



# THE STICKY S'MORE

SUMMER FUN SINCE '41  
*News from Friends of Camp Natoma*  
Volume 4 Issue 2  
September 2022



## SUMMER 2022 RECAP

### FROM DIANA, SUMMER CAMP DIRECTOR:

Sing, Laugh, Camp, Be Together.

You may have seen your camper come home with these words on their shirt this year, and I can't emphasize enough how much I saw of just that - campers singing and laughing with friends new and old, living in community with one another under the stars. In short, this summer was spectacular. In a few more words, this summer made it so evident that Camp Natoma's programming matters. Whether it was the incredulous joy on a 14 year old camper's face as they took a bite of a s'more for the very first time in their life, the sense of pride one camper felt when his perseverance in archery class allowed him to hit a bull's-eye, or the quiet determination of one of our youngest campers as she surmounted her personal battle with homesickness, campers had the opportunity for, and showed, immense personal growth. We Sang. We Laughed. We Camped. And I can't wait to be together again next summer!

### FROM CARL, ASSISTANT CAMP DIRECTOR:

What a summer! Although I have been coming to Camp Natoma for 15 years as a camper, counselor, and volunteer, this year was extra special as I stepped into my new role of Assistant Camp Director. I loved seeing the faces of campers light up as they stepped off the Amotan Express just as mine did when I first arrived as a camper. From singing songs around the campfire to playing in the pool, it is inspiring to see that Natoma holds a special place in the heart of every camper, staff member, and volunteer. I feel so honored to have been a part of this great summer and look forward to seeing more of you campers during our events this Fall!

### FRIENDS OF CAMP NATOMA NEWS:

We are excited to begin to share more information about ongoing efforts for site improvements, program expansion, and community connections. We will be unveiling a new mission statement by year's end. We are planning fantastic new youth programs and community opportunities.

**NOW is the time to get involved!**

**Now recruiting campsite care VOLUNTEERS!**  
**Now seeking BUSINESS SPONSORS!**  
**Now accepting AUCTION donations!**  
**And many other ways to GET INVOLVED!**

Contact us today!  
[emily@campnatoma.org](mailto:emily@campnatoma.org)  
(805) 316-0163



# *What is the #1 reason you keep coming back to Camp Natoma?*

A note from our Counselors in Training

”Camp Natoma is my home away from home. I come back every summer because I want to help the younger kids have the perfect camp experience that I had.”

-Olivia



”I keep coming back because I love the people and the community.” -Daisy

”I keep coming back because I love being outside and connecting with younger kids.”

-Leo

”I keep coming back to Natoma because of the friendships and super fun songs!” -Tom

”I come back to Camp Natoma because I love to sleep under the stars with my campmates.”

-Danika

# Support Camp Natoma!

**Bid on the following items at our upcoming Silent Auction**

- **Le Cuvier Wine & Food Pairing for Six**
- **Nature Walk with a CA Naturalist & Lunch**
- **Beach Yoga for Six**
- **Various Soapstone Necklaces**
- **Healdsburg Wine Country Getaway Package**
- **Morro Bay Kayak Adventure Package**
- **Avila Beach Golf Resort & Libertine Flight**
- **SLO Children's Museum for Four & Lunch**
- **Pismo Bowl for Four & Lunch at Cool Cat's**

**All funds support Camp Natoma programs and facilities.**

**Online auction site and bidding opens: September 12th**

## THANK YOU TO OUR BUSINESS SPONSORS!



Your logo can be featured here - become a Business Sponsor today!  
Email [emily@campnatoma.org](mailto:emily@campnatoma.org)



