



camp fernwood alumnae newsletter

Spring 2010

90 years and still “simple”...

WHAT HAS CHANGED?

Change to some, is scary, change to others, is exciting, change to us, is gradual and only when necessary - an evolution of sorts. Through it's 90 year history, Fernwood has slowly evolved in a variety of ways, with great care taken to hold true to our philosophical ideals and the comfortable, rustic feeling of Fernwood.

Many of you have visited within the past 5 years to find additions to the dining room and kitchen - both “requests” from our local fire marshal. But within the past 3-4 years, we have undertaken several other smaller scale renovations in order to keep up with the needs of our campers - both in their living and activity areas.

Recent building changes and improvements include:

- A wonderful open-air theater and gymnastics pavilion.
- Our 3rd extension on the rifle range - still a wildly popular activity!
- Two new larger “sophomore” bunks replacing the smaller Junior tentaloos.
- Renovations and electrical improvements within the existing Horse barn and Arts and Crafts buildings, as well as Mrs. B's cottage, infirmary and the Old and New Motels.



From the director's clip board

Someday we will probably have gathered more than enough material to write a book...

Working with children, guiding young adults, 2 weeks of rain giving new meaning to improvisation, the occasional pandemic, or perhaps a horse who has decided the grass actually is greener on the other side of the fence - decides to jump it and then heads through camp for a stroll. So many wonderful stories - never a day like any other, and yet within the multiplicity of each day we are reminded of the importance

of our 90 year history, and the simple tenets we continue to follow:

live simply, enjoy the beauty of natural surroundings, nurture tolerance, develop loving, life-long friendships

Fernwood is still a world where anything is possible and special things happen everyday - just as you might remember. We hope you will join us in August to share in some of this magic.

Fondly,

Fritz and Christine Seving



Peace on the shores of Lake Thompson



Welcoming 4 generations after 90 years



Tradition still our guiding light

H1N1 Hits Fernwood!

*Campers dub it the summer of
"Swine in '09"*

We heard from many of you regarding the New York Times Article this summer discussing the affects of the H1N1 virus on camps. Not exactly what we want to be known for...

Fernwood did indeed have an outbreak of H1N1 on the 14th day of camp. Initially 7 campers presented with Influenza like Illness (ILI). On day two of the outbreak we had an additional 24 campers present with the same symptoms. In consultation with our medical team, the Center for Disease Control and specialists from every part of the country, we made the unprecedented call to provide the antiviral drug Tamiflu to our whole community. While we were prepared in advance for a possible outbreak of H1N1, the Maine CDC was surprised by the speed and scope of the illness once it hit Maine camps. Co-ed and girls camps were hit particularly hard. The ten-day course of Tamiflu worked, and we literally stopped the virus in its tracks. Camps that did not opt for tamiflu had up to 1/3 of their camp populations involved and in isolation. Considering the rate of contagion, if we had not used tamiflu, our sick population would have quickly and easily increased to 100+/- within a matter of days. Our greatest fear was the possibility of having to close camp.

While we are better prepared now to deal with a global pandemic and there may still be the threat of another flu outbreak, we don't expect illness in 2010 to be nearly as widespread, due to the fact that so many people worldwide have now been vaccinated. Isolation alone proved to be the most challenging aspect for camps, as isolation was required for 7 days even if children were feeling better and showing no signs of fever! The isolation period has now been reduced to 24 hours after last fever, due in part to our many discussions with the CDC throughout the summer.

While the sickness curtailed all intercamp competitions and get-togethers in 2010, and derailed our parents visiting day (the first out of camp visiting day in 89 years), it surprisingly did not affect the good spirits of the campers or staff. The Seniors of 2009 lead the community beautifully and with grace under extraordinary circumstances - hosting a rousing ice cream beach party after our last dose of tamiflu.

Camp was quite empty of visitors throughout the entire summer. It was particularly difficult being unable to welcome grandparents and overnight visitors as we have in the past. We are all looking forward to getting back to "normal" with a healthy summer in 2010.

CF ALUMS ARE ALIVE AND WELL
ON FACEBOOK

[Camp Fernwood Alumni](#)

[Fernwood Camp We'll Ever Loyol Be](#)

[Camp Fernwood Alums Over 50](#)



THANK YOU!

Many thanks to Suzi Piker for her spectacular work and expertise in designing Fernwood's new website! We hope you'll check it out at:

www.campfernwood.com

Not only can you view the Fernwood video, but you can also enjoy some of Macky's magic, preserved in a touching video.

www.campfernwood.com/alumnae/

On an additional note, Suzi and her husband, Gavin Pond, (who met as CF counselors) are expecting their first child in July - a Fernwood girl we hope!

What ever happened to The Fernwood Scholarship Foundation?

As you may remember, The Fernwood Foundation was established in 2005. The intent of the Foundation was to provide a charitable tax deduction to individual donors who understood the value of camp for children, and whose interest it was to help provide the children of less fortunate families with a Fernwood camp experience. As the owners of Fernwood, we never had any interest in soliciting funds for the Foundation. We have our hands full just running camp! But through the years, the Fernwood community has been very generous. Giving those donors the benefit of a charitable tax deduction was our goal in the Foundation's establishment.

