



THE KNOLL NEWS

William Lawrence Camp
109th Season 1913-2021

Volume —2021/1

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Spring 2021



Director's Message from Nat Crane:

Bubbles, cohorts, PCR tests, laboratories, quarantining, isolation, masking, social distancing, vaccinations, CDC guidelines, Governor's task force, epidemiologists, DHHS, efficacy, transmission, variants, hybrid schedules, virtual learning, ZOOM, etc.; it's quite the new language we speak.

Every day, we are educating ourselves on the safest way to run a summer camp in the age of COVID. Yet there still remain many unanswered questions. What will be the effect of new strains? Does the vaccine prevent transmission? When will the State of NH issue guidelines for residential camps and how will those guidelines affect our operation? How did the few camps that opened last summer fare and what can we learn from them?

We are on the front line of these conversations. We meet regularly with other NH camp professionals, state agencies and medical professionals.

Webinars and ZOOM meetings related to COVID are part of our every day. As active leaders in the New Hampshire Camp Directors Association, we are helping to shape guidelines for camps in addition to creating our own policies and procedures for managing Camp in a COVID world. We will be as knowledgeable as any camp and are preparing best practices for this summer.

Camp is more necessary than ever this summer, but it will look a bit different. We are already an outdoorsy active camp, but there will be even more emphasis on being outside. This may mean that certain indoor activities, think fly tying and the weight room, will be limited or we will have to be creative. We're looking into renting tents in order to move some of these activities outside. This summer, we will also be eating outside as long as the weather will allow. We'll likely eat family-style versus buffet. We'll be asking all campers to bring a folding chair that includes a tray. We will need a lot of picnic tables. We are developing dining and activity procedures for rainy days to limit indoor exposure. We're also looking at touchless water bottle filling stations and enhanced ventilation in all buildings, including outfitting each cabin with a small solar system to drive gable fans for ventilation.

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We changed our offerings to two three-week sessions to secure a viable bubble. There will be extensive COVID testing: a negative test prior to arrival, a test upon arrival and then a test five days in. There will be quarantining expectations prior to arrival. Our staff will arrive two weeks prior to campers to insure that we have a virus-free staff cohort. We expect to place campers in cohorts for most of Camp, and we will require masks and social distancing only when in all-Camp settings. Drop-offs will be different, what is now known as 'kiss and go.' We will have a week of no campers between sessions to give cabin staff a few days off, since other time off will have to be spent in Camp (irrespective of vaccines). We'll be rearranging how we use certain spaces, whether it be for staff time off, potential need for isolation rooms or indoor dining. We're investing in higher-speed internet so staff can have access to WiFi during their time off.

We are committed to running Camp in 2021 and know that it is doable and it is necessary. There will be operational challenges and there will be costly COVID-related expenses. We are encouraged by our enrollment numbers but concerned about having enough staff to take more campers. The International pool is significantly diminished. Empty beds would be a shame in a world where every child needs camp. Please continue to support us financially and spiritually, and, if you know any fine young men who would want to work at Camp this summer, please send them our way.

What a year it's been, but Camp is on the horizon, a place where we go back to speaking our own language of Juniors, Middlers, Seniors, LITs, JLs, LGT, WSI, WooFA, GSR, Woodsman, Honor Society, Council Ring, siesta, Free Swim, waysides, Hole Diggin' and more.

If you are interested and able to help open Camp this spring, please contact Nat.

Calling All Campers, LITs and Staff!

Our camper enrollment is strong and we expect a late push that we hope we can accommodate. If you know anyone who is interested, please let us know. Jess is scheduling virtual Open Houses. Please give her a call if you'd like to host one.

We had very strong early enrollment in our Leader in Training program with 10 applicants. This will be one of the larger groups in recent years. They're all great guys. If you are currently in the 10th grade and are interested in being an LIT, we can accept 4 more. This bodes well for the future.

With the pool of new internationals limited and our domestic guys largely non-committal about their summer plans, we are looking for some guys who would like to have an enriching summer helping kids play and grow. Please ask referrals to contact Nat.

In an attempt to keep our database as up-to-date as possible, we are asking that you complete a Lost Larrys form on the website. This is especially important for any of our younger alumni whose parents' information may be the only info we have or any staff who may have given us college information but have now graduated.



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Goose Droppings...

Last summer was a difficult and long summer for me. I don't know if you heard, but there was this pandemic and they closed Camp. I wouldn't be surprised if you didn't notice; they kept a pretty good lid on it. Well, anyway, that left me with a summer with not a lot to do. I know what you're thinking. What are you talking about, Goose? A free summer all to yourself? How can that not be great? Well, Mr. Rhetorical Questions, it wasn't.

