

# Camp Wayne for Boys & Girls

## Fall 2015

It was great seeing so many CWB and CWG alum back in Preston Park to celebrate our 95th summer. The cool, sometimes wet weather Mother Nature threw our way proved weak compared to the strength of the bonds between camp friends. Everyone showed up excited to be on the grounds again and quickly made themselves at home playing tennis and basketball and enjoying the new water toys. There was also word of a "dance off" on girls' side. Even the diehards who spent summer after summer skiing the Upper Twin Lake wouldn't let a little chill in the air get in the way of another lap around the lake. And of course, it was no surprise that "Hobby Hour" became "Happy Hour."

From hanging out around camp, a BBQ at CWG, brunch at CWB, late night pizza at VC and a "few" drinks at the LCI, everyone had a memorable weekend. We included a few pictures in this newsletter but there are lots more up on our Facebook page ([facebook.com/campwayneforboysandgirls](https://facebook.com/campwayneforboysandgirls)) so be sure to check them out.

While we don't have a "save the date" just yet, we're very excited about celebrating our 100th summer in 2020. Whether or not you were able to join us to celebrate our 95th, you should make a little note in your calendar for Sept 2020 that you'll be back at camp for a few days...in fact, just block the whole month out to be on the safe side! We'll have to work on getting Alice's Cow Palace and Jerichos to stay open a bit longer.

We wish everyone a great fall season and a happy and healthy New Year.

The Corpuel and Brown Families





# Thanks For Your Support!

A special thanks to those alumni who supported our efforts to raise money for Project Morry. Camp Wayne along with our camp families have been supporting this incredible organization for close to 20 years. Through donations, swim-a-thons, and community service projects, we appreciate the generosity shown by our camp family over the years.

Our Alumni Fundraiser will be active for another few weeks so please consider a donation if you haven't already. The fundraiser page can be found at: <http://bit.ly/CWsupportsPM>





# Letters From Alumni



We had a phenomenal day when we toured this summer! Drew had a great rookie day on boys side and I really enjoyed my time spent with you and seeing that hallowed ground again. Hope we will be back too!!!

Here are a few pix.

Xo,

Dayna (Crawford) Diamond

Hi,

I wanted to thank you for such a remarkable and sentimental weekend. I was incredibly touched by the camp memorabilia in the ARC; we loved looking through the pictures, reading the old Wayne Wiggles, and singing our favorite color war alma maters. I am so appreciative of the opportunity to return to camp this Fall - we reminisced on how camp brought us together and shaped us as the young adults we are today. While most of my fondest childhood memories are at camp, camp also prepared us to share college dorms and navigate disagreements with friends. We still carry many of the lessons discussed at creative service or bunk meetings today.

Thank you again for such a wonderful weekend at camp, and thank you for the 10 incredible summers I spent at Wayne! And, thank you for the Camp Wayne beanie - it's certainly nice to think that Camp Wayne can keep me warm in the winter months!

All best wishes,

Eden Halperin

Hi!

What an awesome Visiting Day! I just want you to know how much we appreciate what a wonderful camp you run. I can't imagine a more perfect place for Emily to spend her summers- a place where all of the campers, counselors, administration and even the other parents are warm and wonderful, inclusive and supportive, kind and outgoing. This environment fosters the things that we want for our children- confidence, independence and happiness! And in a place that now only exists in this pure form, with no technology! Michael and I couldn't be more thankful for this experience for Emily. Enjoy the rest of your summer!

Many thanks,

Lynda Frost

Hi,

I just wanted to take a moment to express my sincerest gratitude for another amazing camp reunion weekend.

Your generosity and love for the alumni really go so so far. It is so great to reconnect with so many people from my childhood and now my adulthood.

Thank you again so much for making the special weekends available to us and allowing us to relive our childhood memories and make new ones.

Happy and healthy new year to you and your families.

Love you guys,

Gary Hecht



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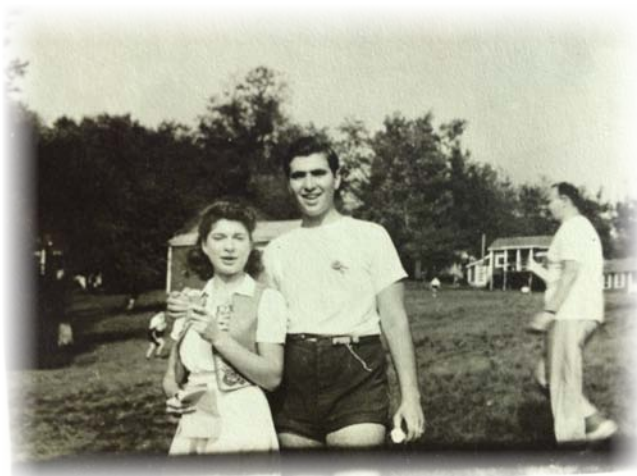
# Share your Camp Story

We are still on a high from the Alumni Reunion Weekend! Watching everyone in their happy place and listening to stories from the past made for a fantastic weekend despite the weather. We all have those distinct memories from our years as a camper and/or counselor and what would be better than to share those moments with the people who 'get camp' and can truly appreciate the feeling you get when you think back to those times?

