



# The Clocktower Times

## Alumni Newsletter

*Echoes of the chimes of our time.  
Spring 2022*

As many of us plan to come home this June, we also prepare to relive one of our favorite Camp Billings traditions: Country Fair! Some of us have memories of muddy tug of war contests, others of staff triathlons, and all of us can likely recall our team songs, banners, and cheers. Remember the pie eating contests? If any of these jog your memory and bring other Country Fair experiences, memories or laughs flooding back (like they did for us!), we hope this edition of the CTT will keep you entertained throughout.

If you had missed out on this camp experience, don't worry, you now have chance to get a taste of (the famous) Country Fair on June 17th-19th at the 115ish Reunion.

If you have not yet registered for the Reunion, there is still time! You can use the form insert in this edition or go online to: [campbillings.campbrainregistration.com](http://campbillings.campbrainregistration.com).

See you in June!

With love,  
Amy Cone Glidden & Meredith Cone  
CTT Co-Editors



*Illustration designed by Shane Chick*

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# Greetings from the Board...

## By Andy Schneider, Board President

For me, Country Fair was, at least in my early camp years, akin to some bronze age mythological warfare I could barely conceptualize. As a camper, I was an “early summer kid” usually attending camp in sessions 1 and 2. I heard about Country Fair, the spoils of victory and anguish of defeat. I saw the pictures of the grease pole and Larry Drew’s calves flexing while teaching a camper to split wood. By the time I finally got to experience Country Fair firsthand, I was chomping at the bit to get involved in Billings’ greatest tradition.

I participated in nearly a dozen Country Fairs at camp, and what sticks out the most in my memories are when unexpected heroes emerged in unexpected places. Country Fair was always the time for the Cabin 15 and Cabin 1 campers to showcase their leadership skills and for the “talented” counselor who could inhale a pie inside of 60 seconds to shine. But it was celebrating the Cabin 4 camper who turned out to be an archery champion, or the Cabin 8 camper who owned the tetherball court that made me smile the most. It was the camper who everyone looked to as an athlete who instead shined as a musician, or the quiet CIT who took the lead on the artwork for the team banner that made me smile the most. Country Fair was always a team effort, and no Country Fair champion ever emerged without unexpected heroes.

The unexpected hero is, in many ways, exactly what we are all about at Camp Billings. The function and purpose of summer camp has evolved quite a bit throughout Billings’ long history. Many young people now forgo traditional summer camp for specialized sports camps or extended school year academic pursuits. But camp’s charm has not been about excellence or achievement but instead about opportunity - opportunity to try new things, opportunity to come up short in a safe space, and opportunity to participate in anything and everything camp has to offer. There is no better opportunity for unexpected heroes to emerge than at Camp Billings Country Fair.

With that in mind, I encourage all members of the Billings family to join us this June for our 115ish Country Fair-themed reunion. Sometimes, there can be a unique anxiety around coming back after a long time away, but this reunion, just like Country Fair, is a unique opportunity for the unexpected hero to come home to Lake Fairlee. Be that Cabin 4 camper that crushes the archery competition or that Cabin 8 kid who dominates the tetherball court. We can’t wait to see you shine.

Your friend and fellow alumni,

Andy





# A Note from CB's Directors, Anne and Sean Collins!

Hello Camp Families!

We can't believe another summer is already fast approaching, and we couldn't be more excited! This summer will open up in a way we haven't seen since 2019. While we know the pandemic is still very much alive, the vaccine, and last summer's experience allow us to return to many of our traditional practices! Welcome back to 2 week sessions, and welcome back to 100% capacity! We have actively reminded ourselves not to use too many exclamation points in this article, but how can we help it?!

It's been a whirlwind of a year in the Collins's household as we welcome our newest member. Teddy Adelaide Collins was born on January 21, 2022, and whether she knows it or not, she is greatly looking forward to spending her summer on the shores of Lake Fairlee. She turned two months old this week, and is still deciding whether she wants to be a trunk baby or a plastic drawer baby. She has more clothes than all of us put together so, we'll see.

