



# What's On The Horizon

e-news  
associationofhorizon.org

Empowering adults with physical disabilities through lifelong friendships and recreation

## Fall 2023 Edition

Dear Michael,



I'm thankful for Horizon Camp for many reasons. I love making new friends at camp because it creates memories that I will remember for the rest of my life, especially when I get to see them outside of camp. I also enjoy the Wednesday night Zoom calls because seeing everyone makes me happy, we get to laugh, and have a good time. My favorite part of the call is when we discuss the topic of the week, otherwise known as our "homework", especially when we talk about food or candy! I'd like to say a special thank you to the board and all the committees and fundraisers for their hard work. Horizon Camp will always have a special place in my heart.

– Jessica Wood

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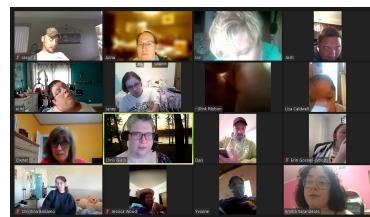
## Important Links

**2024 YEAR LONG RAFFLE**  
**Association of Horizon Entry Form**  
Horizon depends on the generous support of donors like you. Your donation will help to empower and enrich the lives of adults with physical disabilities. Thank you for your support!  
Please provide your contact and payment information on the form below. A confirmation receipt will serve as your ticket stub and will be sent to the email address that you provide. \$5 per entry.  
Please complete each of the following fields.  
First Name \*  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Last Name \*  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Address \*  
\_\_\_\_\_

[Purchase 2024  
Raffle Tickets](#)



[Annual Raffle Winners](#)



[Camp Never Ends  
Zoom -  
Wednesdays 7pm](#)





**NEW BOARD MEMBERS**



**EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBERS**

## Welcome New Board Members



Mike Hlavenka found out about Horizon Camp through members up in Wisconsin. He started attending in 2017 and since then he has been a Team Leader and a huge part of the activities committee.



Many people know Mike from the great escape rooms he creates for both Summer Camp and Fall Weekend. Everyone greatly enjoys his creative input, and we can't wait to see more from him.

Mike is excited to join the fundraising committee and he joined the board because Horizon means so much to him and those around him. Mike wants to be able to give back while simultaneously helping Horizon grow.

We're excited to have you, Mike!

Emily Kowalski's parents met at Horizon Camp in 1996. She'd been to multiple Fall Weekends and Visitor's Days before officially coming to Summer Camp in 2015. Since then, she's been a Team Leader and is eager to get more involved.

Outside of Horizon, Emily is in her second year of teaching, and she currently teaches 3rd grade special education. She's also the oldest of four girls and enjoys reading in her downtime.



Emily wanted to join the board because Horizon is such an important part of her life. She's excited to be more involved and have the opportunity to take on a stronger leadership role within the organization.

We're excited to have you, Emily!



Jack Jender learned about camp through his sister, who worked with Hector Hernandez, a camper and fellow Horizon board member. Jack's first summer was in 2017, and since then he's helped with several committees, including Activities and Fall Weekend. He has also been a Team Leader during Summer Camp. He's currently on the merchandise committee and is excited to join the recruitment committee and spread the word about camp.



Outside of Horizon, Jack is extremely passionate about music. He's always looking for new songs to add to his playlist. Jack goes to concerts and music festivals and travels when he can. When he's home, he games with friends and spends time with his dog, Wrigley.



Jack joined the board because he wants a stronger leadership role. He loves the Association of Horizon and is excited to help spread the love and help the organization grow.

We're excited to have you, Jack!

Eli Walsh started coming to Horizon Camp in 2018 after learning about camp from a friend of a friend of his mom. Since he started coming to Summer Camp, Eli has also been an active member of the recruitment

and Fall Weekend committees.

Outside of Horizon, Eli is currently a full-time student and student activist at DePaul University. He is studying Political Science with a minor in Peace, Justice, and Conflict Resolution. He also enjoys gaming, reading non-fiction history books, and going on nature-based road trips, sometimes with his friend and fellow board member Jeff Pickert.

As a board member, Eli wants to do his part and help bring more awesome people into the fold. He feels he has a lot to offer and is excited to get started.

We're excited to have you, Eli!  
- Frances Clair



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## Fall Weekend at Timber Pointe

On October 13-15, Horizon hosted our annual Fall Weekend Camp. We had 67 people attend, including one new participant and four new volunteers. Friday night we had a popcorn bar where people could create their own mixtures of popcorn and candy, which kept us energized to play games all night. Board games are always a great way to spend quality time with people catching up and making new memories. On Saturday, we enjoyed breakfast with pancakes made to order by Lydia and Frankie from TPOC. They made the pancakes in any shape you wanted, including some pancakes made to look like our own Donnie and Jack. We made a cloth pumpkin art project, did a team scavenger hunt, and enjoyed hanging out together. In the evening, Donnie and his friend Jut made us a delicious dinner of pulled pork, mac and cheese, cornbread, and homemade cupcakes. Thanks Jut and Donnie for creating such a feast for 68 people and still finding time to hang out! After dinner, Dawn and Gerry hosted a spooky trivia game. We were up late again playing games and enjoying the campfire. The weekend ended too soon, but it was a real blast. Thanks to Jeff Pickert, Gerry Walsh, Dawn Burns and the entire fall weekend committee for planning such a fun time for all of us.  
- Chris Gieck





