a grant to support Chicago Voyagers' programming. Those are record numbers for us! We have included in this report several quotes from scholarship recipients and their families which provide a glimpse into their sincere appreciation for the opportunity that your support made possible. As I read the submissions, I was struck by the transformational impact of the wilderness experience on both the campers and parents/guardians. A camper learns about caring for themselves and teamwork with peers; a parent/guardian learns about letting their child go, and marvels at their independence!



I hope you enjoy reading this annual report. Don't miss spotlights about Walter "Nibby" Hinchman and John Fiske, Jr. who helped recruit the new donors we needed to secure a matching grant of \$15,000; excerpts from Phil Rockwood's letter to raise funds for the Bill Olmsted and Dave Thompson Endowed Scholarship Fund for which Phil donated the seed money; and new and returning Board members!

Finally, I am always looking for ways to expand Red Canoe Foundation's "reach," so please don't hesitate to contact me with questions or suggestions. And help us to spread the word by encouraging your wilderness-loving friends to subscribe to our emails and follow us on Facebook and Instagram.

With gratitude,

Gail Coleman
Executive Director



Dear Red Canoe Foundation Friends,

Summer 2022 is in the rearview mirror, and the accelerated pace of fall is upon us.

As a mom of two young kids, I was reflecting recently on the fundamental decisions we are faced with as parents. We ask ourselves, what is best for our children, how can we guide them, prepare them to meet the joys and challenges that inevitably await them in their lives. Many of us have choices about how our children spend their time – what involvement they have in our communities, what sports they play, what school clubs they join. Within the hierarchy of choices that we have, I believe that those related to how our children spend their summers are some of the most consequential.

When I was 12 my parents sent me to a wilderness canoe tripping camp. I don't recall what the options landscape was at that point, but I know it was a great parental choice and one I very much hope to be able to replicate when my daughters are old enough. Here is what wilderness canoe tripping gave to me and what I hope the experience will give to my daughters.

The reset – the time out of time (only the cycles of the day), space to breath, think, reflect, meditate and reset – like a social cleanse – between school years.

The reserve – the daily stockpiling of confidence, of strength, of pride, of accomplishment, builds up in reserve and can be called upon as needed all year long and actually for your whole life.

The return – singing, storytelling, game-playing and a return to the fundamental old-school forms of connection.

The respect – for self, for others, for the history of the land, the weather, the water, the north

woods and everything they encompass.

Here is a photograph of my oldest daughter and me in a canoe, taken when she was 9 months old. We're clearly out on a short paddle – I'm wearing jeans and we have no gear. That was probably my daughter's first time in a canoe. I hope that she will spend many wonderful summers between the gunwales resetting, filling her reserve, returning to the best forms of social interaction and learning respect for herself, her section mates and the natural world around her. For me, as a parent, it will be an easy and essential choice.



The Red Canoe Foundation hopes to be able to support and sustain Camp Wabun in a more substantial way in the near future - for the benefit of my kids and kids everywhere. We remain 100% committed to our scholarship program, and we are so grateful to all of you for your support this year. I ask you to please help us continue to create access by removing financial barriers for families who make the important choice to send their children into the bush.

Phoebe Knowles

Phoebe Knowles
RCF Board Chair



Red Canoe Foundation was challenged in the spring to recruit 15 new donors in order to secure \$15,000 from an anonymous donor. Walter “Nibby” Hinchman and John Fiske rose to the challenge! We are very grateful for their success and want to shine a spotlight on them even though they are both well-known Wabunites.

Walter “Nibby” Hinchman



Ann and I were married in 1960 and the next summer Stoky invited me to serve as Chippy staff at Wabun. I had worked for him as trip-staff at Camp Kieve in Maine from '52-'57 and met several staff members who had been at Wabun, who talked enthusiastically about it. In 1961, I told Ann that I would like to go to Wabun for a summer to see what they were talking about. We caught the bug and it has been a very long summer! In '62 and '63, Ann served as camp nurse and I continued to trip. Our children, John and Julie, arrived in '63 and '65 and Ann's life in camp was busy. After 10 years on trip, Stoky asked me to stay at base camp and help him

and I have remained there ever since in a variety of roles. When Stoky retired, he gave me his shares and I was an owner and director for roughly 25 years until I gave my shares to Julie. Ann has served in a variety of roles too, including running the tuck shop for many years. Fortunately, as John and Julie grew up, they caught the Wabun fever (Julie was the first girl to sign up to go to Wabun.), moved through the camper ranks and both led Long Trips. Now, their own children have joined the Wabun ranks; this year, Emma and Avalon staffed the girls' Long Trip, and Jasper was a member of Wabun B.