We have an amazing staff ready to welcome all our alumni at the reunion in June, and we hope as many of you as possible will make it to this fabulous weekend event. Camp is craving the love of its dedicated alumni to sing in the Dining Hall, shoot hoops on its courts, and dive into its lake. It may be one year late, but we will make up for lost time.

Ropes will be returning to our program area options. We were unable to run this program due to staffing shortages in 2021, so it's particularly exciting to bring it back this summer. We have some veteran campers who have moved to sr. staff who are eagerly taking over this program area. Get ready to zip-line, pass ships and dangle duo! Our returning head chef, Michelle, is excited to introduce food-based programs for those of our campers who are more culinarily inclined.

- Anne & Sean



# Country Fair: The Breaks

Written by Elise Bragard

My first experience of an epic country fair reveal was in 2009. I had heard about some famous reveals of the past (or “breaks” as we came to refer to them). Jay Lance riding in on a Lochearn horse. The cornbread food fight on Rainshadow. In 2009, I was a captain for the first time so I knew the theme already - The Billings Songbook (we were the Jet Planes) but at that point all we knew was that Country Fair would start at some point that Sunday after chapel. At lunch there was a tangible excitement in the air. Suddenly, Bob Green got up and rang his bell. We all quieted. He made a speech about the fact Tyler Gardner had put together an “unofficial songbook” that year which had been huge and so we were celebrating that. He turned on the music and we started having a dance party to all the big songs of the summer. Everyone was on their feet. The next song plays... it's Umbrella by Rihanna. A huge tune. We're all singing along at the tops of our voices. And then.... It starts to rain. Literally raining IN THE DINING HALL. The camp goes wild!! Bob and Ryan Burhans and the rest of the senior senior staff have actually laid hose pipes along every rafter and none of us noticed. Suddenly we are ALL Rihanna in a music video whipping our hair and hugging our co-counselors and cabin mates because we know this means Country Fair has begun.

The senior senior staff upped the ante again for my next two and final years as a counselor. In 2010, we were woken up in the middle of the night with “Flight of the Valkyries” blasting across Lake Fairlee. Fireworks were going off all over camp. All the campers and staff had to find their team by searching through 100s of floating rubber duckies with their names on them. In 2011, Country Fair broke on the night of Halloween (the theme was “Camp of the Living Dead”) and the senior senior staff had everyone digging through the beach volleyball court looking for prop eyeballs that had

their name and team on them. Legend has it the eyeballs of campers who never found their team are still lying under the sand to this day...

In 2012, for my first year as senior senior staff and therefore country fair judge, the break was one of the things I was most looking forward to planning. The theme was Natural Disasters and we had the idea that we would wake the camp up in the middle of the night. They would experience each team's theme in some way: the Clocktower lawn was strewn with giant branches and debris from an \*Earthquake\*, Jay Lance created a \*Volcanic\* eruption of glowing lava on the big rock, Casey Huling and Willie Crocker managed to get hold of some giant industrial fans from someone in town for the \*Hurricane\*, and Tyler and Sean Collins dropped an \*Avalanche\* of foam “snowballs” from the ceilings of the dining hall to create a \*Blizzard.\* All while dramatic music and footage played on the projector. This was also the year we solidified “Flight of the Valkyries” as the official signal that Country Fair was beginning. So much so that I think a lot of people will immediately tense up as soon as they hear that song. It happened to me recently while I was strolling around the Upper West Side... like spidey senses.

