



Camp Wayne for Boys & Girls

Alumni Newsletter - Fall 2012



2nd generation campers Zachary Graber (left) (Rabce! Fischler) and Jesse Faller (Jeni Cohen) showcasing their Myachi skills

News from CWB

It was another amazing summer at Wayne...our 92nd if you're keeping track. As our alumni know all too well, the recipe is pretty simple: great kids and a dedicated and enthusiastic staff. Everything else is just gravy. We had a terrific group of campers and our staff came ready for action and definitely lived up to our high expectations.

Our exciting Conference program was kicked off by Chief Luther (David Nisenson), Chief Crickles (Alex Groothuis) and Chief Don Cornelius Goldstein (Joe LeRea) and finished as always with the Gitch. (Traditions still run strong.) Interest in our Outdoor Adventure program continues to flourish with lots of campers taking part in off-campus kayaking, hiking and climbing trips as well as inter-camp archery! And speaking of inter-camp action, the Wayne County tournaments are as popular as ever. The second annual Camp Wayne Lacrosse Tournament (AKA The Corpuel Cup) was a great day for our lacrosse fanatics. Color War 2012 was certainly one for the record books.

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News from CWG

Hello to all our wonderful Camp Wayne alumni. During this holiday season we are so thankful that after 92 consecutive years Camp Wayne is still here and as strong as ever. Of course none of it would be possible without you...all of our former campers and current alumni! 2012 was yet another fantastic summer in Preston Park. We are so fortunate to say that for the 5th consecutive year we set a record for most number of campers in any summer with 276 total.

You may have heard that last summer was our first summer without long-time caretaker Bill Ripple on campus as Bill retired in June 2012. While we wish Bill the best in his well-deserved retirement we'd also like to take this time to welcome our new full time caretaker Anthony Caiti. Anthony started in June in 2012 and lives on campus year round with his wife Sara and baby son Joseph. So if you see Anthony on campus during a visit please make sure to say hello and welcome him.

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Alumni Buzz

To share your news for the Spring 2013 edition of the Alumni Newsletter go to www.campwayne.com and click on the alumni tab. You'll see a link on the left side where you submit your news.



Don't forget to "like" us on Facebook to stay up to date on all things Wayne!
www.facebook.com/campwayneforboysandgirls

Hope Kaufer Summers:

4 months ago, my husband Chad and I welcomed future camper Sean Ryder Summers. He is a sweet little boy who is going to love camp as much as his mommy did.

Clifford Kopp

Camp Wayne alumnus and son, Alex Kopp, was a May graduate of Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute (RPI) and will be a spring Grad student at Cornell.

Alison Corpuel Pastiu

Alison, Narcis and big sister, Sarah, welcomed Tyler to the family on October 12.

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The Brandes Boys

Rampage Buff and Avenger Blue traded leads throughout the four-day battle and marched into Sing separated by just two points. Avenger Blue won Sing and finished on top when the final scores were read. With an expanding LIT (Leader In Training) program, 2012 was the year to add a new leadership position in Color War. Two LITS (Jon Brandes and Ian Heller) were honored with the title of Color War Lieutenant.

While the 50-day camp season is the main focus of our off-season preparations, we wanted to highlight several community-based and not-for profit programs that Camp Wayne for Boys and Girls are proud to support throughout the year. Many of these programs get to take advantage of our facility when not in use during the camp season. For the past eight years, Camp Wayne has supported the Preston Park and Susquehanna School District's "Hooked on Fishing, Not on Drugs" program. Each school picks a date in the spring to bring between 50 and 175 children and adults to enjoy a day of fishing on the Upper Twin Lake. Camp Wayne provides a BBQ lunch for all of our visitors, not to mention some of the best fishing around.

Since 2010, Michael and Randy Corpuel have directed the Preston/Hancock Experience. (See separate article for more information). This program provides a fantastic, week-long, day camp experience to deserving children in our community who otherwise would not be able to experience the wonders of camping. The program emphasizes dedication and hard work in school in addition to the experience at camp.

This past summer was the inaugural year for Camp Erin, the largest nationwide network of free bereavement camps for children and teens who have experienced the death of someone close to them. (See separate article for more information). Ann Fuchs directed the weekend program, which included traditional fun camp activities combined with grief education and emotional support. Over 40 CW alumni volunteered their time to support this great program.

During the camp season, our campers have opportunities to take part in several community service programs. For over 10 years, campers have participated in Project Morry swim-a-thons, which raises thousands of dollars every year. Project Morry is a year-round youth development organization that provides to each child a multi-year commitment anchored by a superb residential summer camp experience. Many of our older campers have also volunteered at the Preston Park Library's summer reading program and book sale. We're extremely proud of those campers who support these local programs with their time and effort.

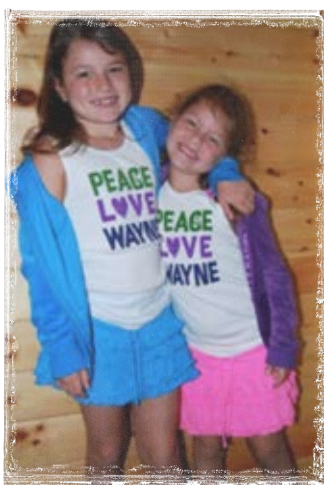
For our camp families, the fall season is about "back to school." For us, it's time to focus on summer 2013, while continuing to support the programs that are so important to the children in our community and beyond.

We wish everyone a happy and healthy holiday season!

