



## Slammin' the Swinging Door

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Junipers,

Welcome to the third edition of the 2023-2024 Swinging Door. In this issue, you'll find Camp Reports for Main Camp, Chairman's Camp, Blast N Cast and MGM.

The Juniper Education Foundation is now taking applications for the 2024 -2025 school year. Please see related article after the Presidents letter.

Finally, as you enjoy the content and resources, remember comments always welcome. [Comment Here](#)

Don't let the Door Hit You on the Way Out!

**Communications Team:** Don Calahan, Tom Hall and Charlie Divine.

### President's Report

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The 2023-2024 Camp Season continues to go well. Avoiding storms and COVID, we appear to be on our way to a record year of attendance. Fishing has ranged from poor to excellent, with most camps reporting they had to work hard for their counts. A few notes to highlight:

Ryan Mix started his employment on the docks in January. Reports to date are very positive about the job he is doing.

Jake Neubauer, with the counsel and concurrence of John Moremen, has installed a new Starlink Wi-Fi. The network includes Gene's and Eddie's homes in addition to the Clubhouse. Thanks Guys!

New smoke alarms have been installed in every room. **DO NOT TAMPER WITH THEM!**

The Board sought the input of Gene and Eddie to determine the maximum size of boats that can be safely stored at Juniper. The following dimensions should be used as maximum guidelines:

Height on Trailer < 9'6"

Width of Trailer < 8'6"

Length < 25' (from back of motor to front of Trailer)



We have purchased a low-hour Gator for the club employees' working use.

The Juniper Foundation website is up and running. Sheriff Department employees' children are currently applying. Thank you to the many of you who have generously contributed.

Stay safe and see you on the Silver Glen,

**Sid Anderson III**

### **Juniper Education Foundation**



For years the membership has been asking how we can give tax deductible charitable dollars to Juniper. Now, there's an answer: The Juniper Educational Foundation.

This foundation was created by the Juniper Club in 2023 to give back in a meaningful way to the first responders that have sustained Juniper throughout its history in ways its members could not, most recently during a devastating wildfire.

In our conversations with these agencies, it was clear that no form of support would mean more than our help in funding the educations of their children. In addition to establishing a concrete bond between these local agencies and our Club, the Foundation will be a perquisite that enables the agencies to attract the kind of individuals all of us would want, for both Juniper and its wider local community.

Initially, Juniper Educational Foundation scholarships are being limited to the Lake County Sheriff's department – the "Sheriff's kids". As the Foundation grows, we will expand the scholarships to include both Fish and Wildlife and Forestry Department families.

All donations are tax deductible and will receive confirmation of such from Juniper. To date, we have collected \$34,000 with only 17 members participating. Imagine – and be inspired – by what this could become if every Juniper made the Foundation a part of his annual charitable giving.

Juniper has been our cherished home, and now we ask you to share the blessings by helping those who have been our steadfast support system.

**You can make your charitable donation to:**

**Juniper Educational Foundation  
c/o The Juniper Club  
106 Bauer Ave.  
Louisville, KY 40207**

**Submitted by Ballard Cassady**

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## News From The Board

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**General**

The Juniper Club Educational Foundation is up and running. Applications will be accepted for the 2024/2025 academic year.

The board has approved a motion to require boats that are to be stored on the club property to be less than 25 feet in length, 8 feet in width, and 9 feet 6 inches in height on the trailer.

**Financial Report**

President Anderson reported that the new club insurance premium was \$47,000.

**Communication Committee- Don Giffen**

The new Swinging Door will be out soon.

**Investment Committee -Thorp Harrison**

Thorp has met with the Donaldson financial advisors to discuss the investment account 'purpose to cover costs associated with a catastrophic event, not to cover cash flow. The portfolio guidelines can be adjusted as needed.

**Government Relations - Rudy Vogt**

A boater information meeting was held on 1/22/24. The topics discussed were: Silver Glen access to boaters and the eel grass restrictions.

