



THE KNOLL NEWS

William Lawrence Camp
108th Season 1913-2020

Volume —2020/2

visit us at: www.wlcamp.org
www.facebook.com/williamlawrencecamp

Fall 2020



Director's Message from Nat Crane:

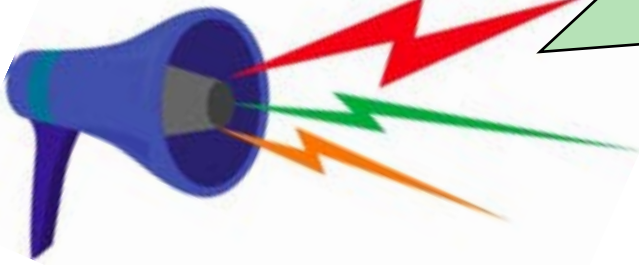
Although the sounds of happy campers were absent from the Knoll this summer, it was great to have Camp families utilizing the facility during our alumni weekends. We were essentially full for all the weekends, and families had a great time. But sorry, our goal is to not have our summer look like this again!

We engaged our campers with a session of **BROG** (formerly Blue/White) during the summer. Although we had hoped for greater participation, those who engaged had a lively competition with various challenges offered each week. The competition went down to the wire with the House of Rivers (orange) edging out the House of Forests (green). Leading up to the summer, we offered a weekly Camp trivia game through an application called Kahoot. It was a lot of fun, with the Crellin Family and Jonathan Hippenmeyer (Hippo) always at or near the top. Thanks to old friend Louis Doig for putting this together each week.



Our For Lawrence We Stand-COVID Relief Fund campaign is off to a strong start, and we thank all who have donated. It is critical that the donations continue as we are in need of cash flow to plan for and invest in next summer. Not receiving any revenue for the past year is a major blow to our ability to continue to operate, and we need your help as we prepare for the summer of 2021. We will also be asking you to donate to our usual Annual Fund as we will need to continue to spend dollars on facility projects, some of which will be related to COVID. All donations, big or small, are greatly appreciated.

(Director's Message continued on page 3)



We were all disappointed to lose a summer at Camp due to COVID. But, there will be Camp next summer! Submit your 2021 Camp application by December 1st to get your Early Enrollment Discount! Registrations are zero risk - all deposits/payments are 100% refundable until March 1st.

Don't forget to **light your WLC Candle** on Christmas Eve and rekindle your Camp memories!

Watch your email for news about our upcoming virtual Re-Zoom-ions!



Introducing QR Codes!

We are introducing the use of Quick Response Codes with this issue of the Knoll News. QR codes can be easily read using a cell phone camera. In our case, they will take you directly to specific sections of our website. Try them out!



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Looking for Lost Larrys!

Request for Personal Info

Call for all Larrys to update their information and preferences!

Please let us know your current postal address, preferred phone number, and preferred email address, as well as whether you want to receive the Knoll News electronically, on paper, or both.



Use this QR code to fill out the online form. Or visit wlcamp.org and click the link on the homepage under Lost Larrys.

(Director's Message continued from page 1)

As the fall progresses, we will be looking to learn from the few camps that opened this summer and will be prepared to implement best practices for the summer of 2021. Of course, a vaccine will be a game changer, but we must plan as if there will not be one. So much continues to evolve, but we are already a long way from where we were on June 1. For example, camps were required to do unpleasant deep-nasal testing multiple times of the entire camp population. The tests were expensive, and the results took days. This is no longer the case, with inexpensive, less intrusive rapid tests on the horizon. Cohort sizes were 10, essentially a cabin group. This is no longer the case.

We fully expect to run Camp next summer with a few changes to our session offerings. We still feel that creating a bubble is going to be a necessity, so we are most likely going to offer only two longer sessions. As of now, there will not be any shorter options. We strongly encourage you to take advantage of the early enrollment discount (December 1 deadline) and secure your spot. Check our website for updated information regarding dates and rates for summer 2021. It is anticipated that there will be strong demand for Camp next summer!

As you read this edition of the Knoll News, you will note references to a QR code. This stands for Quick Response. Essentially a barcode, when scanned using the camera on your mobile phone, it will open the link for viewing.

Thank you for your continued support of William Lawrence Camp during these challenging times. Please stay safe and enjoy the school year!

Virtual Open House Hosts Sought!

Are you missing Camp? Would you like to help spread the news about how great William Lawrence is and encourage families in your area to start their sons on a Bill Larry adventure?

We are currently looking for folks to step forward and help co-host Virtual Open Houses for Camp during the fall and winter. Thanks to the wonders of Zoom, you don't need to clean your house or make any food arrangements! We just need you to select a date, invite everyone you know with a son age 8-16, and share the Zoom link we provide. We will set up the meeting and send you the information. We will also provide the names of other potential co-host families in your area so that you can work together to reach out to potential attendees.