*Home to Camp Natoma*

**DO YOU KNOW THE WAY TO CAMP THROUGH WINDING  
ROADS OF TREES?**

**JUMP ONTO THE AMOTAN, GOT TONS OF FRIENDS TO MEET  
LEARN THE WORDS TO ALL THE SONGS OR WALK ON  
THROUGH THE CREEK**

**DON'T LEAVE BEHIND THE GEMS YOU FIND, A SOAPSTONE'S  
ALL YOU NEED**

**CAMP NATOMA, IT'S THE PLACE TO BE  
TRADITIONS BOUND BY YEARS OF THE BEST SUMMER  
MEMORIES**

**CAMP NATOMA, CAMPERS COME TO FIND  
JOKES AND LAUGHS, STAFF'S GOT YOUR BACK, THIS HOME IS  
YOURS AND MINE**

**FRANKLIN, STOCKTON, HILLTOP, ACORN, SLEEP UNDER THE  
STARS**

**FRIDAY FIRE ROLLS AROUND, WE NEED MORE CHOCOLATE  
BARS**

**LANYARDS, SWIMMING, HIKING, EATING AND EVERYTHING  
BETWEEN**

**A WEEK GOES BY AND SOMEHOW I CAN'T GET MYSELF TO  
LEAVE**

**CAMP NATOMA, IT'S THE PLACE TO BE  
TRADITIONS BOUND BY YEARS OF THE BEST SUMMER  
MEMORIES**

**CAMP NATOMA, CAMPERS COME TO FIND  
JOKES AND LAUGHS, STAFF'S GOT YOUR BACK, THIS HOME IS  
YOURS AND MINE**

**UNDER THE STARS, BESIDE THE CREEK  
WE CHANGE THE WORLD IN JUST ONE WEEK**



# Congratulations

## Mollie!

### 2022 Counselor of the Year

Mollie is studying Environmental Science at University of Portland. This summer she taught Handcrafts and was a Hilltop counselor. Mollie is a caring, and hardworking staff member!



Hello to the Friends of Camp Natoma!

As we wrap up the summer and continue preparing for the 4th Annual Fall Family BBQ, I reflect on the last few years. I've connected with some amazing people--campers, parents, donors, community leaders, alumni. We've been challenged to provide a camp program that cherishes our traditions and history, meets the needs of kids today, and considered unprecedented circumstances and more. We as Friends of Camp Natoma have been deep-diving in to the hard question - Why are we here?

**Camp Natoma is here to change lives!** We want to invigorate young people through outdoor living to find their strengths and become caring and contributing citizens. We *Sleep Under the Stars* to experience the wilderness, we *Connect with Nature* to learn about our natural world and our role within a community, and we *Express our Creativity* to step out of our comfort zone and feel joy!

Thank you to the Board of Directors for supporting the complex operations and expansion goals.

Thank you to the donors and volunteers who give so much. Thank you to the community members and alumni who cheer us on. Thank you to the staff who work so hard, and with such enthusiasm and care. Thank you to all the campers for adventuring with us!

**I truly hope to see all of you at the upcoming Family BBQ! We hope you can support our program with a donation or auction bid. Our program depends on our community support.**

Sincerely,  
Emily Zbin  
Executive Director

A promotional poster for the Friends of Camp Natoma Fall Family BBQ. The text is in a warm, brown font. The event is on October 2, 2022, from 11am-2pm at Cuesta Canyon Park. Activities include Tri Tip & Chili, Music & Games, Drinks & Treats, and a Raffle & Auction. The poster is decorated with illustrations of pumpkins, gourds, and autumn leaves. At the bottom, it says 'A FUNdraiser to support Camp Natoma Programs & Facilities' and 'Tickets available now www.campnatoma.org'.

**Friends of  
Camp Natoma**

**Fall Family BBQ**

**October 2, 2022  
11am-2pm  
Cuesta Canyon Park**

**Tri Tip & Chili  
Music & Games  
Drinks & Treats  
Raffle & Auction**

A FUNdraiser to support  
Camp Natoma Programs & Facilities

Tickets available now  
[www.campnatoma.org](http://www.campnatoma.org)



Friends of Camp Natoma, Inc.  
 PO Box 3012  
 San Luis Obispo, CA 93403

**Contact Us!**  
 (805) 316-0163  
 info@campnatoma.org  
 www.CampNatoma.org



# WHAT'S AHEAD?

Camp Natoma is active on social media!  
 Find us [@campnatoma](#) on Facebook and  
 Instagram for updates, exclusive content, and fun!



**Kids  
 Hiking  
 Series**



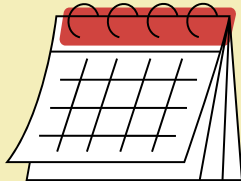
**Volunteer  
 Project  
 Days @  
 Natoma**



**Family  
 BBQ  
 @ Cuesta  
 Park**



**2023  
 Date  
 Launch**



**Holiday  
 Parades  
 &  
 Registration  
 Opens**