**Land Stewardship - Paul Bickel**

Paul discussed logging and replanting and the need for more drum chopping

**Facilities- Mike Kapfhammer**

There is a need for a new freezer in the kitchen. The new tractor needs to be stored under cover. The StarLink WIFI system is up and running in the manager's house and the assistant manager's house. New fire alarms were installed in each bedroom. Mike will check out the central fire alarm system in the hallway.

**Other News:**

Eddie's dog has found a new home

Ryan (new boat/shiner assistant) is working out well.

The club has purchased a John Deere Gator for help with spraying etc.

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Camp Reports

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MainCamp 2024

Week 1



**Back row:** Paul Bickel, Matt Myers, Archie McCauley, Jimmy Burkley, Mark Downer, Kenny Reutlinger, III, Kenny Reutlinger, Jr., Rudy Vogt

**Standing:** Jim Camp, Ken Berry, George Davidson, Don Campbell, Donald Campbell, Breck Booker, Sam Booker, Ned Booker and Andrew Booker

**Seated:** Main Camp Captain Henry Camp

**Not pictured:** Greg Marret, Slone Graff, Mathew McClellan, Walt Kunau, Gary Mills



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**Week 2**


**Back row:** David Hardy, Hugh Gregory, Kenny Reutlinger, III, Kenny Reutlinger, Jr., Shane Collins, Jon Lanning, Jim Camp

**Standing:** Robert Kapfhammer, Matt Bonny, Co-captain Bill Arvin, Earl Dorsey, Bud Grell, Mike Scheid, Perry Warren, Matt Gipe, Eric Scism, Fred Keller, Tony Kurlas, Jeremy Bottorff

**Seated:** Rob Pearson, Main Camp Captain Henry Camp, Mike Kapfhammer

## MAIN CAMP JANUARY 7 – JANUARY 20, 2024

### Our Staff is Super

The staff was excellent, food was great and all services were performed flawlessly. We collected personality inventories from the staff and found a wonderful blend of patient, conscientious, cooperative, unselfish, disciplined, agreeable folks in the kitchen/house, as I am sure surprises nobody! Gene and Eddie are nicely complementary combining altruism and analysis. I wish we had collected and shared their drives earlier. They had a blast talking over each of themselves in turn and

even more by understanding more clearly how each other individual prefers to be treated. I hope the board continues to use this tool in the future to better guide the onsite staff from 600 miles away.

### Fishing Report

Main Camp campers caught 884 bass over the two weeks, 378 in week one and 506 in weeks two. The catch was led by the Reutlingers, particularly Kenny, III who caught 86 the first week and 91 the second for just over 20% of the total, by himself!

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They freely shared their methods and locations but nobody else could keep up. Kenny, Jr. said about his son, “He thinks like a fish.” The biggest fish the first week was a 9 pounder caught by Ken Berry. His catch was equaled but not surpassed by Perry Warren and Shane Collins in week two.

Generally speaking, the fish were small. This may be a function of the reduction in grass and underwater growth all over Lake George. It may also be a good portent for more and bigger bass in the future. A few were barely a bite. See the “**Tasty Morsel**” below;

The Captain enforced a strict round-up policy, so any part of a pound was recorded as a pound. We had many people traveling on guided trips to Rodman, etc. and, while those fish were a little bigger than those from up the Juniper River on average, the largest ones were smaller than usual and not much bigger than the ones we caught around camp.

## The Spirit of Juniper

There was much hilarity at our meals, particularly supper. The stories were wonderful and we mixed current stories with old ones that informed the newer members of the Juniper traditions. The jokes were superb with retreads being retold, new ones and a few elegant jokes which were passed down to Ken Berry, Matt Myers and Captain Camp from Secretary of Treasury James Baker at the youthful age of 92.

The three met Secretary Baker and his wife on a quail hunting trip in Texas. He told them 6 jokes

over three days. Each time he asked his wife for permission. Then, he would stand and let one go! Amazing joke teller!

## What a couple of first-time guests had to say about our Juniper

Juniper truly left a lasting impression ....