There are certain things you only know that you'll miss when they're gone. Sure, there are obvious things that you'll miss. Like Archery and Riflery. I tried setting up a rifle range at my house, but that all fell apart when Elliott threw me out of his room. I played bugles over my bluetooth speaker at seven a.m. Plot twist: Nobody enjoyed that. I attempted to put a game of Capture the Flag together with a group of people, but apparently the Wolfeboro Police Department is just too busy to spend time with the people they are meant to protect and serve. When I grow up, they're going to wish they had that time back. Dining Hall chants at the dinner table? Just makes for a lonely dinner. But it's always the little things that are the big things at Camp, and all those good, big things involve *togetherness*.

So as we round the corner of another winter and start heading toward the sun again, I am really looking forward to getting back on the Knoll with all of you. Yes, things will probably feel a little different. We will have to take safety precautions that will probably look familiar from other walks of life, and we'll have to figure out some things along the way. Potentially masking at first, some added social distancing, and perhaps a safety helmet for Nat. But my guess is that, after a few days, it will feel like the Camp we know and love, and we'll get back down to the business of making me feel old and out of shape.

I mean, think about it. Hasn't Camp always been about problem solving and getting past obstacles? How is this any different? And we'll be doing it *together*. So in my book, it makes it all worth it. So let's put our Positive Attitude Hats on. You know, the one with the propeller and the visor that's not quite ever pointing straight forward. (You go, Gen Z!) And when we all show up, we'll push through the minutiae to the good stuff. See you there!

For Lawrence We Stand-COVID Relief Fund Update

When we first assessed the damage of losing the 2020 camp season, it was clear that the cupboards would become quite bare, leaving our future in serious jeopardy. We also assumed that the financial impact would be contained to one season, which we now see is not the case. In addition to our FLWS Campaign, we have aggressively pursued Federal funds. This includes a significant Small Business Administration loan, as well as dollars through the Cares Act. We are also relying on a successful Annual Fund.

We are getting closer to our grassroots goal of \$250,000. As of this writing, we had raised approximately \$200,000 for the FLWS campaign. This came from close to 375 individual donors. One of our goals continues to be to reach 500 individual donors, irrespective of the amount. We'd also like to encourage recurring donations where a smaller donation is made monthly through your credit card. We are so grateful to all who have donated and certainly encouraged by the number of people participating in the campaign. If you've been meaning to give but it keeps slipping your mind, here's your gentle reminder. Let's reach our goals and secure the future of William Lawrence Camp.

Donate here →





Spotlight Profile: Lester McDowell

Learned at Camp, Used Through Life



If you've attended a work weekend in the past 20 years, you've probably seen Les lending a helping hand. Les has been involved with Camp since a young age, and the lessons he learned at Camp have stayed with him as he has transitioned through a very interesting life!

As a Medford, MA boy, Les started his camp career at O-At-Ka. After three summers, his family decided that William Lawrence Camp was a better value. Les and his brother, Dean, started attending WLC as campers in 1949. He says the two camps were entirely different worlds. WLC felt comfortable, like a Chevy. You may even remember Les as a Service Aide. After William Lawrence, Les went on to work at a camp in Maine for one summer. His camp career didn't end there though. While in college, Les attended "handyman camp." He learned practical skills while helping his cousin complete summer resort maintenance.

Les has always had a love for sports. He watched all sports and played soccer for a number of years in Andover, MA. At Camp, he was "not into camp craft," he was a sports guy through and through. It was at Camp that he got his basis for sports. Les liked competition so much that he attended all that he could at Camp. This included swimming, baseball and riflery matches. It was on the rifle range that Les met his best friend, Roy Henderson, who was the head of the range. It wasn't until college that Les discovered what would become a lifelong sport for him: hockey. Les learned to skate at Middlebury College in Vermont where he played intramural hockey simply because it was more fun. He played in the Army and on a team of work colleagues in later years. In fact, Les continues to play hockey now, albeit with a short break for chemotherapy to recover from Non-Hodgkin's Lymphoma in his hip.

Besides hockey, Les' other passion is experiencing life. To ensure he was never bored, Les followed his interests and what he felt was needed. A member of the ROTC in college, he was commissioned when he graduated and was stationed in the U.S. He was in the reserves for one year while working as a bank teller in Washington, D.C. He was then given a temporary duty assignment at Fort Lee in Virginia. In the summer of 1960, Les was assigned to a Quartermaster Company at Fort Devens in Massachusetts. After a summer at Camp Drum, now Fort Drum, in New York, he returned to Ft. Devens as the Commissary Officer. After the military, Les went on to earn his MBA at Harvard. From there, he stayed in Massachusetts and worked in various sales positions for seven years. After leaving sales in computer time-sharing, Les went back to working in a bank, this time in bank operations, for another seven years. But then he saw a need for programming, so he taught himself and changed careers. From there Les went on to work for software service companies, primarily in finance and administration positions in New England. After all that experience, Les decided to put down roots as the co-owner of Shirley's Hallmark Shop in the early 1990s and moved to Maine. Since Les was never one to limit his options, he also worked seasonally with L.L. Bean which, after a few years, turned into a 23-year full-time career in Portland, Maine.