In 2006 The Fernwood Foundation was granted 501-c3 Non-Profit Status for the purpose of providing scholarship money for the Fernwood community. The laws governing 501-c3 status at the time were such that Camp Fernwood could not be the only recipient of those scholarship dollars. Additionally, the Foundation had to be run by a board, with members not presently or formerly employed by Camp Fernwood.

In 2007 and 2008 it became very difficult for such a small foundation to sustain itself while costs to comply with IRS reporting for non-profits became unreasonable. In 2008 60% of the money brought in was spent just on compliance. So while the establishment of the Fernwood Foundation initially

seemed like a benevolent idea, we were forced to make the decision to disband it late in 2008.

In early 2010 we became aware of a program through the American Camp Association (ACA) that allows individuals to legally donate scholarship funds directly to Camp Fernwood, while providing a charitable tax deduction for donors.

This new program will allow us to receive scholarship donations, without having to run a separate foundation entity - solving the problems encountered in the running of the Fernwood Foundation. Most importantly, only 7.5% of any donation goes to administration fees, giving Fernwood .925 cents of every dollar in the form of scholarship funds.

As you can imagine, in the 2 years since the dissolution of the Foundation, the need to assist families and to help promote diversity within our community has increased. Fernwood has continued to provide camper scholarships with funds directly out of our operating budget. Scholarships for 2009 and 2010 have topped \$100,000.00. Macky was always very generous. We have proudly continued that legacy, and are grateful to those who have shared in our charitable goals through the years.

Additional information and details of the Camp Fernwood scholarship program executed through the American Camp Association can be found at the following link:

http://www.acacamps.org/support/camper_scholarship.php

Tradition - 4 generations strong

AROUND THE GLOBE

Over the past 10 years Fernwood has welcomed campers from 28 of the United States and 10 foreign countries.



- AUSTRALIA
- COLOMBIA
- FRANCE
- HAITI
- HONG KONG
- ITALY
- MEXICO
- SOUTH KOREA
- SPAIN
- UNITED KINGDOM



Campers	Mothers	Aunts/Uncles	Grandmothers &
Sydney Aibel		Karen Aibel	Ellen Brett Bierman
Jamie Atterbury		Aggie Atterbury	
Payton Bartos	Mila Finkelstein		Bobby Eisenberg
Julie and Samantha Berenblum	Peggy Mann		
Julia Bayer	Beth Schiro		
Janis Broder		Helen Broder	Pat Broder
Carly Cherches	Barbara Kimmel		
Cally and Emily Cohen	Jackie Fenton		
Annie and Maddy Cooper	Hillary Weis	Carolyn Weis	
Lindsey Duhamel	Leslie King		
Chase Elser			Libby Crystal Reamer, Frances Grumbacher
Lindsey Felner		Julie Felner	Linda Marks
Taylor Friedman			Bette Levinger Ruth Neugrass (G.
Julie Galler	Becky Rovner	Sue Rovner	
Katie and Meghan Gerber	Sue Steiger	Liz Steiger, Debbie Steiger	Nancy Karp
Sofia Goldman Sonnenfeldt			Barbara Hausman
Sophie Greenhouse	Caren Levy	Laurie Levy	
Claudia Haimovici	Jeanne Ackman		
Kate Hirsch		Jill Hirsch, Robin Hirsch	
Lily Katz	Jill Jellinek		
Sara Katzen	Emily Haas		Linda Haas
Sarah Kazan	Melissa Nadel		
Caroline Klemmer	Jane Kurz	Sue Kurz	Hazel Peller
Abby Lederman	Sandy Greenspan		Dorothy Berens
Jennifer Martin		Julie Gladstone	
Julia Montag	Sally Abramson		
Allison Newman	Liz Steiger	Sue Steiger, Debbie Steiger	Nancy Karp
Emma Nusbaum	Susan Pava	Liz Pava	Helen Abramson
Isabel Orlan	Lisa Tarnow		
Molly Pitzele	Deena Drew	Jennifer Drew, Gaby Drew	Dede Holland
Lucy Rittmaster		Gillian Goldsmith	
Jenna Selati	Jill Birnbaum	Stacy Birnbaum	
Nikki Shaw			Lucille Jay Pollack (G.grand)
Frankie Sigman	Robin Levine		
Lily Steven	Liz Segal	Jamie Segal	
Abigail and Lizzy Stone	Jennifer Drew	Gaby Drew, Deena Drew	Dede Holland
Bridget and Renee Stone		Jennifer Drew	
Hannah and Julia Tarnow		Lisa Tarnow	
Katy Warren	Lynn Friedman		
Danielle Weinberg	Jennifer Rocker	Karen Rocker	
Josie Weinberg		Jennifer Rocker, Karen Rocker	
Jordan Westlake	Linda Escoll		
Nicole Weltmann	Staci Taubin		
Rachel Wolff		Liz Allen	
Ally Yaseen	Bonnie Hut	Pamela Hut	Betty Schloss
Clara Zucker		Ellen Zucker	

If we have forgotten you, please let us know! We're always trying to keep our list current.

