

Camp Cuyuna Alumni Association

July 9, 2004

Dear CCAA Members and Friends of Cuyuna,

The last we corresponded with you, the Twin Valley Council Executive Board was considering the sale of 163 acres of Camp Cuyuna, including the 13 acres of Family Camp and the surrounding parcel. Since then much has happened - too much to describe here. For more information on the events of the last several months, checkout our website at: <http://www.cloudnet.com/~wgrosk/CCAA/> The current situation as we see it is this:

Due to the work of several CCAA members and Council volunteers, many new Twin Valley Council (TVC) Executive board members were elected at the annual meeting in February. This new Executive Board voted 18 No, 8 Yes, and 1 Abstained to an outright sale of the 163 acres of Cuyuna. This new board has also approved the running of a capital campaign. This capital campaign will allow the council to raise the necessary funds to reduce its overall debt to a manageable level, keep possession of the 13 acre family camp and main Boy Scout camp, improve the facilities at Cedar Point, Norseland, and Cuyuna, and if necessary, sell 150 acres to a friendly neighbor - the DNR.

The CCAA has been very involved in planning and helping to execute the necessary steps to make this all come about and it is our opinion that, if necessary, the sale to the DNR is a very good option - the only sale option which we will support. We would encourage you to do the same.

To fully understand the DNR proposal, please understand that the 150 acres of the 163 acres within the Family Camp parcel would be sold to the DNR and would become an Aquatics Management Area that would be open to the public, including scouts, for day use only. This means that within these boundaries there would be no camping, no fires, and no vehicles (a public parking area would be developed). Archery (bow hunting) and trapping would be permissible public uses. The road easement into Family Camp would be for scout use only and not open to the public. The 13 acres of Family Camp would still be owned by the Council. Should the scouts decide to sell these thirteen acres at some future date, the DNR would have the first option to purchase the Family Camp site.

The final DNR purchase price will be determined by at least 2 appraisals. Although the appraisals are not completed and no offer has been made, there is an assumption that the DNR will offer an amount similar to or greater than the \$1,500,000 offer that has been received from a private party. At this point, the Council can proceed with the sale or terminate the process.

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We do know that the offer will consist of a combination of \$300,000 in cash and matching funds. Based on the preliminary numbers, it would appear that the current Scout Family, the extended group of TVC alumni, and friends from the various conservation groups that support DNR land acquisitions, and organizations such as the CCAA would need to raise about \$600,000 to qualify for the additional \$600,000 of Reinvest In Minnesota (RIM) matching funds, which comes from the "loon license plate money" and other DNR acquisition funds.

As you can see, this sale to the DNR if necessary, can be a win-win situation for all involved! How then does the CCAA propose to help obtain the RIM matching funds? How about a good, old-fashioned "Sponsor-An-Acre" fundraiser! Our goal is to sponsor each of the 150 acres proposed for sale, at a cost of \$1000 each, in order to assure that the sale to the DNR can be secured. The CCAA Executive Board has "sponsored" the first acre, as the first \$1000 is now in our bank account! As an added thank you, once your donation has been received, you will receive an official CCAA "Sponsor-An-Acre" Certificate that will celebrate your donation and show you exactly where your sponsored acre is located!

Please note that all checks for our campaign must be written to the CCAA, a non-profit organization, and that we will control and manage these funds. If the DNR sale and match does not become reality and if the CCAA has not received a commitment to long-term camping at Camp Cuyuna - we will not be turning the funds over to the Twin Valley Council and we will return your pledge to you, if requested. Any money raised above the amount need for the potential sale to the DNR, will be used by the CCAA for future Camp Cuyuna projects and camp improvements.

Ladies and Gents, the time of reckoning is upon us. Each of us has a simple decision to make - either we're going to help save Camp Cuyuna or we're not. The Twin Valley Council Executive Board has given the Twin Valley Capital Campaign Committee until September 14th to raise the \$600,000 match. It is our feeling that if significant progress has not been made, the 163 acres (including family camp) will be sold. Without Family Camp, how long will it be before the main camp is next? We do not want to see that happen!

A team of CCAA members will be making phone calls beginning on Saturday, July 17th, to secure your pledge. Prior to that time, we encourage you to give consideration to what your gift will be, and if possible, contact us so that we don't have to contact you! You may contact any of the CCAA Executive Board members as listed on our website.

Thank you for again for your continuing support and passion towards Camp Cuyuna. Working together with council volunteers, scouts, and parents, the CCAA is determined to make sure that the experiences and lessons we all learned at Camp Cuyuna will continue for all members of the Twin Valley Council for decades to come.

The CCAA Executive Board

“Sponsor-An-Acre” of Cuyuna!

Attached is my check made payable to the Camp Cuyuna Alumni Association (CCAA) to be used towards the DNR RIM match. I understand that these funds will not be turned over to the Twin Valley Council unless the sale of the 150 acres to the DNR goes through and that the CCAA has received a commitment to long-term camping at Camp Cuyuna. I understand that any money raised that exceeds the required matching funds will be used by the CCAA solely for Camp Cuyuna projects and improvements. I/we would like to sponsor:

<input type="checkbox"/> 1 Acre for \$1000	Matching Gift Company:
<input type="checkbox"/> 1/2 of an Acre for \$500	Name: _____
<input type="checkbox"/> 1/4 of an Acre for \$250	Address: _____
<input type="checkbox"/> 1/10 of an Acre for \$100	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Another Amount = \$ _____	Amount: \$ _____

I understand that if the sale does not go through, I have two options:

- Please keep my pledge for future CCAA work and/or donations.
- Please return my pledge to me.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City State Zip: _____

Signature(s) _____

Please return this form and check(s) made payable to "CCAA" by July 30th to:

**CCAA Capital Campaign
12548 Dew Drop Lane
Crosslake, MN 56442**

Donations to the CCAA are tax deductible as permitted by law. You will receive a receipt for tax purposes in January 2005.