*“What a gem! I can’t imagine there are many places left with untouched splendor dating back over 100 years! It is certainly a testament to folks like you for carrying on the tradition through the generations. I am so grateful for the opportunity to experience it firsthand!”*

**Ned Booker - Guest of Paul Bickel**

*“The property is unique and very much ‘Old Florida’ in that it is essentially untouched and looks like it must have appeared several centuries ago. I also appreciate the rusticness of the lodge and bunkhouse. The food was amazing and I thoroughly enjoyed being out on the water enjoying the calmness and tranquility of the area.”*

**Don Campbell - Guest of Paul Bickel**

These quotes remind us what an amazing place we have, and that we should preserve it the best we can for future generations to enjoy.

**Captain: Henry Camp**  
**Co-Captain: Bill Arvin**

[Discover more of the Main Camp story at juniper.club](http://juniper.club)



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Chairman's Camp 2024

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First Half Week



**First Row Sitting:** Charlie Colyer, Robert Davis, Phil Rachels

**First Row Standing:** Steve Waterfill, Stephen Swander, Mike Meiners, Chris Paul, Dr. Mike Stephens, Ski Benders, Anthony S. Kurlas

**Back Row Standing:** COL (R) Blaine Hedges, Dave Deluca, John Moremen, Jeff Maddox, Jody Kurlas, Brian Sepe

## Second Half Week



**First Row Sitting:** Brian Riley, Ski Bender, John Mascarcih, David Hundley

**First Row Standing:** Dr. Ted Strauss, Steve Waterfill, Dr. Rob Herfel, Thorp Harrison, Josh Cash, Jay Shaw, Mike Maroni, Troy Adams, Steve Brown, Travis Hall, Hunter Dobbs, Deck Decker, Anthony S. Kurlas

**Back Row Standing:** Alex Hinkebien Jody Kurlas, Brian Sepe, Dave Deluca, Dr. Jay Crews, Lt Col (R) Kevin Trimble, Billy Mosley, COL (R) Blaine Hedges

### Chairman's Camp 2023 January 21- January 27, 2024

The second annual Chairman's Camp started on Saturday January 20th with John Moremen and I welcoming 12 other guests to Juniper, with four being first time Campers. The weather was a little chilly at the start of Camp, but that didn't temper the group's enthusiasm. Once we got settled in, with the bar set up, and the snack table stocked there was a mad dash to the boats, as folks were eager to get down to the Juniper rivers and do their best to get on the board. Mr. Moremen, manned the grill Saturday evening and we had ribeyes, baked potatoes and Caesar salad while watching the games.

We had more and more folks joining us each day as the Camp moved on during the week. We had 39 Campers in total throughout the week, made up of 4 members and 35 guests with 13 people being first timers. It was an interesting group as we had 7 campers who joined us for the majority week (6 to 7 nights), a few others were there for 5 nights, and many were in attendance for 3 & 4 nights.

The first half week Campers were primarily made up of folks from Jacksonville (9). We also had folks attending from South Carolina (2), North Carolina (1), California (2), Louisiana (1), Chicago (1), South Florida (3), Seattle (1), Tennessee (1),



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and Kentucky (14). As the week went on more and more Campers arrived, the temperatures started to rise and so did the fish count. By Wednesday night, we had 25 folks in Camp and the Juniper Club was in full swing with a great group of guys! During the second half of the week, we had eight guys from the Waggener High School Wrestling Team and two other wrestlers from our competition back then, from Trinity and Fern Creek. Some of us haven't seen each other in over 35 years.