The next summer, after putting everyone through actual hell for the break, we wondered how we could make it slightly more enjoyable for everyone involved... The theme was “Billings goes to Hollywood” so of course we had movie night. We told the campers there was some sort of biohazard going on with the septic tank so they HAD to stay in Dartt Hall. The cover story was necessary so that our crew could set up a giant cinema light box on the dining hall and the Hollywood letters on the big rock (Jay secretly building various large items in the apartment above the maintenance shop in the lead up to CF was becoming somewhat of a tradition). Meanwhile, the eight captains had been driven down the road to the local church where a stretch



# Country Fair: The Breaks

limousine was waiting to bring them to camp and be introduced on our red carpet. That year, everyone had to find their name and team on a mini Oscars statuette. The next year began our mischievous relationship with Brian Boland at the Post Mills airport, and one of the reasons I wanted to write this article as he sadly passed away last year. In 2014, with our Mystical Creatures theme, we had the idea of having a hot air balloon take off from camp. Brian was game - he moved the early morning launch of one of his booked air balloon flights to Billings. His clients got an extra special balloon ride that day as they watched Bob tip out 100s of mini frisbees once they were as high as the trees - all with the names and teams of each camper. A few years later, Brian eagerly agreed to roll onto camp on his giant wooden fire breathing dragon for our Storybook theme as campers looked on in awe. Brian was always so game when he got the knock on the door from Tyler, Casey or Sean as they filled him on whatever crazy idea we had concocted. Some of our best breaks were those where we

roped in members of the Upper Valley community who would ask "You want us to do what?? One of our most outlandish breaks (and the one that got us the most noise complaints!!) was in 2015, when the camp was woken up at 7am to a live rock concert from a local band!

When I ask myself why I love reminiscing about the Country Fair breaks so much, I realize it's because they encapsulate a lot of what being a Billings staff member is. It's the camaraderie of brainstorming meetings, throwing insane ideas out there that you think are impossible, only to be told "Why not?" It's hearing stories of the campers (looking at you Henry) who were already wide awake at 5am just waiting to hear Flight of the Valkyries then bolting out the door. It's the absolute joy of watching campers (and staff!) running across camp and then jumping around hugging their new team mates. And it's working together with a team and asking the question: "What can we do this summer that is going to create the next magical experience for our campers?"



# Country Fair Memories

## Elise Bragard

### **Favorite past Country Fair theme?**

Billings Arts Camp - this was my first ever country fair and I'm still in awe about the creativity of those teams. Carly Green's Roadies and Techies skit still sticks in my memory. Band Geeks for life.

### **Favorite Country Fair activity you participated in?**

The first ever rope burn we did when we had eight large fires burning on Rainshadow - it was pretty awesome. But also the Marathon is always so epic and the event I most wished I could have participated in had I been a camper.

### **If you could put one friend in the dunking booth, who would it be and why?**

Kate Ellicott. My truest Country Fair rival. xxx

### **Share the names of teammates you remember from Country Fair!**

Writing songs with Anne Collins. Jordan Redell leading the "get on my yellow" cheer for Band Geeks. Marley and David winning the balloon toss for the Mummies while the whole camp was rooting against us. Dan Eb giving an epic pump up speech before the tides started to turn for the Super Sweet 16ths.



## Perrin Cothran Chick

### **Favorite Country Fair activity you participated in?**

Kissing booth, of course

### **If you could put one friend in the dunking booth, who would it be and why?**

Willie Crocker, because he hates water.

## Beth Freitas Crocker

### **Favorite past Country Fair theme?**

I believe there was a theme of Vegetables - definitely interesting for cheers!

### **Favorite Country Fair activity you participated in?**

I loved the booths and grease pole when I was a camper. The marathon was always a blast as a staff member - thankfully I was never in the pie eating!

### **If you could put one friend in the dunking booth, who would it be and why?**

Paul Behar - back in the day, he didn't like swimming and even though that has changed now that he's an adult, it would still bring back fun memories.

### **Share the names of teammates you remember from Country Fair!**

There are so many from all my years that I couldn't mention just a few - from my fellow campers back in the 80-90's, co-counselors/captains cheering on our teams to the many campers on teams as staff.





