



The Clocktower Times

Alumni Newsletter

*Echoes of the chimes of our time.
Spring 2023*

Hello CB Family,

Many of us remember when Operation Rock Drop was ushered in and quickly became a new camp favorite, while other Evening Programs like Biffers and Medics or Grab Bag have remained a camp staple for decades. In this edition, we've attempted to illustrate that while some things change, many other things do remain the same! To do this we asked YOU and your next generation campers four questions to juxtapose with one another.

We hope this captures the best of the old and the best of the new at Camp Billings, and that it also shows what is shared and loved between generations. It's very special to be able to share the common experiences of Camp with a family member. There is a sense of just 'knowing'. Because of this, at least in our family's case, morning grace or a rousing rendition of The Ship Titanic together doesn't ever need to wait until the summer.

With love,

Amy Cone Glidden & Meredith Cone



Skye Clunie (camper 10's, staff '23), Kevin Clunie (staff 80's and 90's), Mia Chick (camper 10's, staff '23) & Perrin Cothran Chick (camper 80's, staff 90's and 00's).



Harley Freitas (camper '23), Johnner Freitas (camper 70's, 80's and 90's, staff 90's).



Jack, Oliver, Theo, Anna (campers 00's & 10's) & Wendy (Phillips) Lance (staff 90's, 00's, 10's).

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Greetings from the Board...

By Andy Schneider, Board President

Greetings Fellow Alumni!

The Camp Billings Board of Directors has been hard at work over the past twelve months drafting and redrafting a new strategic plan that we hope to share with the community in the coming months. The process has been rigorous, rewarding, and insightful. Creating a strategic plan challenged us to think about Camp Billings across many generations, what has made this such a special place over the past 116 years, and how to position our camp so that we can continue to have the same level of impact on the next generation of campers and staff.

As we workshopped language and ideas trying to capture the special sauce of Camp Billings, it was easy to think of the moments that encapsulate the best of who we are: the nervous teenager that comes out of their shell performing at Battle of the Bands, the Cabin 5 camper that passes the float test on the fourth try, the Cabin 9 camper who summons the courage to go off the high dive, the upper-class suburbanite learning to plunge a toilet and mop a floor for the first time, the Cabin 15-er who finally gets up on waterskis his last year as a camper, and the new international staff learning to polka to Gloria at the square dance. So many of these moments look similar across generations of Billings alumni, and honing in on those moments was a valuable exercise for the Board of Directors as we put pen to paper on what truly makes Billings special. When I think about some of my absolute favorite moments at camp, so many

of them took place during meal time when our entire community was together. To me, the dining hall is the absolute centerpiece of the Camp Billings experience across so many generations of alumni.

A great strategic plan maps out not just where we are going, but also where we came from. Wherever Camp Billings is headed in its future, we will always be anchored by the generations that came before us, and I'm proud to be a part of a previous generation of Camp Billings alumni now contributing for the next generation. We look forward to inviting all members of our alumni community into these exciting conversations as our strategic plan crystallizes and we work together to make Billings even better for the next generation.

Your Friend and Fellow Alumni,
Andy



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

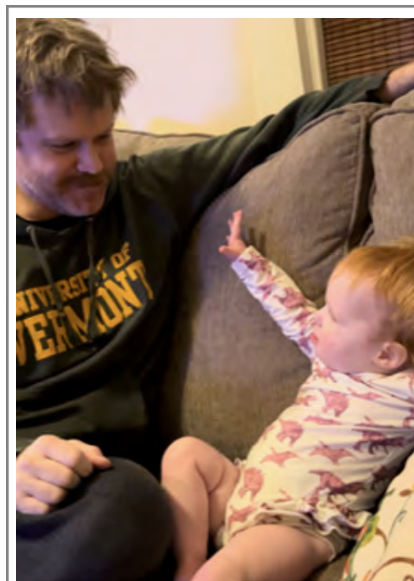
There are just under two months until Sr. Counselors arrive at Camp to dust off the cobwebs, and get ready to welcome campers, new and old, to Billings! We are so excited to report that camp is FULLY booked! Having returned to full capacity, and our normal four, two-week sessions, we are thrilled to be running camp under more “normal” circumstances—not that there’s anything normal about Billings.