Camp Wabun has been a family place for all of us and I wanted to do something to help RCF which is helping youngsters attend Wabun. The folks I contacted had been at Wabun and also at Pomfret School (where I taught for many years) and all were happy to be reminded of their camp experiences and gave willingly and generously to help RCF meet the challenge.

John Fiske



Every day, my nine summers as camper and staff at Wabun inform some activity or another. My first summer was 1977 and my last in 1990. Whether in my wood shop, on my sailboat, or in my college classrooms, lessons I learned, experiences I accrued and the people I met at Wabun still guide me, all these years later.

When Red Canoe Foundation launched, it became a giving priority for me. Just as I want first year college students to learn to write (something which I started to do at Wabun), I want young people to have access to the Wabun catalysts that will last them their lifetimes.

I have asked peers and relatives to join me in supporting RCF, and these folks have agreed. Doing so is easy for me because I know that anyone who has spent summers at Wabun will forever remember them. Making Wabun more accessible to more young people and their families will always be a happy commitment for me, and I hope for others as well.



The following are excerpts from letters received by the Red Canoe Foundation expressing gratitude for the scholarships RCF was able to provide.

My experience at Wabun, however short, was some of the best, worst, and influential moments in my life. If I have anything to say about it, it is that it is not easy physically or mentally. However, if you conquer this difficulty, such as long days of paddling, portaging, and insects that have no problem eating you alive, you will connect yourself with your surroundings. It will make you realize how lucky you are at home, it will make you grateful, and you will learn all the little things that you have merely overlooked and considered a common aspect of your life. I fulfilled all these things and am thrilled saying I would love to be back, go into even more remote places, and create more life changing experiences. Wabun has taken me out of my comfort zone and forced me to see new things, and I am very grateful for it.

After three days I didn't even miss my phone. It made me realize how much time is wasted. Out here, every minute matters. We were always doing something productive. I'm so glad I came to Wabun.

Wabun has been instrumental in the development of my son's character, confidence, and strength. He is defined not by his struggles but by his accomplishments and abilities he has developed by paddling his way through



A DIFFERENT KIND OF LOGIN

Canada. He has always struggled with speech, and since he was screened for preschool, I have had teachers and counselors show me how he has not known how to join in with a group of kids to play or interact. Instead, he has always just played near them because he hasn't known how to ask to join in. Wabun has changed this. He is part of a tradition, a moment that continues year round and into his approaching adulthood. He comes home at the end of a Wabun season full of words, stories, and a light I do not see at any other time of the year. He has found his home and his people at Wabun. The two of us will forever be marked by this.

We found Wabun through a friend just as we were going through a divorce in our family. My son never asks for what he needs as he doesn't ever want to bother anyone. I knew as his mother he needed an experience like Wabun. The Red Canoe Foundation afforded us an opportunity that would have been impossible for us to take on as I was a single mom. Our gratitude is profound, our lives forever changed, and our love for Wabun is endless. By way of a canoe Wabun gave my son an identity that ties him to the outdoors and to 90-year tradition that reaches beyond just a few weeks in the summer. Thank you for a seat at the campfire.





Between July 1, 2021, and June 30, 2022 (our fiscal year), the theme for the Annual Giving Campaign was Paddling Together. Our fundraising goal for FY2021 was \$125,000, which we were able to surpass with the generous support of our donors.