# Country Fair Memories

## Andy Schneider

### **Favorite past Country Fair theme?**

I don't remember which summer it was, maybe 2007, but the theme was "tabloid personalities." Teams included "Brangelinas," "Lindsey Lohans," and my team, the "Donald Trumps." I acknowledge this was much funnier in 2007.

### **Favorite Country Fair activity you participated in?**

I always loved the final mega relay race at the end, which I guess was appropriated from the now-defunct Color War. Everyone on the team participated, and there was so much strategy figuring out where everyone's talents could be best utilized.

### **If you could put one friend in the dunking booth, who would it be and why?**

David Peskin, of course. Partly because he's a very average swimmer, partly because he's a good sport, but mostly because David Peskin is the best answer to all truly great questions.

### **Share the names of teammates you remember from Country Fair!**

I was lucky enough to team up with many friends over the years, but my favorite was when my little sister, Erica, and I were on the same team in 2003. I don't believe we were particularly successful, but it was memorable nevertheless.

## Elissa Malcolm

### **Favorite past Country Fair theme?**

My favorite country fair theme was vegetables. There may have been fruits, too, but it was long ago enough that it's a little fuzzy.

### **Favorite Country Fair activity you participated in?**

My favorite activity was the pie eating portion of the staff relay. I tried to drool as much of the pie down my tshirt as I could... or smear it into my hair, so that I didn't have to eat as much to finish. Gross and entertaining!

### **If you could put one friend in the dunking booth, who would it be and why?**

I would probably have to put Willie Crocker in the dunking booth. Willie doesn't like the water so it would be like trying to give a cat a bath.

### **Share the names of teammates you remember from Country Fair!**

Russell Booth and Meredith Gaffney were my teammates on Team Radish!



## Adrian Doyle

### **Favorite past Country Fair theme?**

Inter-camp relations

### **Favorite Country Fair activity you participated in?**

Late night boating

### **If you could put one friend in the dunking booth, who would it be and why?**

Larry Drew (RIP). He knows why. :)

### **Share the names of teammates you remember from Country Fair!**

I kind of remember Tor Parker on my team.

# Country Fair Memories: Anne & Sean

## Favorite past Country Fair theme?

**Anne:** Bizarre olympic sports. I was on the race walkers. We were orange, recreated a scene from Zoolander for our final skit and won! The winner was revealed by raising a flag covered in a trash bag up the Clocktower before the bag was pulled down and an orange flag was revealed. Tyler Gardner (the captain) made me run up Potato Hill in the Around the Lake relay. I felt guilty for walking about 100 yards in. Other teams included the synchronized swimmers and the fencers.

**Sean:** The first one I remember is barnyard animals, I was on the horses. My favorite theme was reality television shows. I was on the Sweet Sixteens. We competed against the America's Next Top Models, The O.C. (not an actual reality television show), and The Survivors.

## Favorite Country Fair Activity you participated in:

**Anne:** When I was 500 years old (26) I participated in my final Country Fair. Apparently directors aren't allowed to be on a team! We have introduced a staff freestyle dance to the competitive square dance on the first night. Every year a new popular song is named, and two staff from every team have to choreograph a dance. This year was *Can't Stop the Feeling* by Justin Timberlake, and I was on team Count Chocula (the theme was cereal). It was such a blast to choreograph, and even more fun to perform. We won first place in the dance competition and even though it was exhausting because they restarted the song at least three times, it was an absolute blast.

**Sean:** During the staff heptathlon Cam Carlyle's team was in last place. He gets onto the canoe, everyone other team is already on their way back, and just passes everyone. He was so strong he broke the canoe paddle, but still managed to go from last to first. I may have been a contestant, I may have been a judge, but either way it was so exciting.