We attracted a number of new families with our in-person Open Houses the last few winters and hope to achieve similar results with this year's virtual sessions. We look forward to hearing from you!



Graham Pollard's Big Adventure

This summer, WLC Alum Graham Pollard completed the first-ever coast-to-coast crossing on an electric scooter. Graham says, "There is no way I would have the ambition and confidence to attempt this if it wasn't for my experience at William Lawrence Camp. I was a camper/counselor for 8 years and would not trade the good times had, the lessons learned and the people I met at Camp for the world. In the challenging times facing our country right now, I hope this scooter trip is the ultimate challenge that will unite some support for the Camp!"

As WLC Alum Alex Camerino wrote in his article *Propelled by Segway, First Person Scooters Coast to Coast* on snowbrain.com: "On August 25th, exactly two months after setting off, Graham Pollard became the first person to scooter across the United States. He completed the 4,000-mile journey on a Segway Ninebot KickScooter Max traveling at a max speed of 18.6 mph. The venture mostly followed the TransAmerica Trail, a bike route from coast to coast, crossing through about 10 states.

Chasing Pollard across the country, Christian Boyle and Brandon Bedford drove a 1990 Westfalia van with spare scooters, chargers, camping gear, and much more. For the scooter crossing, Segway gave the trio six electric scooters to use so they would not have to stop and recharge as often. The Ninebot scooters get about a 25-mile range. Graham says that even the large climbs they made, like Hoosier Pass (Colorado) and Lolo Pass (Montana/Idaho), were a piece of cake on the scooter."

Graham willingly put his body through physical pain, loyally remained committed to his goal, offered comradery to those on the journey with him and those whom he met on his journey, and showed his true sportsmanship by dedicating this immense physical feat to William Lawrence Camp. We are grateful and hope that, with your help, there will always be WLC Boys and Men making us proud.

Board of Trustees News

At the meeting of the WLC Corporation in March of 2020, Sharon Paul was elected as a Member of the Corporation and a Trustee. Sharon, formerly a resident of Dover, MA, now divides her time between Boston and southern Vermont. She has been an elementary school teacher, and she also has worked in educational publishing. Currently, she dabbles in freelance photography, as time allows. Sharon is married to Brian Paul and has three children in college. Son Dylan spent 11 years at WLC as a camper, LIT, and counselor, most recently in 2019. Daughters Alex and Katie attended Fleur de Lis Camp for several years.

At the meeting of the WLC Corporation in October of 2020, Jonathan White was elected as a Member of the Corporation and a Trustee. Jon lives in Auburndale, MA, and works in educational technology. He is married to Sarah White and has three children, Charlie, Lucy, and Gus. Charlie will be returning to WLC next summer for his 6th year as a camper. Jon was a WLC camper from 1983 to 1989 and was on staff in 1990 and 1992.

In other Board news, Bob Gallagher (former Secretary) and Steve Tingle (former Treasurer) both retired as Trustees and Members of the Corporation. In addition, Steve Weeks (former Treasurer) retired as a Member of the Corporation. Their many years of service are much appreciated!



In Memoriam

By Jon Haycock

William Lawrence lost a dedicated member of the Camp family on August 4, 2019, with the passing of former camper, counselor, and trustee, **Dick Shepardson**. Dick grew up in Wellesley, Massachusetts, graduating from Wellesley High School in 1950 and from the University of New Hampshire in 1954. After college he had a long and successful career in commercial real estate in the Greater Boston area with the Hunneman Company and his own Shepardson Group. He raised his son Peter, daughter Lynn, and stepsons Chris and Adam Arcoleo in Sherborn, MA.



Peter started as a camper in 1971, a year that found enrollment plummeting. Dick, along with another camper father, Bob Haycock, expressed concern to the Board, asking what they could do to help. The Board invited both men to become trustees that fall. The Board at that time was primarily made up of several older men, some who had served for forty to fifty years. A younger member, Steve Howe, felt that traditional residential summer camps were no longer popular with families and were dying out nationwide. He started to convince some of the members that, if the Camp's enrollment didn't improve, it should be closed. Unfortunately, 1972 found even fewer campers than 1971. Howe forced a summer vote which narrowly passed, stating that all of the Camp's assets would be given to The Episcopal City Mission, a branch of the Episcopal Diocese of Massachusetts. The Camp, while an independent entity, was founded by Episcopal lay people and ministers. As a non-profit, the Camp was required to donate all dissolved assets to another non-profit.

Word spread around Camp of its imminent doom and many Camp Family members in attendance vividly remember the words of Director Owen Carle at the end of the August candlelight service asking everyone to join in the singing of For Lawrence We Stand "for perhaps the last time."