As you can see, Les has never been afraid of trying something new or meeting new people, attributes he credits to Camp! Les says, once you meet people at camp for the first time, it's easy after that. It's just more people to meet.

Les and his wife, Shirley, currently live in Scarborough, Maine but frequently visit their cottage in South Bristol, Maine. He says that a New England kid likes to be in New England! They have two sons, one of whom is in ecommerce in the Boston area, and the other followed in his grandfather's and father's footsteps and does property maintenance in South Bristol. Les looks back and thinks life is interesting, and we have to agree that he has had a VERY interesting life! Thank you for making William Lawrence Camp a part of it!

In Memoriam

Judith J. Haycock



Judith Jennings Haycock, of Wellesley, MA, passed away on October 7, 2020, at the age of 85. She was pre-deceased by her husband Robert. She is survived by sons Jon (Tracy) of Holliston, MA, Bill (Susan) of Medfield, MA, David (Lynn) of Amherst, MA, and Jeff (Mia) of Rollinsville, CO, grandchildren Andrew (Alyssa), Ben, Tyler (Rayna), Nina, Ella, and James, and great-grandchildren Maggie and Molly. Judy served for many years as a volunteer in Wellesley when her sons were young and then worked as an office manager in the health care field. She was a congregant of Saint Mary's Church in Newton Lower Falls for over 50 years where she served as a member of the vestry and altar guild and as churchwarden. Judy was a dedicated volunteer at William Lawrence Camp where all four of her sons were longtime campers and counselors and husband Robert was a Trustee for 24 years. She regularly helped arrange transportation to and from Camp for out-of-town campers and counselors, often picking them up at the airport or hosting them overnight. Throughout her home, volunteer, and work lives, Judy exhibited a special talent for making everyone she knew feel welcomed and connected.

David L. Rae



David Lawrence Rae, formerly of Ridgewood, NJ, passed away on November 23, 2020, from complications of Parkinson's Disease in Encinitas, CA, at the age of 79. He is survived by his wife of 53 years, Kathleen, sons and former campers/staff Christopher (Courtney) of Park City, UT, and Patrick (Petrea) of Farmington, NY, daughter Caitlin Rae Laipeniaks (Maris) of San Diego, CA, unofficial son Robert Keino of Eldoret, Kenya, and six grandchildren, Dylan, Grayson, Poppy, Camden, Isabelle, and Gavin. A graduate of Lehigh University and Georgetown Law Center, David had a lengthy legal career, retiring in 2005. He was a committed advocate for civil rights and served for more than 25 years as the President of the Fair Housing Council of Bergen County, NJ. He was also an avid golfer, a devoted sports fan, and a world traveler. David was never a camper or staff member at William Lawrence

Camp, but he was a Trustee from the early-1980's to mid-1990's, and he worked tirelessly in the off-season to promote the Camp. During the 1980's, one of his biggest contributions to WLC each year was organizing the bus transportation for 50-70 campers. David constantly promoted WLC to all who would listen, as he greatly enjoyed his time visiting the Knoll, and he saw the joy that it brought to his sons.

Philip B. Temple



Philip Birtwell Temple, of Pepperell, MA, passed away on December 11, 2020, at the age of 82. He is survived by his wife Diane, sons Mark (Cheryl) of Bolton, MA, and Jonathan of Alton, NH, and grandchildren Zachary, Tricia, and Caitlin. He attended Trinity College in Hartford, CT, and the University of Pennsylvania, graduating as a doctor of dental surgery. After a stint in the U.S. Army as a captain in the dental corps, Phil practiced dentistry in Harvard, MA, and later moved to Pepperell, where he opened a dental practice. Phil loved the outdoors, including hiking, sailing, and camping, and he explored many parts of the U.S. and Canada with his family. Other interests included photography, bird-watching, kayaking, and landscaping. Phil was a camper, counselor, and member of the Braves at William Lawrence Camp from 1950 to 1961. He met his wife Diane at WLC in

1960 when they participated in a coed conservation work camp sponsored by the Episcopal Diocese of Massachusetts. He served on the Board of Trustees from 1985 to 1996 and served as Treasurer from 1994 to 1996. Phil's two younger brothers, Fred and Tom, attended WLC as campers and counselors, and they predeceased him.