We have had a busy year with both Anne and Sean teaching High School History (not together), and Teddy starting daycare. She is up and running, and is looking forward to cruising around camp in her new sneakers. Teddy will be 18 months old at the start of camp and can’t wait to jump into Lake Fairlee. She has been thriving at swim lessons all year in preparation for her lake debut. High dive? Maybe not yet, baby girl!

We are so excited for this summer and, as we put Covid lockdown in our rearview mirror, we are able to ramp up our international staff. This summer we have twelve international staff members representing Scotland, England, Canada, Zambia, Guatemala, and Mexico. Sadie Jones returns to head up the CIT program, and Gabrielle Ellicott joins us again to safely run the waterfront. Henry Lang continues to be our Program Director and improve our everyday program experience. This summer we are excited to introduce a new circus program area! We have three professional circus performers and educators joining us from Zambia to bring some new exciting program opportunities!

Camp is looking wonderful, and June is just around the corner. We hope to see you all soon inside the white gates!

As the theme of this issue is “The Next Generation” we thought we’d each answer, and let Teddy answer for herself.



Favorite evening program?

Anne: Capture the Flag, every time

Sean: Hot take, Grab Bag

Teddy: Biffers and Medics

Favorite camp song?

Anne: There's a Hole in the
Bottom of the Sea

Sean: We Had a Chicken

Teddy: Harlan Goat

Favorite program area?

Anne: Tennis/Athletics aka knockout

Sean: Archery

Teddy: Colors, loves being in the
center

Favorite camp meal?

Anne: Tied between ground beef tacos
and quesadillas

Sean: Chicken Caesar Salad with
breadsticks

Teddy: Strawberries, always
strawberries! (we told her it wasn't a
meal, but she insisted)

Talkin' 'Bout MY Generation

Elena Kennedy (camper 90's and staff 00's), Brianna Raymes (camper and staff 00's, 10's), and Ollie Kennedy (camper 20's)

Favorite evening program?

All (we really are related!) - Biffers and Medics (so fun, yet so oddly terrifying)

Favorite camp song?

Elena: Toss up between Leaving on a Jet Plane and Pink Pajamas

Brianna: Tavern in the Town

Ollie: O Canada

Favorite program area?

Elena: Waterskiing

Brianna: Skiing

Ollie: Tennis/Pickleball

Favorite camp meal?

Elena: Dixie Delights (it counts)

Brianna: Calzones + Salad Bar

Ollie: Taco night with choco tacos



Gaz Smith (staff 00's, 10's), Abi (camper 10's, 20's) and Maxwell Smith (camper 10's, 20's)

Favorite evening program?

Gaz: Rock Drop, there's an electricity around camp that builds every time it's announced

Abi: The Musical or Biffers & Medics

Maxwell: The Musical!

Favorite camp song?

Gaz: Leaving on a Jet Plane, it breaks your heart when you leave, but fills you with joy when you hear it outside those white gates

Abi: Puff the Magic Dragon

Maxwell: The Ship Titanic

Favorite program area?

Gaz: Brian Von Program, you make me another counselor who can entice a hundred kids to follow him around camp every day!

Abi: Tubing and Crafts

Maxwell: Tubing!!

Favorite camp meal?

Gaz: International Night, A culinary trip around the world made by our world famous chefs.

Abi: Pasta

Maxwell: The Cookout



Talkin' 'Bout MY Generation

Ceci (Stashwick) Fleming (camper and staff 80's, 90's & 20's) and Connor, Brendan, Stevie & Riley (campers 20's)

What is/was your favorite evening program?

Ceci: Square Dance

Riley: Rock Drop

Connor: Rock Drop

What is/was your favorite camp song?

Ceci: Country Roads in the dining hall, Gloria at a Square Dance, You Give Love a Bad Name on the waterfront docks

Riley: Take Me Home Country Roads

Connor: I Met a Bear

What is/was your favorite program area?

Ceci: Watersports

Riley: Waterskiing and Tubing or Ropes Course

Connor: High Dive Diving

What is/was your favorite camp meal?