The ladies did an unbelievable job taking care of us throughout the week. The Campers enjoyed great meals consisting of Fried Chicken, Lasagna, Gumbo, Catfish Acadiana, and Meat Loaf. They had pillow gifts throughout their stay in Camp made up of Vests, a Juniper Trucker Hat, and a Chairman's Camp Logoed toboggan hat. In addition, Campers enjoyed sleeping with the new Juniper logoed blankets we had made to use during Chairman's Camp

The fishing was really good from the start and got better and better as the week went on. I want to thank COL (R) Blaine Hedges, Ski Bender, John Moreman, Mike Meiners, Jeff Maddox, Thorp Harrison, Lt Col (R) Kevin Trimble, and Steve Waterfill for serving as boat captains throughout the week and taking the guests fishing. Obviously, they were good at putting the boys on fish as we caught 528 fish for the week, which more than doubled our

total fish count from last year. It was also more than what we (I was able to attend Main Camp as well) caught during the either of the two weeks of Main Camp, which gives credibility to Chairman's Camp slogan "Where Juniper is both a daytime and nighttime Camp".

Col Hedges led the Camp with a total of 48 fish for the week and we had a tie for the largest fish caught between Ski Bender, Brian Riley, and John Mascarich at 10 lbs. We caught six 9lbs, a few 8lbs, some 7lbs, and 6lbs fish throughout the week. Most of Campers caught fish weighing 3lbs or more! Even the "Cloud Brothers" (Swander and Colyer) were able to 27 fish between the two of them, which was not an easy task for them considering the conditions. Even though, we only had 135 beds used for the week this year, the second annual Chairman's Camp was a success with old friendships rekindled, new ones formed, and plenty of fellowship throughout the week.

Respectfully submitted in the Spirit of Juniper,

Captain: Tony Kurlas **Captains Brian Nutt & Ray Hundley**

**Discover more of the Chairman's Camp story [pictures at juniper.club](https://www.juniper.club).**

## MGM Camp 2024



**Back Row (L-R):** Ian Bottiglieri, Dave Wallingford, John Kregor, Bob Smith, Alan Murray, Ethan Greenwell

**2nd Row:** Lyle Waller, Robert Lesniak, JJ Greenwell

**1st Row:** Travis Hanbury, Michael Giffen, Steve Pulliam, Mike Kregor, Mark Kregor, Matt Giffen, Doug Giffen, John Caprini, Mark Bruckert, Dan Anderson

**Front Row:** The marvelous Kitchen Staff: Stephanie, Amy, Tammi (Kim not shown)

**Not in Photo:** Don Giffen, Baird Hall, Billy Dyer

### MGM Camp (January 28 - February 3, 2024)

The Silver Glen greeted us warmly on Saturday afternoon the 27th day of January, as we gathered for our annual pilgrimage. Camp organization was soon initiated and the campers quickly went about stashing their belongings, labeling bottles, and preparing their angler weapons of war. Temperatures in the mid-eighties required immediate refreshments, and quickly dispelled any thoughts of additional manual exertion. The anticipated camp calorie explosion began with a filling Saturday night meal of homemade beer cheese, 24 hour smoked pork shoulder, slaw, fries, fruit salad, and key lime pie. Campers were kept from entering a food comma only by way of the very exciting Kentucky/Arkansas BB game.

### Weather and Wildlife

Sunday introduced the weather pattern for the week as a cold front entered overnight and cooled off things considerably. Mornings began rather chilly (high 30's to low 40's) before quickly accelerating to the day's highs in the mid to high 60's. Sunny skies adorned the Lake almost all week, and only a few days produced enough wind to cause the Lake to get angry for a while. All in all, it was a very pleasant week of weather and a complete escape from the frigid temperatures and rain days back in Kentucky. The rivers, creeks and Glen, were all beautiful and the wildlife plentiful. There were many sightings of manatees, alligators, eagles, etc.

### Attendance Report

A total of 22 campers entered and exited through the week. We missed a few regulars that have been coming for decades including Beau and Burl Spurlock, the latter who has been coming for the past 40 years. Their absence was notable and we hope to have them back next year. Also, MIA was Gayle Herndon, who has been a consistent and outstanding contributor to MGM Camps over roughly the past two decades, as he elected to follow his passion and spend a semester as a professor at the University of Kentucky teaching Accounting Law. We were please to have two new participants at this year's camp, with Steve Pulliam of Lexington making his inaugural voyage on the Silver Glen; and relative new member, Baird Hall, joining us for several days (Baird helped to bring down the average age of the camp by a few years). Both newcomers to MGM added to the cheerful chemistry that is MGM.

