Club 44 History

Although the organization actually began in 1951, it didn’t become a prominent community organization until the 1960s. In fact, much of the neighborhood clean-up and fix-up work during the ’60s, and since then as well, was accomplished through the efforts of Club 44. Club 44 is a youth organization founded by Joe Cole with the help of the Kirkwood YMCA. Through Club 44, many of Meacham Park’s youth, and even senior citizens who have become involved, have taken on some very ambitious endeavors to help make their community a better place to live.

In 1951 the organization was formed to provide transportation for youth to attend swimming lessons. Because the bus being used would only hold 44 people, the organizers humorously referred to the group as “Club 44.” By then the significance of that name, the members all agreed, stood for “working together 4 God and 4 country.” They also accepted “Love” as their club theme. The organization’s first headquarters was established at Turner School from 1951 until 1969. Between 1969 and 1971, Club 44 had its headquarters at the Kirkwood YMCA. Since 1971 its headquarters has been at the historic little cottage at 126 E. Washington Street, in Kirkwood.

Over the years, the club has engaged in numerous programs to help clean up the Meacham Park community. Today Club 44 is a YMCA led program inspired by the friendship between Joe Cole and Earl Walker to serve the community and is able to provide summer Day Camp programming to the Meacham Park community. This program is possible thanks to generous donors to the Kirkwood YMCA.

PROOF OF RESIDENCY

Club 44 is specific to Meacham Park residents and not available to those who reside elsewhere. Proof of Residency is required upon registration. You MUST attach a current utility bill as proof of residency.

REGISTRATION

In order for registration to be processed and complete, the following MUST be turned in upon registration:

1) Registration Form
2) Health & Permission Form
3) Payment/EFT Form
4) Proof of Residency

The following are also available within each Camp Packet and MUST be completed IF APPLICABLE:

1) Chronic Health Form
2) Inclusion Participant Form – necessary for campers with Individualized Education Plan, Behavior Management Plan, or 504 Plan, which must also be submitted.

REGISTRATION DEADLINES

Week 7 deadline: July 5 @ 5:00pm
Week 8 deadline: July 11 @ 5:00pm
Week 9 deadline: July 18 @ 5:00pm
Week 10 deadline: July 25 @ 5:00 pm
Week 11 deadline: August 1 @ 5:00pm

FIELD TRIPS

Every Wednesday, most campers will travel on a camp-wide field trip. Schedules will be given out weekly with more details.

CAMP OPTIONS

The Kirkwood–Webster YMCA is now offering the opportunity for campers to choose between a variety of camp programs including Aquatics, Photography, Hip Hop Hustle, Sports, Weird Science, Y-Detectors and Y-Outdoors.

AGE & EXPERIENCE REQUIREMENTS

Campers must be at least 5 years old and previously attended an all day educational program prior to attending our camp.

COST

$15 per week, per camper
Fun Club (after camp care): $10 per week

Campers will NOT be registered unless payment is received prior to the start of camp.

AVAILABILITY

Club 44 is limited to 36 campers: First come first serve basis.

FUN CLUB

Care after camp is now offered and located in the Kirkwood YMCA gym. The cost is $10 per week per child. Fun Club offers an afternoon snack, reading time, play time, arts & crafts and other fun activities. Campers go into Fun Club from camp around 3:15pm. Campers must be picked up prior to 6:00pm in the Kirkwood YMCA gym. Please be prepared to show your ID upon pick-up in order to maintain the safety of your child/children. You must pick up your child from the Kirkwood YMCA.

Late fee: $1 per minute after 6:00pm.
WHAT TO BRING EACH DAY
Please send campers with the following every-day:
1) Lunch* (no refrigeration)
2) 2 snacks for AM & PM *
3) Water Bottle
4) Swim suit & towel – no speedos for boys & one piece for girls
5) Sunscreen – no aerosol cans
6) Tennis shoes
*Please wear clothes that are comfortable and camp appropriate.

PEANUT FREE *
Summer Camp is a Peanut-Free Zone. Please refrain from sending peanut-related products to camp in order to maintain the safety of campers and staff.

WALKING HOME WAIVER
By signing the registration form, you grant permission for your child/children to walk home. When camp ends at Meacham Park, your child will be able to sign himself or herself out.

ABOUT THE YMCA
Respect – Responsibility – Caring – Honesty
To put Christian principles into practice through programs that build healthy spirit, mind and body for all.

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