## If you could put one friend in the dunking booth, who would it be and why?

**Anne:** Bob Green, because he hates getting wet.

**Sean:** Bob Green, because he hates getting wet.

## Share the names of teammates you remember from Country Fair?

**Anne:** This is a tough question, as I've played so many times. One significant teammate I remember is Sean. He was the team captain of Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoats. The theme was camp musicals, and we were orange. I've been orange at least four times. I would say that was the beginning of our friendship!

**Sean:** Every person that's ever been to camp. Can't wait to see you all in June!



## Official Registration Form

### **Camp Billings 115th Reunion June 17-19, 2022**

You can also register online at [campbillings.campbrainregistration.com](http://campbillings.campbrainregistration.com). Please use the online registration if you would like to pay by credit card or PayPal.

Primary Contact Name	
Address	
Email	
Phone	

#### **Rates**

Option	Included	Price per adult	Price per child*
Option 1	Full weekend with accommodations	\$125	\$75
Option 2	Full weekend (except accommodations and breakfasts)	\$80	\$40
Option 3	Saturday afternoon/evening	\$40	\$25

*\*Children 8-18. Children 7 and under are free. Please register your children, even if you're not being charged*

#### **Registrants**

Name	Decade(s) at camp	Adult	Adult over 21?	Child (include age)	Option (circle one)	Fee (\$)
					1 2 3	
					1 2 3	
					1 2 3	
					1 2 3	
					1 2 3	

**Total Due** \_\_\_\_\_

Special dietary, medical needs, etc.	
Cabin mate requests	
Would you like to volunteer?	<input type="checkbox"/> Volunteer for a program/activity (Arts & Crafts, athletics, etc) <hr/> <input type="checkbox"/> Volunteer for a specific camp duty (bathrooms, campus right) <hr/> <input type="checkbox"/> Volunteer for Country Fair Booth (Kissing booth, Dunk tank, balloon darts, etc) <hr/>
Do you want to perform at the campfire? Songs! Skits! Readings!	
What do you most look forward to doing at the reunion?	

Please make checks payable to: Camp Billings

If you wish to pay with a credit card or PayPal, please register online at [www.campbillings.org](http://www.campbillings.org), or

If paying by check, please send this form along with payment to:

Elissa Malcolm  
 20 Cream Pot Road  
 Hartland, VT 05048

Questions: Contact Elissa at [elissa.malcolm@gmail.com](mailto:elissa.malcolm@gmail.com)

We can't wait to see you at the reunion!



# REUNION: STAY & PLAY

## :::STAY:::

It's time to pull out your Camp Billings t-shirts, dust off your trunk, and sign up for the 115ish Camp Billings Alumni Reunion! Former campers, former staff, parents of campers and long-time Billings supporters, you are all part of the family and we are calling you home! No matter how many years you've been away, it's time to sign up for the reunion. Come back to the place where you always belong! There are three ways to participate in the Reunion:

**Option 1.** For the most authentic camp experience you will want to stay in one of the fine Billings cabins. Hear the gentle lapping sounds of Lake Fairlee as you fall asleep in your bunk and awake early to the sound of the bugle. Spend the entire weekend immersed in the sights and sounds and smells of summer at the camp we all love so well!

**Option 2.** If you desire a little more in the way of creature comforts, or if your young babies need a silent place to sleep, you may make your own arrangements for overnight accommodations, while spending the rest of the weekend at Billings. This includes access to all reunion activities and meals except breakfast.

**Option 3.** You also have the option of joining us for Saturday afternoon and evening only, still plenty of time to rekindle wonderful memories and celebrate the remarkable 115th anniversary of our Dear Old Camp!

## :::PLAY:::

### Friday, June 17, 2022

**1:00pm** Registration opens / COVID testing.

**1:00pm-4:30pm** Program Areas Open - Waterfront activities, arts and crafts, court games.

**5:00pm** Cocktail Hour - Join fellow alumni on Clocktower lawn and enjoy a signature cocktail by Max Overstrom Coleman!