For our 100th Anniversary, we want to create a memoir that contains stories, pictures, letters, etc. from YOU! There is a great book out there titled "CAMP CAMP: Where Fantasy Island meets Lord of the Flies." They explain it as "a trip so beautifully illustrated and fully remembered that you can almost smell the pine of the cabins when you open the pages."

How great would it be for each of us to have our own book of Camp Wayne memories, collectively written by generations of Camp Wayners? We want everyone, from that homesick camper who only made it two summers to the die-hard camper who still lives 10 for 2, to contribute to this masterpiece. Don't worry about keeping it G rated...only 21 and over allowed at reunions! If you're not a great writer, dig deep in to that dusty trunk for old letters, pictures, etc. Please send all material to [adena@campwaynegirls.com](mailto:adena@campwaynegirls.com).

In addition to the photo below, there are two examples on the following page that helped to inspire this project. The first article was written by Amy Gordon over 20 years ago for a writing contest. The second was an email from Carolyn "Ace" Spragg when she wasn't able to make it to the 2010 Alumni Reunion. Thanks to Amy, Ace and all of you in advance for your help!



*A friend of mine sent me a photo yesterday that I thought you'd like to see and also pass along to Josh. Her grandpa was a photography counselor on boyside in the 40s. His name was Melvin Siegel (formerly from the Grand Concourse in the Bronx).*

*Looking forward to celebrating 95 years of Camp Wayne! Hope all is well! Laura Kahn*





Here are just a few of the highlights that Ace said she would be joyfully reliving if she were able to come to the reunion:

- Interviewing with Noel and playing guitar for him ("House at Pooh Corner" – future CWG alma mater – if you can believe it) in the world's smallest room
- Hanging out in the Rec Hall, or at a campfire or a bunk lounge and jamming with so many talented and wonderful musicians and singers over 20 years
- Backstage with the Key Staff at most Sunday night Evening Activities – some of the best laughs I have ever had!
- The genuine smiles and bright eyes of all my "regulars" down at the waterfront – what a joyful way to spend a summer – watching you revel in the lake (a cherished memory – early bird skiing watching Jockey Green kick the mist off of the lake)
- MTV nights (Copa Cabana!), Group Sing and COLOR WAR – what a rush to be part of all the creativity at camp (Yaker's skits still make me laugh)
- Anything spontaneous and joyful – the everyday stuff was the sweetest
- Listening to George explain something really hard to someone and making it seem so simple (how does she do that?)
- Every single Creative Service I ever got to be a part of – with great affection for the one in which Roland proposed to Amy
- Playing ping pong with Noel in the middle of the night – after cleaning the basement ("Don't throw that out – it's a potential carnival booth")

## The Raid

By Amy Gordon

We were a bunk of ten- and eleven-year old girls, back at camp for another whimsical summer together. After our usual bedtime flashlight wars and stationery trades, we had all drifted off to sleep, our bodies exhausted from a typical day of non-stop camp activity. In what seemed to us to be the middle of the night (it was probably only eleven o'clock), we were awakened suddenly and instantly by twelve screaming, raging, pre-pubescent boys. They burst into our bunk with the force of an avalanche, destroying all that lay in their path. Within seconds, our beds were covered with silly string, our mattresses overturned and on the floor—some with my friends still in them! While the boys laughed and egged each other on, one thought passed through all of our minds as we screamed for them to leave—THIS MEANS WAR! The boys' counselor whispered to ours that they would be walking the road back around the lake to Boys' Side. Those words were music to our ears—the road was the long route. We waited until there was no trace of them left on our campus and, our counselors in tow, we made a bee-line for the Indian Trail. Armed with flashlights and fueled by revenge, our pajama-clad force made its way through the dark, muddy shortcut as quickly and quietly as possible. At one point, we could see our enemy through the trees, only a few yards away. The adrenaline rushed through our bodies as we trudged on, careful not to let them hear us. When we arrived at Boys' Side, we scurried across campus to the offenders' bunk. They were about to get more than they bargained for. Our rivals returned to their bunk triumphant, high on their victory over "the weaker sex". But as they came through the door, their faces betrayed them, revealing shock and disbelief at what they saw. Sneakers filled with shaving cream, mirrors covered in toothpaste, blankets, pillows, mattresses and towels strewn all over the floor, and only one bed in tact—that of the counselor who had tipped us off. Hiding behind their clothes cubbies, we ran out and yelled "Gotcha" as loud as we could, howling with laughter and smiling ear to ear. Like twelve deer caught in twenty-four headlights, they stood motionless, unsure of how this attack could have happened and trying unsuccessfully to piece together the events of the night. A minute later, a counselor came in with cookies and milk. We, boys and girls together, broke bread and declared a truce. But in our hearts, we will always know who the true victors were.

