

# BIMINI BEACON

EXPERIENCE NATURE. GROW SPIRITUALLY. CREATE LIFELONG FRIENDSHIPS



## New Facelift

The Mess Hall siding has been showing its age and has been deteriorating as the years go by. The front wall (pine siding) was replaced in 2018 and in 2023 the back side was replaced with insulation boards and vinyl siding. Currently the two remaining sides are being replaced. Please consider donating to Camp Bimini. Donations help us to keep the buildings and property in good repair and helps us welcome future generations! Future plans to renovate the bathrooms outside, behind the mess hall, have started.

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**Thank you for supporting our Camp Bimini Bowl-a-thon!  
Plans are underway to host this event again in the spring.**

## 2024 Camp Summary

In the spring, 26 schools did a one-day program with us and one school stayed for a day and night program. (approximately 1300 kids in total). These programs were lead by our six spring staff who worked tirelessly cleaning and preparing the camp, as well as leading the spring programs. Almost all the days in the spring, beginning May 21, were booked for schools or rental groups leading to our largest year of school groups ever. The school program allows kids to experience Bimini and many are interested in the summer program after a day at camp.

Our staff of 2024 was again great—a staff committed to the campers and each other.

Jill Shore and Mikayla Woods worked as Program Team this summer. They came to Bimini first as campers, then C.I.T 's, Counsellors, Program Staff and now Program Team. They were incredible assets to Camp Bimini. Their weekly theme's this summer included: The Great Canadian Rodeo, Lego Masters, Camp Rock, Decades Dash, Bimini Olympics '24, Munschworks, Dawn of the Ice Age, and Survivor: Bimini Islands. These themes were enjoyed by the 743 registrants this summer. Again, we also saw an increase in families requesting help with the cost of registration through our Gift of Camp program. The Gift of Camp is funded solely from donations directed to the fund. Donations can be e-transferred to [treasurer@campbimini.ca](mailto:treasurer@campbimini.ca) or you can mail a cheque to: Camp Bimini 3180 Perth Rd. 113 RR1 St. Pauls ON NOK 1V0

# Online Auction

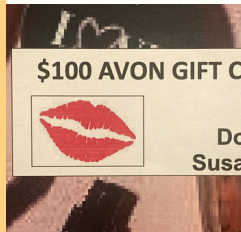
## Annual Major Fundraiser



**Camp Bimini  
Online Auction  
October 16-23**

<https://shackletons.hibid.com/catalog/581484/camp-bimini-online-auction>

**MORE ITEMS  
STILL COMING !**



# Camp Bimini Floods

Over the course of 10 days in mid-July, the area surrounding Camp Bimini received over eight inches or over 200 mm of rain. Because of this rain, the small Trout Creek that winds its way through Bimini overflowed its banks causing lots of flooding.. As of noon on Tuesday, July 16, we blocked off the lower land of the camp to everyone to keep all safe



. With a few changes to our schedule, we were able to continue our program safely. With the waters receding, we were hopeful for a wonderful night's sleep when we were faced with another rain storm late in the afternoon. This made it difficult for us to get to the cabins for sleeping.

The Camp Bimini Board gathered quickly that evening to decide the next steps with the campers' mental and physical well-being utmost in our minds. After much deliberation, we felt it was best for us to leave the Camp Bimini site for the evening and to begin following the Camp Bimini Evacuation of the Site Procedure. We were able to grab almost all sleeping bags/blankets, pillows and stuffies thanks to our amazing Bimini staff and our dedicated Board Members and their families (and a small boat!). We found ourselves on a great adventure by bus to our pre-determined evacuation site at Grace United Church, Tavistock where we spent the night. All campers and staff fell asleep with little difficulties. We were all excited to sleep in air conditioning too!!



Wednesday mornings at camp, are a sleep in morning for us and program staff serve breakfast in bed to our campers and counsellors. It's a very portable meal. So, we kept that tradition alive and served breakfast in bed at Grace! The waters receded by mid morning and we were able to reach the cabins again safely. We loaded buses again and ended our adventure. At noon, we enjoyed the comfort food of mac n cheese back at camp and were ready to resume our week at Bimini.

Through this, our team of staff and board members remained united in keeping all safe. We listened to each other and to our campers very carefully. We are proud of our decisions and actions and how the team responded selflessly and quickly. We are grateful for all those staff and board members. We are so very grateful for Grace United Church and the quick actions of a few to prepare the building for our adventure away from camp. It was an adventure we will not forget!



# Thank You!

Thank you for all the cookies, granola bars and Rice Krispies squares made and donated by the following local churches.

- GRACE UC, TAVISTOCK;
- ST. MARYS UC;
- THAMESVIEW UC, FULLARTON;
- THAMES RD. UC, EXETER;
- AVONDALE UC, STRATFORD;
- ATWOOD UC;
- PEACE UC, PLATTSVILLE

## Christmas Gift Ideas!

Check out our merchandise at [campbimini.ca](http://campbimini.ca)  
This would make a great gift for the camper in your family.



