



AUGUST 2025

SHADY OAKS CAMP

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER



🎉 78th Annual Open House Recap

Thank you to everyone who came out to camp for our 78th Annual Open House! Despite the threat of inclement weather, we had a fantastic turnout and loads of fun. Be sure to check out all the great moments we captured, photos are up now on our Facebook page!



CONTACT US

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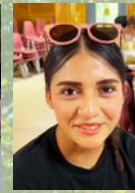
Thank you for your being part of our
Shady Oaks Camp community since 1947!

A LASTING IMPACT: HONORING THE 2025 CAMP STAFF



To our incredible nurses, counselors, and staff at Shady Oaks Camp, THANK YOU from the bottom of our hearts. Your dedication, compassion, and unwavering care are the soul of this camp. Many of you travel from across the country and around the world to be here, and that alone speaks volumes about your spirit. In a world that often moves too fast, your empathy and patience remind us what truly matters: human connection, kindness, and dignity for every individual, regardless of ability. Your work doesn't just support our campers, it UPLIFTS entire families and communities who feel seen, understood, and safe. The world is truly better because of YOU.

As the season winds down, this is not goodbye, but simply a "see you later." The love you bring to camp stays long after the last song around the fire and the final farewell wave. You are not just part of Shady Oaks, you ARE Shady Oaks. Thank you for being the heart of this place, and for showing the world what it means to serve with purpose, joy, and deep humanity.



With heartfelt gratitude, The Shady Oaks Community

RIDING WITH PURPOSE: CELEBRATING 22 YEARS OF THE SOB MOTORCYCLE RUN



On Sunday, July 27, 2025, the highly anticipated 22nd Annual SOB Motorcycle Run roared to life, marking another unforgettable fundraising event for Shady Oaks. More than 200 motorcycle riders and enthusiasts participated in this year's run! We are still crunching the numbers and will share an update on total donations soon.

Since its inaugural ride in 2003, the SOB (an affectionate nickname among participants) motorcycle event has grown in both scope and spirit, becoming a beloved summer highlight for bikers and Shady Oaks supporters alike. Organized annually by a dedicated team of volunteers and enthusiasts, the run features themed riding routes and stops, raffle prizes, and a shared passion for giving back. Rain or shine, participants travel from across the region to take part in this popular event.

We extend our heartfelt thanks to the SOB Planning Committee, event volunteers, and all the riders for your time, talent, and generosity. No bike run is complete without the collaboration and support of our community.

This year's route included stops at Gallagher Pub Midtown Bar in Manhattan, Game On Bar & Grill in Peotone, Top Fuel Saloon in Braidwood, True Country Bar & Grill in Channahon, and Countryside Banquet and Conference Center in Joliet. Riders clocked in an impressive 105.95 miles on a hot and sticky Sunday afternoon!

We would also like to recognize our event sponsors, because this event could not be complete without YOUR generosity: Bratcher Enterprises, Faded Riders Riding Club, Fitness Premier, KidTracks Inc., Midas of Orland Park, Ozinga, State Farm Insurance, Tom's Place, and United Way of Will County.

The SOB Run continues to exemplify the spirit of community, camaraderie, and charity, all in support of Shady Oaks' mission to empower individuals with disabilities.

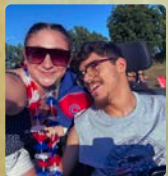


YOUR GENEROSITY AND TIME MAKES A DIFFERENCE... THANK YOU



Celebrating the 4th of July in Style

A heartfelt thank you to Erin, Ray, and the Orland Park Recreation Department for continuing a beautiful tradition. For nearly 35 years, they have set aside a special section for our campers to enjoy the music and fireworks show on the 4th of July. Your kindness and hospitality mean the world to us. Thank you for helping our campers make lifelong memories!



Special Thanks to Our Supporters

We'd like to recognize the generosity of James and Gwen Mommsen and Kevin Leitheiser for their continued support of Shady Oaks Camp. We appreciate you! We would like to send out a big thank you to the Orland Park Kiwanis Club for their generous donation of \$3500.00 to camp!



Vacation Bible School Raises \$25,000!

The campers, families, and staff would like to send a HUGE thank you to everyone who participated in the Summer Jam fundraiser through Parkview Church's Vacation Bible School.

Over the course of three days, 1,060 participants across the Orland Park, Homer Glen, and New Lenox campuses came together and raised over \$25,000 for camp!

The funds will go directly toward blacktop improvements in our parking and recreation areas. THANK YOU, PARKVIEW VBS!!

Tie-Dye Fun for All

Thank you to Meyer & Horning Law Offices for donating tie-dye t-shirts for every camper and staff member this summer! Special shoutout to Jacob Horning for designing the awesome shirts, your creativity is appreciated!



A New Addition to the Camp Fleet!

A huge thank you to Kirk Fallah and Windy City Poker for their generous donation of a golf cart to camp. Our little fleet is growing, and we're beyond grateful for your support!



Camp's Never Smelled So Fresh!

Thanks to Greg Hinton and APCO Packing for donating a boatload of laundry detergent. Our campers and staff are smelling fresher than ever, thank you for keeping us squeaky clean!




Major Grant Support

Thank you to The Courage Project at the Amalgamated Charitable Foundation for their incredibly generous grant to Shady Oaks Camp. Your gift will make a lasting impact on our campers' experiences!

THE GIFT OF GIVING: BIG HEARTS, BIGGER IMPACT!

Thank You, United Sertoma Lemont Chapter!

A giant thank you to the United Sertoma-Lemont Chapter for your amazing \$5,000 donation to camp. Your ongoing support helps us keep our mission alive and thriving! 



ARE YOU INSPIRED TO HELP OR DONATE?

We have exciting news! You can now donate via Zelle! Send your donation to: 464.243.6242

Or scan the QR Code to learn more about ways to make a financial contribution or contact us today!

Zelle



DONATE ❤️

Shady Oaks Camp is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization. Shady Oaks Camp is not affiliated with any religion or national organization. Shady Oaks Camp's Federal Tax ID Number is 36-2182090.

see you soon ☺️



THANK YOU ☺️

**TUESDAY, AUGUST 12, 2025
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
MEETING AT 6 P.M.**

2025 Camp Dates

~~Session 1: June 16th - June 27th~~

~~Session 2: June 30th - July 11th~~

~~Session 3: July 14th - July 25th~~

Session 4: July 28th - August 8th

Orland Park Crossing
SPRIT OF AMERICA
Car & Motorcycle Show

Proceeds support the
Orland Park Pantry, Our Fallen Hero & Shady Oaks Camp

Saturday, September 20th
Rain Date - Saturday, September 27th.
Check in 11 a.m. - 2 p.m. | Open to Public 2 p.m. - 8 p.m.
143rd & LaGrange Road | Orland Park Crossing Behind Xfinity

\$25 MINIMUM DONATION
First 100 Registered will Receive a
FREE T-shirt and Dash Plaque
Food, Wine & Beer Vendors, B.Y.O.B. (Bring your own lawn chair/blanket) and enjoy!

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Exhibitor, vendor & event information,
please call Michele Cruse at (708) 923-6312,
or email michele@edwardsrealtyco.com.

Proceeds support
EDWARDS MIDAS HERO