# Camp Erin NYC

Hi Camp Wayne Alumni,

Hope you are enjoying the brisk fall. It was so great to see everyone at the alumni weekend! For those of you who missed it, gear up for the 100th! Wayne continues to be a special place where our memories and friendships have endured long after we said our last goodbyes at the buses.

We are humbled by the continued warmth and generosity of Kathy, Josh, Adena, Matt, George and Noel as Camp Wayne for Girls hosted Camp Erin NYC for their fourth summer and Camp Wayne for Boys simultaneously hosted the families of our grieving children for the first COPE Parent Retreat.



Camp Erin NYC welcomed 52 campers and 63 volunteers- the majority of whom are **Wayne alumni**. Their passion and dedication continue to be the foundation and success of this journey. Children come together grieving the unimaginable tragic loss of a loved one. At camp they learn they are not alone and are given the strategies and tools to make their grief journey easier. Grieving children are at a much greater risk than their peers for depression, suicide, poverty and substance abuse. The ramifications to society, when children don't get help is huge. The camp atmosphere and activities, along with the grief education and emotional support offered by our trained volunteers and bereavement professionals, are all key to our amazing weekend.

The parent retreat added a new dimension to Camp Erin. The objective of the parent retreat offered on boys' side was primarily to benefit the children. "It's as basic as the safety instructions you get on an airplane. You have to put the oxygen mask on yourself first before you can help anyone else." Before there was a parent retreat, only the children benefited from this transformative and healing weekend. Now the children *and* their parents can both have this experience." We may be the first bereavement organization in the nation to offer both a children's camp and parent retreat.

Our sincerest thanks if you have been a Camp Erin NYC supporter! We continue to need financial support in order to sustain Camp Erin, purchase supplies and serve more campers each summer. Think of our special place and how we are able to give back. I hope you will consider being a part of our team.

To donate go to: [www.copefoundation.org](http://www.copefoundation.org) and click on Camp Erin.

OR

Send a check made out to :

COPE FOUNDATION, INC (ear mark Camp Erin)  
PO BOX 1251  
Melville NY 11747

Forever grateful,  
Ann



*Mini reunion...couldn't make it in Sept so they had their own in August*

*Carrie Vining Spanier, Dayna Crawford Diamond, Lisa Goldstein Maira, Danielle Klier Beer, Michelle Klein Nemiroff, Meredith Baker Schlanger*



# Many Thanks to Michael and Randy Corpuel

We'd like to take a moment to recognize and congratulate Michael and Randy Corpuel. As many of you may know they started the Preston Hancock Experience (PHE) four years ago to provide children from the local Camp Wayne area a chance to enjoy and benefit from the summer camp experience. After four highly successful years the program has come to an end. Michael and Randy put their hearts and souls into the camp, and had a positive effect on all the children who attended by opening up a world that they were so close to but could never experience.

Staffed by volunteers on the donated grounds of Camp Wayne, the program offered a week's worth of camp experience free of charge to children whose families would not otherwise be able to afford it. The campers were asked to make a commitment to work hard and stay in school and maintain a commitment to service in their communities, as well as to return to the camp for four consecutive years.

We couldn't be prouder to have been associated with such a wonderful program and more importantly with two such wonderful people. Like any summer camp, the memories and lessons learned by those children will live on long after their camp experience.



*Alumni Picture from Visiting Day 2015*

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## CAMP WAYNE FOR GIRLS

[WWW.CAMPWAYNEGIRLS.COM](http://WWW.CAMPWAYNEGIRLS.COM)

[INFO@CAMPWAYNEGIRLS.COM](mailto:INFO@CAMPWAYNEGIRLS.COM)

WINTER OFFICE:

9 HANSEL ROAD, NEWTOWN, PA 18940

TEL: 215-944-3069 FAX: 215-497-0127

SUMMER OFFICE:

56 NICE PEOPLE PLACE, PRESTON PARK, PA 18455

TEL: 570-798-2591 FAX: 570-798-2674

## CAMP WAYNE FOR BOYS

[WWW.CAMPWAYNE.COM](http://WWW.CAMPWAYNE.COM)

[INFO@CAMPWAYNE.COM](mailto:INFO@CAMPWAYNE.COM)

WINTER OFFICE:

53 SUMMIT DR, HUNTINGTON, NY 11743

TEL: 516-883-3067 FAX: 516-684-9795

SUMMER OFFICE:

15 CAMP WAYNE ROAD, PRESTON PARK, PA 18455

TEL: 570-798-2511 FAX: 516-684-9795