



November 2022

Dear Camp Billings Family,

It was truly wonderful to see so many of you back on the shores of Lake Fairlee this past summer at our 115th (ish) reunion. We reconnected with old friends and made some new ones, and despite the unseasonably frigid temperatures, it was a spectacular alumni weekend that was unquestionably worth the wait. For me, this reunion served as a special opportunity to bring my two oldest children, Caleb and Camden, to experience Billings for the first time. It was surreal watching them at the same waterfront, basketball courts, and campfire that I have so many fond memories of. I now begin the nervous parenting game of trying to figure out when to take the plunge and register them for Cabin 7!

Gratitude is a noun that gets used a lot this time of year. Thanksgiving is one of the few American holidays that isn't centered on gift giving or throwing parties; as the name suggests, Thanksgiving is simply about giving thanks. In the Schneider family, we travel across state lines to meet with aunts, uncles, and cousins, watch some football (go Giants!), and show gratitude for all we have. As I reflect on what the world has endured over the past few years, my family and I have much to be grateful for as 2022 draws to a close and we look forward to the excitement that 2023 has in store for us.

For our Billings community, I feel immense gratitude that we were able to resume traditional operations this past summer. While the summer of 2022 represented a return to normalcy for our campers, it was also an important year for camp's leadership team as it began mapping out exciting projects and initiatives that will benefit the next generation of Billings campers. I want to thank the 426 members of our community who participated in the strategic planning survey that was circulated in July. Your feedback will be critical for the Board of Directors as it dives deeper into opportunities that will continue to buoy our camp in its second century of operations. We look forward to sharing more detail with the community in the months as ideas turn into plans and plans turn into action.

As you reflect on your own year, what you are grateful for, and what causes and organizations you wish to support this holiday season, I encourage you to keep your Camp Billings family in your thoughts. Have a wonderful, joyful, and restful winter season, and we hope to see you soon.

With gratitude,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Andy Schneider', written in a cursive style.

Andy Schneider
President of the Board of Directors