Fiscal Year 2022

Revenues

Annual Appeal Gifts	\$132,914.00
Endowment Gifts	\$97,448.00
Other (Interest, Rebates, Etc.)	\$260.48
Total Revenues	\$230,622.48

Expenses

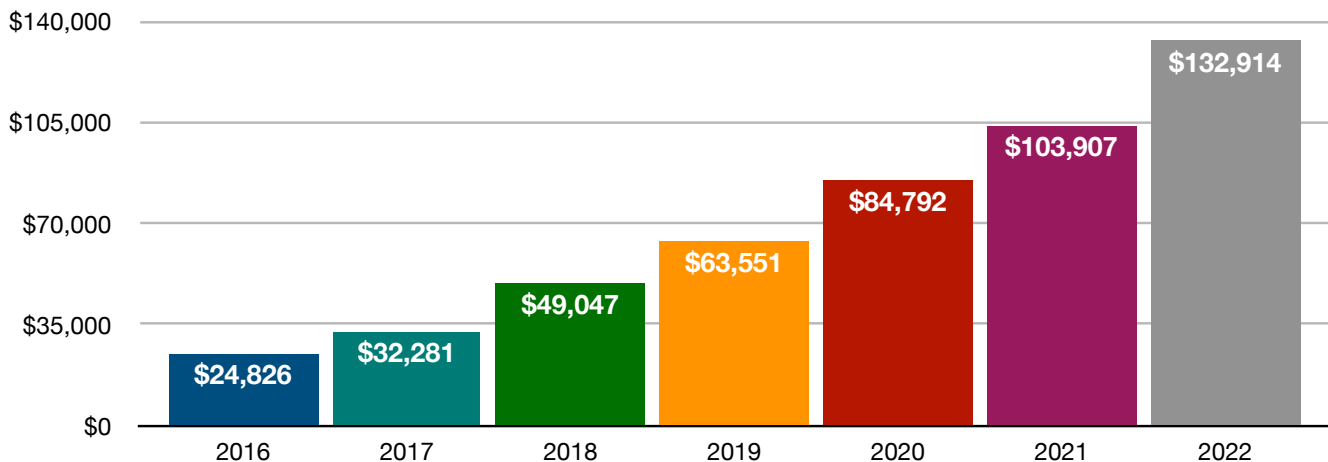
Administration	\$99,473.00
Fundraising	\$50,534.00
Scholarships (Camp Wabun)	\$85,570.00
Scholarships (Chicago Voyagers)	\$3,000.00
Total Expenses	\$238,577.00

Assets at End of Fiscal Year 2022

Cash and Short-Term Investments	\$50,219.00
Endowment Funds*	\$132,912.00
Total	\$183,131.00

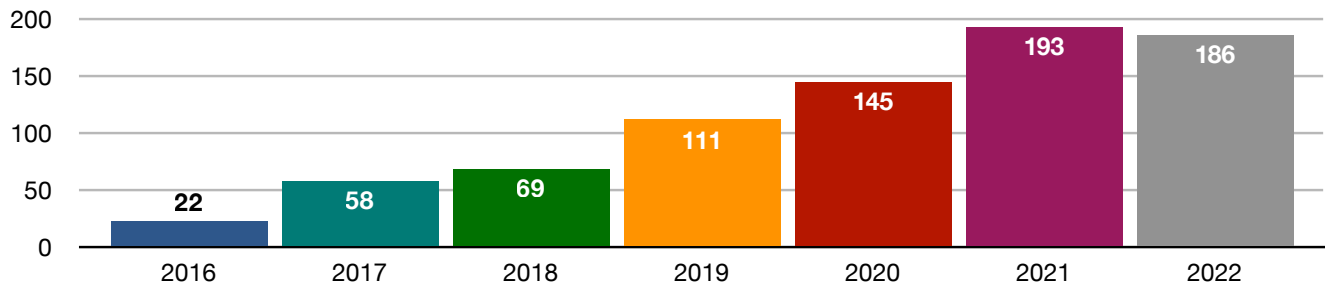
*There are currently five endowment funds: General Endowment Fund, Hardin Coleman Endowed Scholarship Fund, Bill Olmsted and Dave Thompson Endowed Scholarship Fund, Mary Alice McLellan Foster Endowment Fund, and the Catalyst Fund.

Annual Appeal Giving (FY 2016-2022)