Ceci: Full camp cookouts

Riley: Tacos

Connor: The cookout



Brooks (Parker) Day (camper 1981-83) and Tess Day (camper 2017-19, counselor 2023)

Favorite evening program?

Brooks: Capture the Flag

Tess: Biffers and Medics

Favorite camp song?

Brooks: Anything John Denver (Country Roads and Jet Plane), Ship Titanic, and I think the song was called Battle of New Orleans

Tess: Ship Titanic and Every Time We Touch

Favorite program area?

Brooks: Free Swim! I went on the overnight camping trips and loved it!

Tess: Drama

Favorite camp meal?

Brooks: I would say breakfast. I was a super picky eater so it was the one meal I knew there would be something I liked!

Tess: Dinner



Talkin' 'Bout MY Generation

Richard (1961-1967) and Eve Sussman (1999-2010)

Favorite evening program?

Richard: Capture the Flag

Eve: Rock Drop

Favorite Program area?

Richard: Sailing

Eve: Junior Program

Favorite camp song?

Richard: Down by the Riverside

Eve: Country Roads

Favorite camp meal?

Richard: Barbecue

Eve: Chicken Patties



Nina (Bettinger) Tallering (camper 80's & 90's and staff 90's) and Eva Tallering (camper 10's & 20's)

What is/was your favorite evening program?

Nina: Final Campfire

Ava: Halloween

What is/was your favorite camp song?

Nina: One Tin Solider

Ava: Leaving on a Jet Plane

What is/was your favorite program area?

Nina: Swim lessons!!!

Ava: Tubing

What is/was your favorite camp meal?

Nina: BBQ chicken

Ava: Country Fair food



Eva Tallering & Emily
Carroll



Nina Bettinger Tallering and
Ben Bettinger Jay Lance Jen
Holm Frederick



Eva (camper 10's & 20's)
& Jacob Tallering (camper
10's & 20's & staff 20's)

Talkin' 'Bout MY Generation

Charley Bradley (staff 80's & 90's), Jenn Bradley (camper 80's & staff 90's) and Abby Lacross (camper 10's)

What is/was your favorite evening program?

Charley: After-taps card games in the infirmary with John and Anne Freitas, Carol Miller, Jeannie Arbuckle, Marie Bernatchez, and Roger Bradley, waiting for Cabin 15 boys to ATTEMPT to duck under the window on their way to visit Cabin 1 girls...gotcha!

Jenn: Grab Bag was one of my favorite evening programs!

Abby: Square Dance or International Night

What is/was your favorite camp song?

Charley: There's a Hole in the Bucket, that Larry Drew and I would sing 🥰

Jenn: Favorite song has to be Ship Titanic, with the table banging (that we never did back then!)

Abby: County Roads

What is/was your favorite program area?

Charley: Shopping trips to MA or West Leb, with the ladies noted above, whenever we could sneak out for an afternoon or a couple days, in the Freitas VW van 🚐 (which was required to haul our purchases).

Jenn: Athletics in the afternoons, especially competing against other camps

Abby: Waterskiing or Archery

What is/was your favorite camp meal?

Charley: The "congratulations, we made it through another summer" meal that we had the night after all campers had left for the year! Also, any of the fabulous breads and granola that Marilyn Covey and team would make from scratch... delicious!!

Jenn: Favorite meal was either Marilyn's granola for breakfast or spaghetti with Tom's homemade bread. Yum!

Abby: Grilled Cheese



MULTI-GENERATIONAL CAMP FAMILIES



Liam and Sam Rosenbaum, Kate Freitas, Zaela Rosenbaum and John Freitas



Anna, Oliver, Jay, Theo and Jack Lance



Jennifer Ciarmoli Popovich & Liz Popovich

CB UPDATES

Alumni Update

An update on things happening in the life of the Chicks...**Shane Chick** - I am just about to complete my graduate studies in Educational Leadership at Southern New Hampshire University and will be certified to be a New Hampshire public school administrator. **Amelia Chick** travelled to Thailand this spring and volunteered at an elephant sanctuary; she also earned her lifeguarding and WSI certificates and will be spending the whole summer at camp this year as a first year CIT. **Perrin Chick**'s job at Maine Mathematics and Science Alliance continues to be rewarding and challenging in equal measures. She is also the glue that holds the family together and has taken on responsibilities in the Camp Store and will be filling orders from our house in Maine. I hope to see folks this summer as I will be helping Willie out in maintenance for all four sessions.