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## Annual Raffle Tickets Now on Sale

Horizon provides a free Summer Camp to all participants. We are able to do that because of our sponsors and fundraising efforts, like our annual cash raffle throughout the year. We are encouraging everyone to purchase and sell raffle tickets to help fund next year's Summer Camp. Raffle tickets will make great gifts!

So far, we have sold 750 tickets towards our goal of selling 5,250 raffle tickets. You can buy [raffle tickets online](#). Don't forget to fill out who sold your ticket. - Chris Viau



## Horizon Haunts Haymarket Pub & Brewery



This October we dressed up and hit the dance floor and raised over \$5,000 for Horizon Camp at the 2<sup>nd</sup> annual Boo Bash. The back bar at Haymarket Pub & Brewery made a great gathering spot for this spooky evening. Guests were treated to pub favorite appetizers, pizza, soft pretzels, wings, and veggies along with chocolate mousse, brownies, and cookies for dessert.



We would like to toast everyone who donated a bottle to our wine raffle. A very special shout out to our event sponsors; Jane's Hallmark, Kathy Kingston and Dave Elliott, The Schreiner Family, Ellen and Dave Brace, Joesph & Riley CPA Group, and Joe and Deb Winkle. Pirate Creagh kept the music playing and dance floor busy all night. Our committee of volunteers worked hard planning, decorating, creating a video presentation for this evening, as well as finding sponsors, and selling event tickets.



The creative costumes did not disappoint! We were delighted to have 85 people come out for this event. Save us a date next October, we'll Boo back! – Anna Lopez



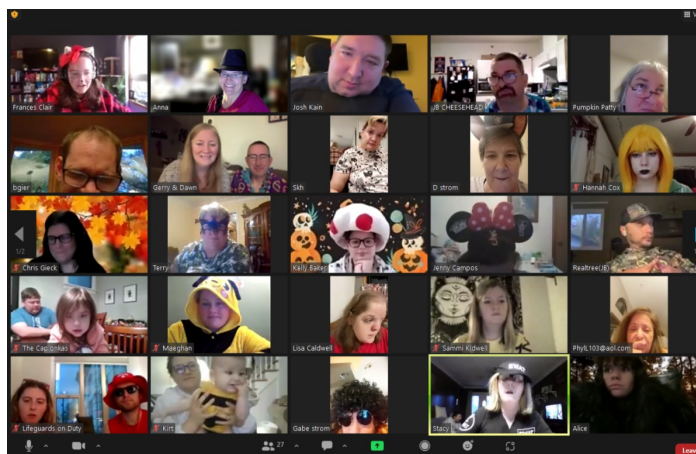




## Camp Never Ends Zooms Throughout Fall



October was a busy month for Camp Never Ends. At the beginning of October, people in the Horizon community signed up for a postcard exchange with other Horizon community members. Some people have started to get theirs already, and if you are supposed to send one, don't forget to send it!



At the end of October, Camp Never Ends hosted a Virtual Halloween Party attended by new and old faces. There was a great turnout, and everyone enjoyed talking and hanging out. Stacy Boettcher showed us all how to make a Halloween-themed drink. We also enjoyed various games, including a Baby Picture game with faces from the Horizon community and several JackBox games, thanks to Dawn Burns.

It's been a great month, so keep an eye out for what Camp Never Ends does next!

– Frances Clair



Please remember Horizon on Giving Tuesday this year! Watch our social media and your inbox these next few weeks to find out how you can join in our "Love for Camp" campaign this year and make our fundraising efforts as amazing as camp itself. - Anna Lopez

## Horizon in the Community



Looking for volunteers at the Logan Square Volunteer Fair in October.



Volunteering at Bruegala: a Festival of Beer in Bloomington in September.

## Help Support Horizon



See Us on Social Media!



Association of Horizon, Inc.

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W: [www.associationofhorizon.org](http://www.associationofhorizon.org)

### Board of Directors

#### Executive Committee

President: Dana Westley  
Vice President: Gerry Walsh  
Treasurer: George Czerwionka  
Secretary: Dawn Burns

#### Board Members

Sawsan Abuosbie, Stacy Boettcher,  
Sheila Caplis, Frances Clair,  
Diane Edwards, Hector Hernandez,  
Mike Hlavenka, Jack Jender,  
Emily Kowalski, Drake Kurtenbach,



Anna Lopez, Jeff Pickert,  
Gabriela Salgado, Terry Smith,  
Paula Vanier, Chris Viau, Eli Walsh

## Operations Manager

Michael Meyer

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