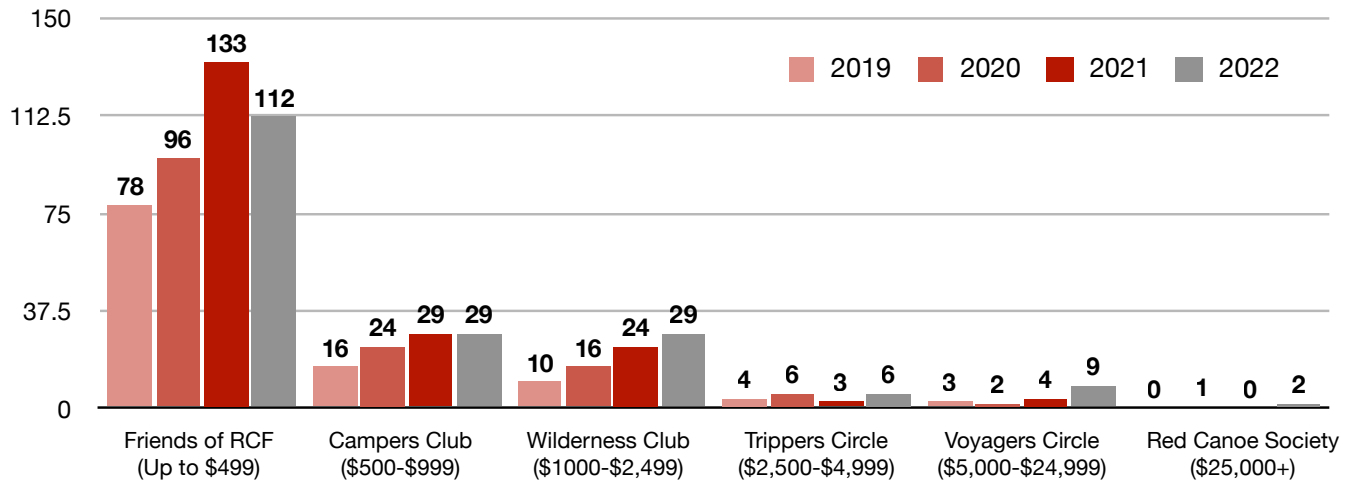




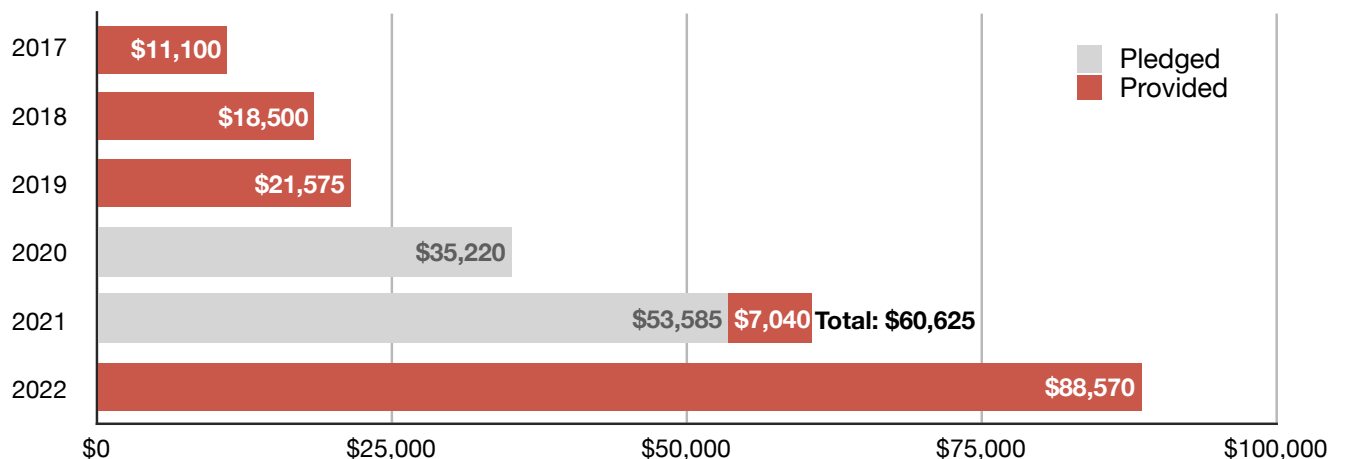
All Donors By Household (FY 2016-2022)



All Donors By Giving Level (FY 2019-FY 2022)



Scholarship Support Pledged and Provided (2017-2022)





We are sincerely grateful to members of the Red Canoe Foundation family for your generous commitment to our mission. You make it financially feasible for youth to gain access to the wilderness. The following list reflects all gifts received between July 1, 2021, and June 30, 2022. An asterisk () denotes contributions for five years or more. All of RCF's Board of Directors and Staff donated at the Wilderness Club level or higher in FY2022.*