Robert M. Eaton



Robert M. Eaton, of Needham, MA, passed away on December 5, 2020, at the age of 66. He was the son of the late Robert P. and Marilyn D. Eaton. He is survived by his siblings Gail Cote, Lynn Eaton, Jane Wolfe, and Geri Colburn and by many cherished nieces and nephews. Bob attended Northeastern University in Boston, MA, and graduated from Salem College in Salem, WV. He also graduated from the NE Institute of Embalming in Boston, MA, and worked for a while at the Eaton Funeral Home (family business) in Needham, MA. His main interest, however, was providing travel assistance to the public. He worked as a travel consultant for AAA for many years, and he also worked at Hertz Rent-A-Car at the airport in Manchester, NH. Bob was well-known in Needham and very active at the Senior Center there. He was involved in the Masonic organization for over 45 years, and he held numerous posts in multiple lodges. He was a member of Christ Episcopal Church in Needham, where he served as verger and part-time sexton. Both Bob and his father Robert attended William Lawrence Camp. Bob, known as “Nature Boy,” was a camper from 1961 to 1965 and a staff member in 1970. Robert, who predeceased Bob on August 21, 2019, was a camper in 1941 and 1943.

Mark Your 2021 Calendars!

June 12	Staff Arrive
June 12—27	Staff Certifications and pre-camp Training
June 27	First Three-Week Session BEGINS!
Early July	ACA Accreditation Visit Inspection Delayed from 2020, a 2-person team from the American Camp Association will be visiting all areas of Camp this summer to ensure our continued compliance with their requirements.
July 17	First Three-Week Session Ends
July 17	Board of Trustees Meeting
July 25	Second Three-Week Session BEGINS!
August 14	Camp ends

Let's come together to show our support for the family of our Alumni, the **Loughlins**. Please consider helping Keyly Loughlin in her fight against cancer by visiting the GoFundMe page set up by the family. You can use the QR code at right to reach it or the link on the Camp Facebook post of January 25th.



Camp Family News

Camper/counselor/Woodsman **Kevin Kress** married his love, Katie McBurney, on September 13, 2020. Bill Larry Man Kevin was a camper from 1999 through 2003 and in 2005, then on staff from 2006 through 2012. We hope that **Kevin** can meet up with fellow camper/counselor/Woodsman/Bill-Larry-Man-from-the-aughts **Drew Duncan** at Camp soon for a mustache contest!



Trustee **Jeff Stump** provided news of sons **Ethan** and **Ryan Stump**. **Ryan** was a camper from 2010 through 2014 and a staff member in 2015. In July, **Ryan** moved to an off-campus apartment in Burlington, VT. Brother **Ethan** was a camper in 2012 through 2018 and on staff in 2019. **Ethan** was lucky enough to attend school in person this fall, along with sending out college applications and playing some modified soccer. The family has enjoyed visiting each other periodically and going on hikes.



Thomas McCollum reached out last July to update us about his father **Fred McCollum**. **Fred** was a counselor at WLC in the summers of 1943, 1944 and 1945. He was a tennis coach and baseball coach among other things. Thomas was delighted to report that his dad, although 92, is happily living in California and is in great health with a spectacular memory, including the great times and wonderful people that he met at WLC. In the attached picture, **Fred** is wearing his Punchard (Andover) High letter Sweater. Older alums may remember the other adult in the photo – **Owen Carle** from Boston University!

Connor Gilbert and his parents had an interesting experience in this summer of COVID. They drove to Michigan and back using the car as an overnight hotel, with Mom and Dad driving in shifts. **Connor** learned to drive and dock a pontoon boat this summer, as well as doing some lake tubing.

Former camper/staff member **Frank King** reached out to us in late June of 2020 for permission to use some of our website material in a class essay. The essay was for the course Leadership & Command 1, which he took at the US Air Command and Staff College as a civilian. **Frank** was a camper from 1997 through 2002 and on staff from 2003 through 2005. We look forward to hearing more about where life is taking Frank!

Mom Barbara Perkins reports that **McKinley Parker** has lived in China for most of the last decade. In the past year, he earned an MBA from Rice University, began working for JLL in Asia, and married Ting Ting Xu. The couple are residing in Chang Sha, Hunan Province. **McKinley** was a camper from 1996 through 2002.

Mom Vicki Boone reports that **Jason** and **Ryan DeMarinis** are doing well. **Jason** is in his 3rd year of Law School at DePaul University and expects to graduate in May of 2021. **Jason** was a camper from 2006 through 2008 and then on staff 2009 and 2010. **Ryan** graduated in May of 2019 from Case Western Reserve University as an Aerospace and Mechanical Engineer. In July 2019, **Ryan** started work with Lockheed Martin Aeronautics in Palmdale, CA. Ryan was a camper from 2006 through 2010.

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We can't wait for the return of staff and campers to the Knoll this summer!