**6:00pm** Dinner - Enjoy an amazing Italian meal prepared by Casey Huling and Sam Richman.

**7:00pm** Square Dance - Pack your best country outfit and come join us for some Pat-a-cake Polka and Virginia Reel.

**10:00pm** Taps & start of quiet time in designated areas.

**10:00pm** Adult Campfire - Gather 'round to reminisce about the day...and years...gone by.

### Saturday, June 18, 2022

**7:30am** Reville - "Rise and shine!"

**8:00am** Breakfast.

**9:00am** Camp Duties - Assigned by cabin.

**9:30am** Open Program Areas - Arts and crafts, scheduled soccer game, ultimate frisbee game, basketball, and waterfront activities, pontoon boat rides.

**12:00pm-1:30pm** Lunch, Reunion ceremony & camp photos.

**2:00pm-5:00pm** Country Fair - Come compete in tug of war, water balloon toss, sack race, three-legged race, egg toss, funny swim relay, paddle board relay, cup brigade, bucket filling and pie eating contest.

Then try your luck at the tin can toss, ring toss, bean bag toss, COVID-friendly kissing booth, grease pole and log saw competition.

**4:45pm-5:15pm** Free swim & cabin clean up.

**5:00pm** Cocktail hour. Join fellow alumni on Clocktower lawn and enjoy a NEW signature cocktail by Max Overstrom Coleman!

**6:00pm-7:00pm** Taco Night - Expertly crafted by Ben Bettinger and Max Overstrom Coleman.

**7:30pm-9:30pm** Campfire (Jacks Alive, talent show), Camp Billings triangle.

**10:00pm** Taps & start of quiet time in designated areas.

**10:00pm** Adult Campfire - Break out some campfire songs together!

### Sunday, June 19, 2022

**8:00am** Reville - Up and at 'em for our final day together.

**8:30am** Breakfast.

**9:30am** Camp Duties - Assigned by cabin.

**9:30am-11:30am** Open Program areas - Finish crafts in shop, final pontoon boat rides, waterfront - open swim.

**11:00am-11:30am** Chapel.

**12:00pm-1:00pm** Lunch.

**1:00pm-3:00pm** Check of cabins - Make sure cabins are camper-ready!

**3:00pm** Departure - Sad goodbyes on the Clocktower lawn.



# Silent Auction

## CAMP BILLINGS ALUMNI REUNION INAUGURAL SILENT AUCTION

*Help us...help camp!*

We are looking for donations to the first ever Camp Billings Silent Auction. No item is too big or too small. We are so lucky to have such diverse and talented alumni, and we are so excited to see what comes rolling in from you. Some helpful examples...a cooking lesson on Zoom, tickets to a performance, game or show, weekend property rental, or gift cards. Be creative or be practical.

Contact [alumni@campbillings.org](mailto:alumni@campbillings.org) with your donation information. Deadline for entries has been extended until June 1st, 2022.

Silent Auction will **begin ONLINE** starting **Friday, June 3rd, 2022** and **end** during the 115ish Camp Billings Reunion weekend on **Saturday, June 18th, 2022**. Items will also be available for viewing at the Reunion. Be on the lookout on our social media channels and website for a link to the ONLINE auction.

### A huge thank you to the alumni who have already donated items:

Kate Willis  
Jasmine St Laurent  
Shane Chick  
Roberta Thompson  
Shane Freshour  
Willie Crocker  
Marianne St Laurent  
Jonas Cole

Diane Howells  
Carly Green  
Alice Davis  
Robert Elliot  
Rebecca Sacks  
Perrin Cothran Chick  
Jon Cone  
Lisak Family

## JOIN IN ON A THEMED GIFT BASKET ORGANIZED BY YOUR GENERATION

*A theme initiative for the Silent Auction*

**Who:** Any Camp alumni can donate to their themed basket.

**What:** Each generation will present a themed basket that will be auctioned off during the 115ish Camp Billing Alumni Reunion's Silent Auction. If you were born in:

1940's, 1950's & 1960's --- Donate travel themed items

1970's & 1980's --- Donate pet lover themed items

1990's & 2000's --- Donate spa & self-care themed items

**Where:** Please mail donation items prior to June 1st, 2022 to:

Camp Billings Alumni Committee  
60 Apple D Or Rd.  
Framingham, MA 01701

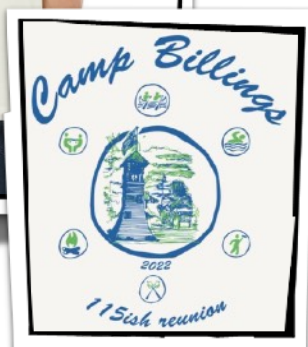
**When:** Mail before June 1st, 2022.

# :~::~: REUNION CAMP STORE :~::~:



Made by a local Rochester, NY artist Anita Serafin (Crazy About Glass), friends with our fellow alumni Jennifer Ciarmoli.

↓ **Exclusive to the Reunion Camp Store ONLY** ↑  
*\*Yeah...book your Reunion ticket, you know you want one!*





# Reunion COVID-19 Policies

*Please note this Policy is subject to change.*

For 116 years Camp Billings has operated with the primary goal of providing a safe and fun summer camp experience for children ages 8-15. As we plan and prepare for the 115ish Alumni Reunion this June 17-19, 2022, we want to share with our alumni what our current thinking is regarding COVID policies and procedures. As we have all learned throughout the last two years, our planning requires us to remain nimble and flexible. Our policies may need to change or evolve over the spring depending on the pandemic environment at any given time. Our intent is to provide you with a framework for how we are approaching planning for the reunion ahead.

For the Alumni Reunion in 2022, our primary objective is to provide both as safe and as “normal” of a Camp Billings experience as possible for all of our alumni, their families and the 2022 Camp Billings staff. The policies and procedures that we implement will be guided by the American Camping Association (ACA), Vermont Camping Association (VCA) and federal and state guidance from the CDC and Vermont Department of Health.

Below is a list of common questions. Our answers will give you a framework for how we are planning for the summer. If conditions or guidance changes as the spring unfolds we may also adopt different policies at Camp Billings for the 115ish Reunion weekend.

## 1) Will Covid vaccines be required for reunion attendees?

Camp Billings will be requiring all eligible alumni, their families and staff to be fully vaccinated and up to date against COVID-19 per CDC definition in order to attend the alumni reunion this summer. **Proof of vaccination will be required one month prior to the June 17-19, 2022 reunion.** Our top priority is to deliver an exceptional and authentic Camp Billings experience for all campers this summer, and we believe the best way to assure this experience is to have as many Reunion attendees as possible vaccinated against COVID-19. The reunion attendees will be in close contact with the 2022 summer staff which will see campers a week after the reunion. Adding this precaution will ensure the camp summer will start as safe as possible. If you have questions or concerns about getting vaccinated, we encourage you to consult with your primary care physician.

Religious or medical exemption requests will be assessed by Camp Billings leadership on a case-by-case basis. If you or your family member is granted an exemption to the vaccination policy, additional precautions will be required in order to attend the reunion, not limited to but including: additional testing, masking requirements, and eating arrangements. In addition, camp will continue to adhere to CDC guidance regarding isolation and quarantine protocols for close contacts; unvaccinated alumni/family members who are close contacts will be required to depart camp as soon as possible. Camp Billings has standard exemption forms that must be completed in order to be considered for an exemption. Completed exemption request forms must be submitted no later than April 30th, 2022. Please reach out to the Camp Billings Alumni Chair to learn more about this process at [alumni@campbillings.org](mailto:alumni@campbillings.org).