**Red Canoe Society
(\$25,000 and up)**

Hardin and Gail Coleman
Jinny and Philip Mallinson

**Voyagers Circle
(\$5,000-\$24,999)**

Anonymous (1)
John Austin, III
Mr. and Mrs. Dennis Blankemeyer
Mike Foster
Alan and Polly Hyde*
Maggie Lynch*
Robert Moore
Philip Rockwood
Susannah Ross and Kevin Barney*

**Trippers Circle
(\$2,500-\$4,999)**

Anonymous (1)*
Anonymous (1)
Susan Forbes
Katie George
Anne and Bill Porter*

Lucas Rooney
Drew Spalding

**Wilderness Club
(\$1,000-\$2,499)**

Douglas Addison*
Jon Berger*
Aaron Coleman
Michael Douvadjian and Lynne Brainerd
Chris Foster
Teo Fremont-Smith
Bill Green and Diane Whitney*
Suzie and Crawford Hill
Barbara and David Hillmeyer
Phoebe Knowles*
Jason Lewis*
The de Lima/Alter Family
The Meffert Family
John Moses*
Louise Moses*
David and Kim Newell
William Nuckols
Holden Rasche

Caroline Schutta
Jessica and Geoff Scriver
Ben Simmons
Bruce Simonds

Katie and Scott Stauffer
Dave and Judy Olmsted Thompson
Matt and Amanda Torgeson
Angela and John Traynor
T.J. Vasicek and T.A. Lavoie
Maddy and Joe Vertenten*
Mark and Polly Olmsted Vranderic

**Campers Club
(\$500-\$999)**

Andy "Alby" Albershardt
Howard Barnebey
Brennan Family
Collis Family
Thomas Donnelley, II*
Leslie and John Elder
John Fiske*
Sarah Flotten*
Suzanne Flotten*





Casey Forbes*

William Forbes

Mary Beth Gallagher

Bill Gallery

Tim Hildreth

Walter and Ann Hinchman*

Pamela Hyde

William Johnston and Rosita Moore*

Charlie Minor

Rose Wilcher Monahan

Michael and Martha Parker

Alison Gessner Rooney

Woody Rutter

Dick Ryan

B. Thomas Seidman

Ned Simmons

Tom Stiverson

John Strand and Sara Proman Strand*

Gordie and Tracy Vap

Ian Watson

**Friends of RCF
(Up to \$499)**

Anonymous (5)

