



Blue Bars

Official Publication of the National Council of Corvette Clubs, Inc.

Summer 2019

WISCONSIN CORVETTE CLUB PROVIDES RIDES IN CORVETTES

Generous with their time, The Wisconsin Corvette Club (WCC) members provide annual "Rides in Corvettes" weekend at Camp Wawbeek Respite Camp, an Easter Seals facility in the Wisconsin Dells. The camp is for men and women who are confined to wheelchairs due to neuro-muscular diseases.



Camp Wawbeek Respite Camp is a safe and nurturing place where the campers are provided the care and trained support they need while their parents and caregivers also take a break from their day-to-day caregiving roles. Operating year-round, the Wisconsin Elks/Easter Seals Respite Camp is unique. Not only is it one of the only programs in Wisconsin that provides overnight, individualized respite care, but they also accept campers with severe and multiple disabilities who have been turned down by many other programs. The camp's focus is on the campers...to provide them with that camp experience their peers are able

to have, while providing a short respite to their families. The trained and caring counselors are assisted by 24-hour program staff and volunteers and are backed up with the expertise of the on-site registered nurse.



This WCC tradition began in 1964 when member Chuck Bermke provided the first rides at the request of June Price, a friend who was confined to a wheelchair most of her life. That first year at Camp Byron in Fond Du Lac County, Wisconsin, WCC gave rides for several hours until all campers had participated. After the first year it grew to eight Corvettes and today, on-average, 15 Corvettes are available. Last year WCC had C2, C4, C5, C6 and C7 Generation Corvettes giving rides to the campers. There is a memorial in the woods at Camp Wawbeek, where the camp is now, built to honor June. Chuck Bermke attended these rides for 42 of the 55 years WCC has been hosting.

Both WCC and camp staff members have created deeply touching and lasting friendships with many of the campers. Confinement to their chairs hasn't confined their brilliant minds and WCC members look forward to sharing the educational, recreational, and social activities associated with the interest of sports car ownership. This activity has given back to WCC members in getting great friends to share our life with, which is a gift like no other.

Camp Wawbeek continues to give campers the "wings" they need to do things they have never done before – and treasured memories that last a lifetime.



Christopher Milewski, Sr.
President - Wisconsin Corvette Club