**To provide proof of vaccination:**

**If you registered online, please upload a photo or PDF into your online registration.**

**If you registered with the paper form, please email a photo or PDF to [elissa.malcolm@gmail.com](mailto:elissa.malcolm@gmail.com).**

# Reunion COVID-19 Policies

*Please note this Policy is subject to change.*

## **2) What type of COVID testing will be in place?**

At this time we are planning to conduct “gateway” testing for reunion attendees to enter camp. While this may shift it is intended to give our reunion attendees a framework to plan around.

All reunion attendees are strongly recommended to come to camp with a negative PCR or antigen rapid test for which the sample was taken 3 days prior to arrival at camp. Alumni are encouraged to schedule the tests with enough time to receive results.

B. On the day of your first arrival at camp (Friday or Saturday), each reunion attendee will take a rapid antigen test. Once a negative rapid antigen test is determined, the attendee will proceed through the remainder of the check-in process.

C. If you are staying off camp and leaving for the night, you will not be required to retest with a rapid antigen test.

D. Rapid antigen test kits – Camp Billings may be able to procure tests for all reunion attendees to purchase upon arrival but if not, you will be asked to come with your own rapid antigen test. We will send out further information in advance so that attendees can plan.

## **3) What will be the mask policy at Camp Billings for the reunion?**

At this time we are not planning to require vaccinated reunion attendees to wear masks at camp. We may ask those with medical or religious exemptions to wear masks. Children too young to be vaccinated will not be required to wear masks.

Anyone who wants to wear a mask should feel comfortable to do so.

## **4) What happens if a reunion attendee tests positive for COVID leading up to the reunion?**

If a reunion attendee receives a positive result on the PCR or Antigen rapid test the week of the reunion or on the rapid gateway testing to enter camp, the reunion attendee will not be able to attend the reunion. Reunion attendees who test positive prior to the week of the reunion (5+ days before reunion), may arrive at camp after 5 days of isolation at home and with a negative result from a rapid antigen test. As with all attendees, a rapid test will be confirmed upon arrival to camp.

If you would like to withdraw your reunion attendance, we will refund your registration fee.

**Please note this policy is subject to change**

**Any questions on the Camp Billings 115ish Reunion COVID policies, please contact the Alumni Chair at [alumni@campbillings.org](mailto:alumni@campbillings.org).**



# Alumni Updates

Maggie Barry submitted for **Kelsi Barry, camper, CIT and counselor from 2001-2009**, triangle of honor nominee, wonderful sister, and current San Francisco business woman, is getting married to, sweet southern and tech savvy Adam Williams in 2022. After a long engagement because of COVID these two are finally tying the knot in Puerto Vallarta! Kelsi's younger sister and fellow Billings alumni is taking 2022 off from working in Colorado as an archaeologist for the Forest Service to complete a long time dream to hike the Appalachian Trail!



**Russ Booth** applied for and got a new job as the Principal of the high school in his town of Mansfield, MA. Russ says, "I've been the Assistant Principal at another school for the last 5 years and I'm excited to start this new job." **Olivia Echegaray Guy** married Seamus Guy in August 2021 and got a new job as Executive Director at Temple Shalom of the South Bay in Hermosa Beach, CA. She hopes to be able to come to the reunion this summer!

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## CAMP STORE INFORMATION

A Reunion t-shirt is included with each Reunion guest registration. Additional Reunion t-shirts (and other merchandise) will be available for purchase at camp over the Reunion weekend.

For other CB merchandise, visit the online camp store at [www.campbillings.org](http://www.campbillings.org) now.  
Reunion t-shirts to be available online after the Reunion weekend.



## Members of the Board

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**Send us your updates! We want to hear from you. Let us know where you're living, what you do for fun or for work and anything else you want to share!**

**E-mail us at:**

**[alumni@campbillings.org](mailto:alumni@campbillings.org)**

**or**

**Send us mail at:**

Clocktower Times  
Camp Billings Newsletter  
60 Apple D Or Rd.  
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