Fredrick Ames

Lauren Andrews

Kelly Romans Bancroft

Richard and Bunny Barclay

Nancy and Bill Battey

Stephen Blackmer and Kelly Short

Mark Briggs

Sarah Brixey

Andy Buckman

Ian Cameron

Karen and Alan Carter

Todd Cavalier*

Willie Cole

Jesse Coleman

John Cross

Nora Lima Dahl

Mrs. O. Townsend Dann

Savanah Lee Dean

Thomas Downing

James Draper, III

Marshall and Virginia Eaton

John Edmonds

Jonathan Esten

Steve Farrell

Steve and Mary Finnegan

Edward Fiske

Max Flomen

Stephen Forbes

Leslie Forbes-Worth

Robert Forler

Mike Forsman

Jeffrey Foster

Bob Frazee

Joseph and Jennifer Giffune

P&P Grant

Stephen Grant

Angela Greene

Emma Gwyn

Andrew Harrington

Jeffrey Hartzell

John Hinchman and Monica Wyatt

Camden Reid Holland

Laura, Kevin & Colin Hout

Hassana Howe

Richard and Margaret Huoppi

Lily Johnston

Brian Kilgore

Jim Kinnealey

Hope Kuniholm

John and Kay Lahr

Maddie Lehner

Ilanthe Lekometros

Carol Levin*

John Lewis

Karen Lewis

Graham Lincoln

Claudia Lindsey and Mike Fotos*

Rob and Jenifer Lippincott

Polly and Chuck Longworth

Laura Longworth and Lucia Metz

Lizzy Longworth & Tom Kreyche

Hannah Love

Kenneth and Amy MacNulty

Phoebe Mankiewicz

Peter and Christina Manning*

Andrew Matlack

Marilyn May and Michael Martinez

McCarthy Family

Lydia McClure

Deborah Monroe

Helen and Rick Moore*

Nina Moore



Richard and Barbara Moore

Katie Moses

Margot Moses

Lori Murphy

James Newell

Nocka Family

Reid Parker

Elizabeth Paulson

Roberta Paulson

Jonathan Pereira

Diane and Jim Rees

Jay Moore Reighley

Cameron Reilly

Leon Rittenberg, III

Anne McLellan Rutzen

Daniel and Karen Sanders

Rob Slattery

Caroline and Andrew Sloat

Liz Sloat

Cyndie Spencer and Denny,
Andrew, Paul and Julia Lund

Nancy and Myron Stachiw

Stacy Sterndale

Ames Stevens

JD Sullivan

Stephanie Sullivan

Lawrence Terry

Margaret and William Thickstun

Neil Thompson

Alex Tucker

Truman Urness

Michael Vertenten

Carla and Ron Vlaskamp

Jack Walker

Frederick and Marcia Williams

Kent Wommack and Gro Flatebo

Elizabeth Worgan

Matching Gifts

*The following companies matched
gifts in the past year:*

Cowen Cares Matching Gift
Program

Pete and Gerry's Organic Eggs

Tributes

*Donations were made in memory
or in honor of the following:*

The Albershardt Family

Harriet Berger

Faith Blankemeyer

Jacob Blankemeyer

Bee Briggs

Andrew Buckman

Jonathan Christo

Gail Coleman

Hardin Coleman and Family

Luke Dann

John "TONKA" Edmonds

Katherine Finnegan

James and Carol Forbes

Keith Fortier

Mary Alice McLellan Foster

John and Wigs Frank

Dr. Mike Gallagher

Peter Gwynn

D. Jeff Hartzell Jr.

Walter "Nibby" Hinchman

Phoebe Knowles and Family

Rosie Koostachin

Dick Lewis and Portaging Water-
Logged, Double-Ribbed, 18-Foot
Canoes!

Dick Lewis and the Diamond
4-Miler!

Joe McCarthy

Walter "Mac" Dewitt McLellan

Lowell Monroe

Elizabeth "Libby" Moore

Moses Family

William "Bill" Olmsted

Anne Potts

Bill Roberts

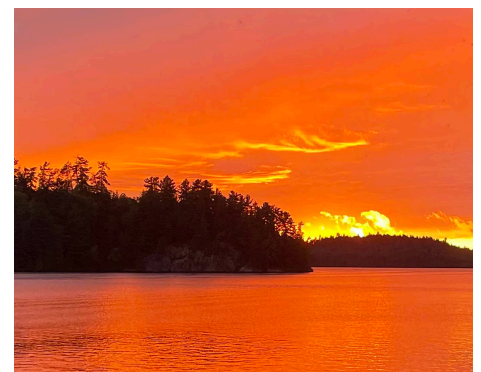
Gerhard Thurston Shearer

Clay Spalding

Katie Stauffer

Herbert "Stoky" Stokinger

Dave "DT" Thompson





Jean T. Vasicek

Maddy, Ella & Max Vertenten

The Best Summers of My Life

The Great Return of Wabun!

Memorable Muskeg

Section A 1981 Winisk

Spreading the Love of the
Outdoors

Wabun Alum 1969

Wabun's 90th Season!

Facebook Birthday Sponsors

*Together \$3,356 was raised with
birthday fundraisers by:*

Hardin Coleman

Julie Hinchman

Phoebe Knowles

Katie Stauffer

Maddy Vertenten



Every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of these lists. Please direct any questions or concerns to Gail Coleman, Executive Director, at gcoleman@redcanoefoundation.org.

How can you support RCF?

- Quickly and easily make an online donation by visiting redcanoefoundation.org and clicking the DONATE button.
- Find out if your employer has a matching gift program, and put it to good use!
- Contact Gail Coleman, Executive Director, at gcoleman@redcanoefoundation.org to contribute to RCF's Endowment Funds or to include Red Canoe Foundation in your estate planning.
- Are you on Facebook or Instagram? Follow, like, share, and comment on our posts! We can be found at [@redcanoefoundation](https://www.instagram.com/redcanoefoundation).
- Finally, share your ideas and suggestions directly with Gail. We love to hear from you!



Bill and Anne Porter graciously hosted nearly forty people, including the RCF Board, Camp Wabun's directors and owners, and many Wabun friends, at their cabin in the South Arm of Lake Temagami on August 5, 2022.



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