# Camp Bimini Annual Member's Meeting

7:00pm  
Avondale United  
Church  
194 Avondale Ave,  
Stratford, ON

Monday  
December 2, 2024

For the purpose of receiving annual report, financial statements,  
budget, and for election of board of directors and officers.

For the annual report, please email

[coordinator@campbimini.ca](mailto:coordinator@campbimini.ca) or phone 519-271-4129.

## Thank you

The following organizations  
have adopted cabins and look  
after the upkeep of the cabin.  
Kiwanis Club of Stratford  
Thamesview UC, Fullarton

St. Marys UC

Avondale UC, Stratford

Kirkton UC

Atwood UC

St Pauls UC, Milverton

Main St. UC, Mitchell

Grace UC, Tavistock

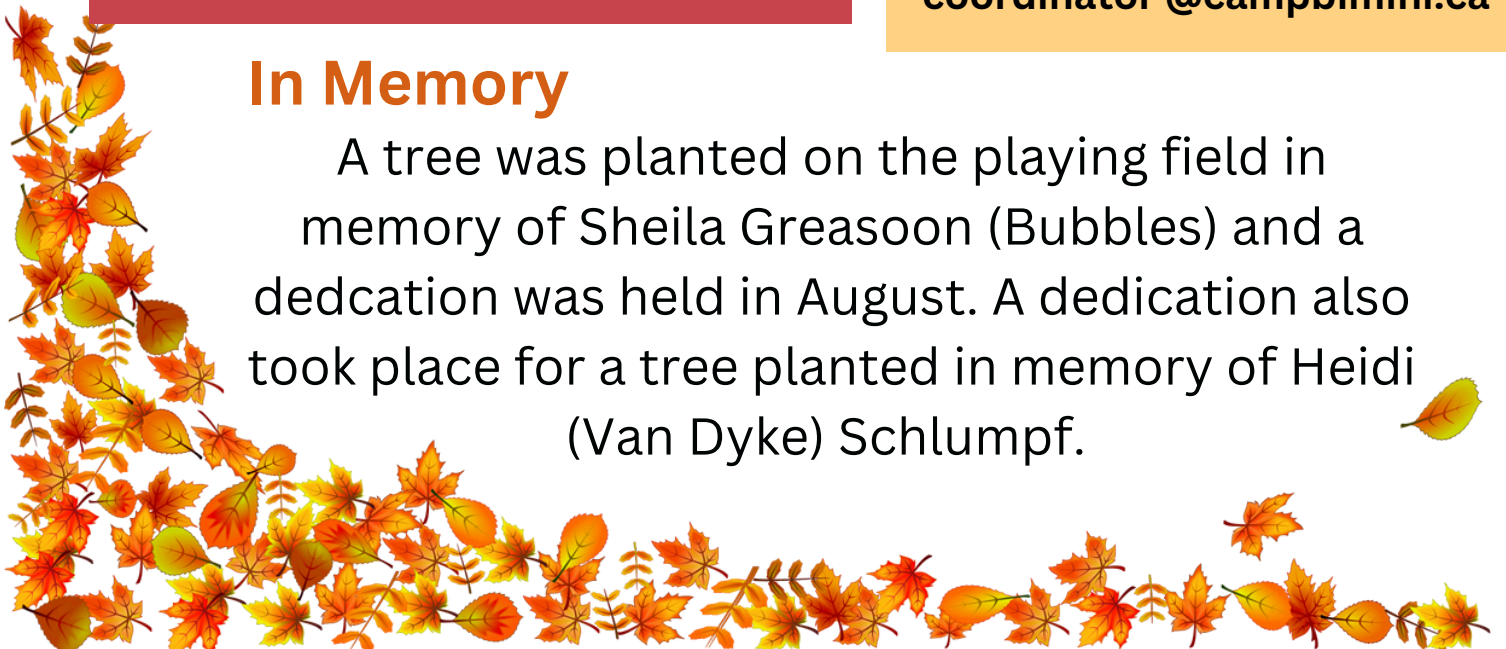
We still have more cabins  
looking for a sponsor. if you  
or a group want more  
information about this  
program, email  
[coordinator @campbimini.ca](mailto:coordinator@campbimini.ca)

## Thank you!

All eggs used at camp this  
year were donated by the  
Egg Farmers of Ontario

## In Memory

A tree was planted on the playing field in  
memory of Sheila Greason (Bubbles) and a  
dedcation was held in August. A dedication also  
took place for a tree planted in memory of Heidi  
(Van Dyke) Schlumpf.



# Grants Received This Season



Government of Canada

Gouvernement du Canada



STRATFORD PERTH COMMUNITY FOUNDATION



**Kiwanis**

Kiwanis Club of Stratford



**WOWRC**  
WESTERN ONTARIO WATERWAYS REGIONAL COUNCIL



**Britannia Masonic Lodge No. 170**

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**St. Pauls, ON N0K 1V0**  
**GPS: N 43 17.655' W 080 58.340**



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**Camp Bimini Administrator email: [treasurer@campbimini.ca](mailto:treasurer@campbimini.ca)**