Josh, Steve, Kathy C and Kathy E



Hooked On Fishing Program at Wayne



The Housenbold girls had a great visit at camp this past summer

For those who like to keep track of all the Color War happenings each year, last summer saw Disney Blue, captained by former campers Emily Uniman and Rebecca Corpuel, narrowly defeat Safari Buff, captained by former camper Caren Hoffman (whose dad Jeff is a proud CWB alumni and yearly visitor to Camp). For the breakout we turned our Rec Hall into a concert hall as we held a CW Rock Star Karaoke Concert complete with security at the door, photo booths, tattoo parlor and even a well-stocked 'bar'. On stage we were treated to a concert by our own CWG campers and just when they thought it was over the place went black and we broke out Color War with an awesome laser and music show projected onto a huge thirty foot screen.

Speaking of former campers turned counselors, in 2012 we had a record number of girls from the same age group become first year counselors. In all we had 16 girls last year who were able to return as counselors! Over the years, many of our former campers who turned counselors spent the previous summer or two working as part of our intrepid support staff in Bunk 21. And many of them had the good fortune to work as 'shack girls' under the wonderful, funny, hardworking and caring eye of Stefi Gold Cohen. Stefi was a camper at Wayne and has since spent many, many years at CWG doing various jobs but most recently as our Director of Communications, Evening Activities and Special Events. But to a generation of Camp Wayne girls she will always be known as their 'Shack mom'. We are sad to say that Stefi decided to retire but will still be spending some portions of time at Wayne. We along with countless former campers would like to send a huge "Thank you!" to Stefi for her years of hard work, dedication, love and commitment to

Camp Wayne for Girls. We wish you all the best and you will be missed greatly. Fortunately we have another amazing and seasoned CWG veteran that will be coming to camp this summer to learn from Stefi and take over her role. Jaime Dondero Pace has a long history at Camp starting as a camper in the 80's and her parents Joe and Rose also work for both Camp Wayne for Boys and Girls. We couldn't be more excited to have Jaime returning to camp. Welcome back Jaime!

We'd love for you to come and see for yourself that even after years of being away Camp Wayne is still the place you remember it to be. But you don't have to wait until the next reunion in 2015 to visit us! If you and your family would like to plan a visit to Camp Wayne, please contact us in advance so we can plan the best time to come. And if you or any of your relatives are interested in attending Camp Wayne for Girls they should call us immediately as we tend to complete enrollment one year in advance.

Wishing you all peace and love-

Noel, George, Adena and Matt

Preston/Hancock Experience

The third annual Preston Hancock Experience day camp program kicked off on August 12, the day after the Camp Wayne season came to a close. The program has grown from 17 campers in 2010 to 38 in 2012 and expects to host 50 children in 2013. Directed by Michael and Randy Corpuel, the week-long, tuition-free day camp program offers children from the Preston and Hancock Schools an action packed camp experience. Michael and Randy are assisted by an energetic group of volunteers, many of whom are Camp Wayne counselors.

As the number of participants has grown, so has the number of activities available to the campers. In 2012 activities included swimming, kayaking, ceramics, jewelry making, art, tennis, softball, baseball, soccer, golf, dance, gymnastics, Zumba, circus/yoga, music and cooking.



Campers are selected by teachers and administrators in their schools based on financial need, being a good citizen, trying hard in school, pledging to attend camp for four years and making a commitment to graduate high school. The program has had a positive impact on the lives of a lot of children in the community, with teachers reporting that many of the students are performing better in school.

Donations are welcome and help pay for insurance, camper tee shirts, art supplies and books (as part of the literacy program). The books enable campers to start or expand a home library. Donations can be made to the Hancock Community Education Foundation - Preston/Hancock Experience and sent to PO Box 819, Hancock, NY 13783. You can donate using PayPal by going to the link below. Click on the Donations tab at the top of the page. In comment box write Donate To Preston/Hancock Experience.

To learn more about this unique camp program go the website: www.prestonhancockexperience.com

Camp Erin NYC - 2012

Camp Erin NYC's inaugural year welcomed 33 campers and 68 volunteers - 37 of which were Camp Wayne Alumni. The weekend saw laughter and tears, trepidation and exhilaration. Children were comforted meeting other children like themselves and at the same time, took advantage of all that camp had to offer such as a ropes course, art, sports, waterfront activities, music and more.



The children Camp Erin NYC greeted on Friday, were not the same campers who were hugged goodbye on Sunday. To be able to offer grieving children an environment that was fun and supportive was priceless. The program also provided additional tools for children to navigate their feelings and broadened their network of friends to lean on.

And to be able to offer this experience at such a beautiful facility as Camp Wayne and witness children trying things for the first time such as swimming, ropes, and drumming - was immeasurable. The weekend was more than we hoped for, better than we imagined and had an impact on staff and campers that far exceeded our expectations.



"It was the best weekend of my life," said a 14 year old girl.

"I didn't want to come either, but now I don't want to go home," said an 11 year old boy. One teenage boy asked, "Who can you call to make this longer?" And the one unifying statement: "It was nice meeting other children like me."

From staff:

"I am overwhelmed with so many emotions after one of the greatest weekends. I found myself speechless so often. The amazing campers, the incredible, incredible, incredible staff....I just can't even express the greatness of it all."

"I know this camp was meant/designed for the kids, but as volunteers we can't help but be personally impacted and inspired by their stories and strength."

"I am still processing all of the emotions that are bouncing around inside of me, but I can say without hesitation that I am forever changed from this experience."

Thanks to the generosity of Adena and Matt, George and Noel, the weekend confirmed that we CAN make a difference in the life of a grieving child - even though our time together was short.

On a personal note ,I will be forever grateful for being given this opportunity. It has changed MY life and I owe it all to the brave children of Camp Erin NYC 2012. To have shared it with the amazing, caring, professional and spirited group of Camp Wayne alumni that was assembled was priceless.

So spread the word, Camp Erin New York City is August 23-25, 2013 at Camp Wayne.

Regards,

Ann Kramer Fuchs

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