### The Fun Begins

The MGM Movie was run on Sunday night; updated with sights and sounds of the past 50 years and The Euchre Tournament was played out over two nights, in perhaps the most competitive events of its short history. Three Giffens tied for 1st with Euchre scores of 57; Don, Michael, and Doug. Don's suggestion of just adding "Giffen" to the trophy for the 2024 Euchre Champion was quickly dismissed by his very greedy nephew Michael, who fully expected to claim the crown solely in his name. A system to determine the winner was devised by Don and Michael and played out the next evening (Doug was not around). The cards were individually and carefully delt into 3 piles and the Jack of Spades fell to the pile that had no representative. Thus, Doug was crowned the Euchre 2024 winner. We are still not sure if he is aware of his victory.

The Clay Shoot was not as competitive, as Travis Hanbury ran away from the group early hitting 9 of his first 12, while the rest of the group had their minds on happy hour. Travis finished with 17, and there was plenty of daylight between him and second place. Nevertheless, special mention needs to be made of the improvement in the skills of John Caprini, who has been a jolly good sport the past several years as he competed (and I use the word competed loosely). John finished 2nd this year, and had the gentlemanly good manners not to laugh at those that could only dream of accidentally hitting a moving clay target.

The shiners were plentiful, but some of the smallest in memory. Only the tiniest of hooks would allow them the ability to maneuver. Nevertheless, fishing was fun. A total

of 290 were boated for the week, but only a handful were taken from the Glen, despite meaningful efforts from the fishing deck and docks. John Kregor landed the largest fish at 5 ½ lbs., and Matthew Giffen caught the most fish at 35 despite only fishing a few days.

New this year was a trophy for the Best Storyteller. Lyle, with much urging, reluctantly revisited the story of the man that..... The group admired the effort, but was not won over. It looked like the Camp was leaning toward Steve Pulliam as the best storyteller based on the many fireplace tales of his college days and those of his fellow campers, when he magnanimously suspended his campaign and threw his support to Ethan Greenwell, who then won the vote by acclamation. We are still working on exactly what Ethan was talking about.

Since the winners and runners-up of all of the competitive events were so dispersed this year, the camper with the most points ended up being Matt Giffen due to his winning fish total. Thus, he will be noted on the MGM Trophy for his "Most Fish" and MVP. Congratulations to Matt.

### The Staff Was Super

Of course, the only things that are sure in life are death, taxes, and the outstanding fare and service at the Juniper Club. Everything seemed to go off without a hitch. The food was absolutely fabulous, from morning to night; from toast to dessert. Many thanks to Stephanie and Staff for keeping us fed and organized; and to Gene, Eddie and Ryan for having everything ready and running.

I also want to thank those that contributed to the appetizer treats this week. MGM is now known for its cocktail hour hors d'oeuvres; from the homemade beer cheese, duck diablo, BBQ crab and cheese (John Caprini and Mark Bruckert), and of course the extraordinary effort of Lyle Waller and JJ Greenwell laying out the table with the various freshly grilled oyster offerings and shrimp.

Another successful MGM Camp concluded on Saturday February 2nd, and according to all reports, everyone returned home safely and in good health.

### Captain Don Giffen

**Discover more of the MGM Camp story with pictures at [juniper.club](http://juniper.club).**



## Blast and Cast Camp 2024



Top Row: Billy Palmer, Michael Morris, Jon Eckert, Danny Coyle, Jake Neubauer, Danny Salmon  
 Second Row: Chris Keller, Russell Cotton, Jimmy Evans, Chip Ridge, John Schroeder, Greg Dulaney, Tom Hirsch, Nate Pullium  
 Seated: Dave Kamer, George Burch, Mark Eley, Jason Eley, DeWayne Wilson

### Blast and Cast Camp (February 4- February 9, 2024)

The 2024 Blast and Cast camp had a rough start as Joe Kelley, Mark Kelley, and Trent Kelley had to stay at home to be with their mother while she battled injuries from a freak fall. However, all three were with us in spirit.