For a future edition of the CTT, the Editors are interested in hearing from YOU!

1. We're looking for a picture and story of your pets that are named after, or in honor of, something Camp related.

&

2. What is your favorite session and why?

Please submit a picture and story of your 'pet's name' and/or your 'favorite session' to: alumni@campbillings.org.

We hope to hear from you and fill these pages with YOUR stories!



Next Gen Update



115th-ish Reunion Next Generation Attendees

Abigail **Harvey** Alba **Rossi** Alice **Davis** Allen **Jervey** Andrew **Schneider** Anton **Malko** B. **Rowley**
 Barbara Ward **Barwood** Ben **Bettinger** Ben **Cheney** Ben **Cohen** & Brian **Klaif** Ben **Richmond** Bob
Gloria Brian & Katie **Mulligan** Brian **Klaif** Carl **Rouch** Carolyn **Churchill** Carolyn **Flood**
 Catherine Ferron **Tremblay** Cheryl **Chafos** Christine **Matheu** Connie **Anderson** Daniel **Hay**
 Danny **Coane** Diane **Howells** Diane **Rossi** Dudley **Rice** Eleanor **St Laurent** Elissa **Malcolm** Eliza
Browning Elizabeth **Ossen** Ellen **Bompane** Emily **Clarke** Estate of Barbara **Crowley** Glenn **Peavy**
 Gordon **Bakoulis** Harold Jay **Shortsleeve** Henry **Meyer** Hunter **Churchill** Jackie **MacDonald**
 James **Day** James **Roser** Jeanne **Bergman** Jessica **Pepitone** Jim **Gately** Joan **Mason** Joe & Dawn
Hameline Joe & Mary **Flintosh** Joe **Deffner** Joey **Terry** John & Jennifer **Lisak** John **Buskey** John
Picarello Judge **Walter** Judy Freitas **Peppin** Juliana **Lebowitz** Julie **Flynn** Kate Farrell **Faulkner**

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 AND WE THANK YOU FOR CHOOSING CAMP BILLINGS!

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CAMP STORE

Support Billings By Shopping at Our Online Camp Store



Gifts from the camp store are always a big hit. Scan the QR code or visit <https://campbillings.org/store>

CB Suncatcher



\$25

As the sun shines brighter these days and we look forward to summer and camp's return, consider buying a limited edition, artisan made, CB suncatcher.

There are only 30 available. Be sure to check out the website to see the 8 awesome color choices.

115th-ish Reunion T-Shirt

Did you miss the 115th-ish reunion in 2022? Or lose your shirt? Worry not, you can still get these while they last! These Limited Edition t-shirts will not be reordered so get them while you can!

Available in light grey with front chest logo and hand designed clocktower picture on the back in royal blue and green print! Adult unisex sizes. 100% Cotton.



\$20

*"My eyes are dim.
I cannot see.
I left my glasses in
Cabin 3.
I think that I saw...
YOU!
At the old Camp
Billings Store."*



Spring has sprung and it's time to smell the roses...or...

- The smell of...rain on the courts.
- The smell of...Noxzema in the girls bathroom while shaving your legs in the trough.
- The smell of...the steam when opening the dishwasher in the Dishroom.
- The smell of...your towel after being on the line for a few days.
- The smell of...the pine trees that stood in front Cabins 5 and 6.
- The smell of...your favorite meal. Grilled cheese and tater tots. Yummy!
- The smell of...baby oil, Sun-In, and AquaNet.
- The smell of...AXE body spray before a dance.
- The smell of...the campfire.
- The smell of...the Clocktower Times you would get at camp in the 80's and 90's.
- The smell of...Lake Fairlee after waiting all summer to dive in.
- The smell of...the old ear rinse before swimming.



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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!

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