ARE YOU REGISTERED IN FERNWOOD'S ONLINE ALUMNAE DATABASE?

If not, what are you waiting for? Get alumnae reunion updates and newsletters, update your personal profile, plus locate and email long lost bunkmates through our online system!

Go to: <http://www.campfernwood.com/alumnae/> and click on the "alumnae database" link.

Fernwood Celebrates 90 summers!

August 13-15, 2010

ARRIVAL: After 2pm FRIDAY, AUGUST 13

DEPARTURE: AFTER LUNCH SUNDAY, AUGUST 15

PLEASE JOIN US FOR A REUNION THIS SUMMER CELEBRATING CAMP FERNWOOD'S 90TH BIRTHDAY. RELIVE YOUR CHILDHOOD MEMORIES AND RECONNECT WITH THE FERNWOOD FAMILY.

Who is invited?

All former campers and former staff members.

How do I get there?

Van transportation to camp will leave from Portland on every hour from noon until 5pm.

Pickups available in Portland at Portland Airport, Concord Trailways bus station, Amtrak, or Greyhound bus station.

***Travel FYI:** JetBlue flies into Portland. Southwest flies into Boston. If flying into Boston, Concord Trailways offers a bus service to Portland directly from the airport.*

Where will I sleep?

You will sleep on the bunk-line living roughly by decade. Any current (2010) campers or other younger children will be housed with their mothers.

I want to come, but am not sure I can sleep in a bunk...

We have limited housing outside of the bunks and will try to accommodate those with special needs.

Can I bring my children?

Camp aged kids are welcomed as participants (finished 1st grade and older). Activity help will be available for camp aged kids during the day. Parents are responsible for their children during mealtimes and in the evening.

How do I sign up?

Simply fill out the enrollment and travel forms on the last 2 pages of this newsletter and return by July 1.

What do I need to bring?

- We will provide bed linens, camp blankets and towels.
- You will need your own pillow.
- If you plan on horseback riding, you will need long pants and shoes with a heel (no sneakers, please).
- It can be cool at night so bring a warm sweatshirt.
- A tennis racquet, if you wish to play tennis.

Is there a cost for the reunion?

Hoping to make the weekend accessible to all, there is no tuition or cost for the reunion.

However, contributions to Fernwood's scholarship fund will be warmly welcomed. **Checks can be mailed directly to Fernwood, and made out to: ACA Camper Scholarship Program. Make sure to designate Camp Fernwood in the memo portion of the check.**



SCHEDULE OF EVENTS:

FRIDAY, AUGUST 13

- 2-5:00pm Welcome and get settled into bunks
- 3:00pm Open activities including: tennis, riflery, archery, jewelry, rock climbing, canoeing, sailing, waterskiing or just relax and enjoy the beach or front porch of the lodge.
- 5:00pm Welcome assembly
- 6:15pm Dinner

SATURDAY, AUGUST 14

- 7:15am Early morning walk or yoga class
- 7:30am Skinny dip
- 8:30-9:15am Breakfast
- 9:15am Assembly
- 9:30-12pm Open Activities
- 12:30pm Lunch
- 1:30pm "State of Fernwood" ask Fritz and Christine Seving about the past, present and future of Fernwood
- 2:30-5:30pm Open Activities
- 6:15pm Lakefront Cookout
- 8:00pm Campfire

SUNDAY, AUGUST 15

- 9:30am Sunday Service (whites suggested)
- 10:30am Brunch
- 12:00pm Departures (vans transportation to Portland as necessary)

**Camp Fernwood 90th Reunion
Registration and Bunk Request Form**

**Friday, August 13
Sunday, August 15**

**Arrival: 2:00-5:00pm
Departure: 12:00pm (following brunch)**

REGISTRATION:

First Name _____ **Maiden Name** _____ **Last Name** _____

Address _____ **City** _____ **ST** _____ **Zip** _____

Home phone _____ **Cell Phone** _____

E-mail Address _____

Camper? YES NO List years: _____ **Staff? YES NO List years:** _____

Daughter(s) attending with you: (finished first grade or older please)

1. **Name** _____ **Age** _____ **School Grade Fall 2010** _____

2. **Name** _____ **Age** _____ **School Grade Fall 2010** _____

3. **Name** _____ **Age** _____ **School Grade Fall 2010** _____

4. **Name** _____ **Age** _____ **School Grade Fall 2010** _____

BUNKING:

Bunks will be arranged by decade. Camp age daughters will be housed with their mothers, grandmothers, or aunts.

I require "special needs" bunking. Details: _____

Please return by July 1 with completed the travel form.

Prior to June 1:
Camp Fernwood
Attn: Christine Seving
6035 Goshen Road
Newtown Square, PA 19073

After June 1:
Camp Fernwood
Attn: Christine Seving
48 Camp Fernwood Lane
Poland, ME 04274