Luckily, many made a stand to save the Camp. Owen Carle wrote a letter to camper families and alumni urging them to write to the Bishop of Massachusetts, urging him to continue the Camp as William Lawrence but Owen heard from back channels that the Bishop had no intention of doing so. Meanwhile, Trustees Dick Shepardson, Bob Haycock, and Orrin Wood (who had opposed closing the Camp) joined together to successfully convince Board members to rescind the offer and keep the Camp running as William Lawrence. (John Thorndike, whom we lost this past May 20, was another member who fought to keep the Camp alive.) Fortunately, a contract had not been signed so the Camp was back from the brink, Steve Howe resigned, and the three leading renegade Trustees took over the Executive Committee: Orrin Wood, President; Dick Shepardson, Treasurer; and Bob Haycock, Clerk.

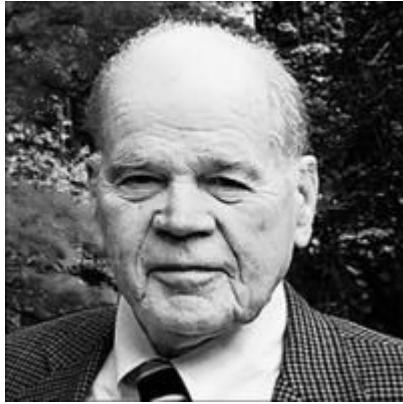
Dick used his marketing expertise to build a new recruiting slide show and brochure. He also organized recruiting meetings at his home. His stepson Chris started Camp in 1973, followed by brother Adam in 1974. Dick remained an active member of the Trustees until 1988. Without his dedication and vision, many boys would never have had the positive, life-changing experiences that William Lawrence Camp continues to offer to this day.

In his later years, Dick and his wife Jeanne retired to Sandwich, MA, and North Palm Beach, FL. He enjoyed sailing and playing the banjo during his free time. Thanks for everything, Dick. We hope you're sailing along! <https://www.dignitymemorial.com/obituaries/north-palm-beach-fl/richard-shepardson-8801587> .

(In Memoriam continued on page 6)



(In Memoriam continued from page 5)



John Lowell Thorndike, former Trustee and Treasurer of William Lawrence Camp, passed away on May 20, 2020 at the age of 93 from complications due to COVID. John was the subject of our Profile for the Fall 2019 Knoll News. A great-nephew of Bishop William Lawrence, we are eternally grateful for John's many years of service to Camp, and his great spirit will be missed by all who knew him.



For Lawrence We Stand - COVID Relief Fund - By the Numbers!

Campaign Donation Categories:

Thank you to all our donors! As of mid-September we have:

- 2 donors giving over \$20,000
- 9 donors giving between \$2,000 and \$5,000
- 39 donors giving between \$750 and \$1,500
- 91 donors giving between \$150 and \$550
- 93 donors giving between \$10 and \$100

Donate Now Using This QR Code



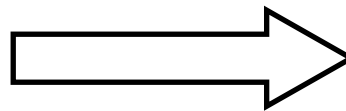
Please continue to donate so we can reach our goal of \$250,000 and 300 donors by December 1st.

Don't forget that contributions before December 31st have tax benefits for your 2020 tax return.

We accept donations in the form of check, credit card, stock, and contributions through your IRA.

Donate using the QR code above OR visit wlcamp.org and click Donate Now.

To see the full list of
For Lawrence We Stand
Donors, use this QR code



2020 Annual Fund Donor List

\$5,000 and Up

Copper Beech Foundation
Frank Smiddy

\$1,000 - \$4,999

Dave Arnold
Tobey & Mark Fidler
Bradford Greason
Neil & Martha Hulbert
Mark & Ellen Hyde
Joan Newell
Keith Schnaars
Eaton Vance, gift match for
Keith Schnaars
Willard Yankus

\$500 - \$999

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Alan & Sue Harding
Bill Laskin
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Robert Mackie & Family
Paul Rickel & Pamela Madden
Nathan Rothstein
Chris & Pam Sharpe
Lee Webster

\$250 - \$499

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Craig Curtis, IMO Larry "Chip" Curtis
Mark Evitts
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Paul Gallagher
Richard & Holly Goldman
Beatrice Handy

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Beatrice Handy
Christopher Hyde
Richard & Sandra Jenkins
Matthew & Rebecca Keane
Paul & Patricia King
Les McDowell
Thomas R Myers
Betsy Roguet
Rick Stoppe
Steve Weeks
David Witherspoon

Up to \$249

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Rob & Ann Swan
Edie & Joe Thompson
Marcel Trik
Christopher Wentzell
Patricia Wesolowski
Tom Winner

2021 Annual Fund is Underway

The 2021 Annual Fund is now underway. Make a plan to make your donation by December 31, 2020, to count in this year's charitable contributions on your taxes.



William Lawrence Camp
P.O. Box 52
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For Lawrence We Stand

2020 Covid-19 Relief Fund



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