#### Remembering Our Friends

Sunday night's Chicken Dinner was preceded by a touching ceremony in honor of two guest campers whom have been regulars at B&C: Scott Eley and Richard Dillingham passed in late 2023 but their memories will be with us forever.

#### Big Fish Winner

Joe Kelley selected the camp gift, a JBL Bluetooth speaker with a magnet to attach it to boats or golf carts. George Strait music was rocking the clubhouse.

Our weather started out a little rough with wind gusts up to 20 miles per hour, but things calmed down toward the end of the week and fish started jumping in the boat. Guest Greg Dulaney caught the largest bass: an 8-pounder landed in the river fishing out of a Moonlight rented pontoon. He won the

Steve Rickert new rod award presented annually to the biggest bass caught without a guide.

### Happy Hour Fun

Potato guns were the deck happy hour entertainment. Dave Kamer, George Burch, and Danny Salmon developed some pretty accurate aim much to the chagrin of the roosting birds across the Glen. Fishing in the Glen was at your own risk.

### No More Turkeys

The Blast in Blast and Cast has moved from Turkeys to Sporting Clays. Campers had a great time honing their skills and we introduced the sport to a couple of rookies: Jason Eley and Michael Morris. They quickly found their aim and have a new hobby to add to their vices.

### Tacos!

If you have not added Taco Night to your camp menu, we recommend you give it a try. Stephanie, Tammy, and Amy knocked it out of the park and added a little south of the border flavor to a great meal with a casual venue.

### Sip Sip Sip

A camp staple at Blast and Cast is Wine Down Wednesday. Campers bring their favorite bottles from their private collections as we bring a piece of Napa to the Juniper Club. We had some amazing wines again this year and many thanks go to Danny Coyle for sharing some wines that most of us would never have tasted. Juniper staff was also invited to the tasting which quickly moved from sipping to drinking the Red and White delicacies.

### Same Time Next Year

This year was the 10th anniversary of Blast and Cast. Five campers have attended every camp since our maiden voyage.

### Big Time at Juniper!

A couple of evenings got rowdy as the dice game Not all campers were caught up in the hooting and hollering.

**Captains: Joe Kelly Mark Eley**

[Discover more of the Blast N Cast Camp story with GREAT pictures at juniper.club. \(Click Here\)](#)

## Captains Corner



Juniper Club Camp  
Captain's Quick Start  
Guide  
Information for First Time Captains  
December 2023

### Captain's Handbooks

Visit our website to find two recently updated Captain's Manuals. The first one serves as a comprehensive guide for efficiently organizing and overseeing a camp. The second is a quick-start manual tailored for new captains, crafted by Tom Hall and Don Calahan.

### First-Time Camper Guide

Additionally, we have a "Guide for First-Time Campers" to assist you in introducing Juniper to friends and first-time guests. This guide was created by Walt Kunau.

The above downloads along with other useful information, is accessible in the [Useful Downloads](#) category located in the website footer. To download, use the general password: Juniper1909, then the members' password: silverglen1909.

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## A Reminder .... Blanks On The Board ... Some Progress ...



We are making some progress on “Blanks on the Board.” Here is Matt Rickert replacing his stick figure with an obviously retouched photograph.

If you are MIA, on your next pilgrimage to Juniper, grab a 5" H x 4" W colored "likeness" of yourself and place it on the board. Or just send the picture to the **Juniper Florida address: c/o Blanks on the Board.**

Juniper Club  
c/o Blanks on the Board  
18535 Juniper Hunt Club Road  
Ft McCoy FL 32134

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## Visit our online Members Directory Here

Members' password: silverglen1909.

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## Juniper Bits

We have a new internet access service at the Club. It's Starlink satellite internet that is lunched by SpaceX. Many of us have watched the Space X launches of the Starlink satellites from Juniper.

The password is a riddle, here is a hint ....



“Wintergreen1909” Kentucky Derby Winner



Fish Tails

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**Looks like a fair trade!**