

THE KNOLL NEWS

William Lawrence Camp



CREATING A CULTURE OF BROTHERHOOD

As a new addition to the Fall Knoll News, we would like to share where some of our 2022 and 2023 Staff have landed for their post-high school educational experience.

2023

Nick Rimalovski - University of Vermont

Michael Kalinichenko - Dartmouth College

2022

Victor Brancieri - University of Pittsburgh

Theo Braatz - Colorado College

We would love to gather this information on more recent alumni and include an update in a future issue, so if you are a freshman or sophomore in college or attend a vocational school (or are the parent of one!), please let us know what our former campers, LITs and Staff are up to. This will be a great way to connect with old camp friends, stay in touch, and perhaps network to meet your career goals! Stay loyal and true, boys of White and Blue!

Newsletter Highlights

Creating a Culture of Brotherhood

Message from the Executive Director

The Off-Season: What Happens When There's No Camp

Celebrating 110 Seasons of WLCS

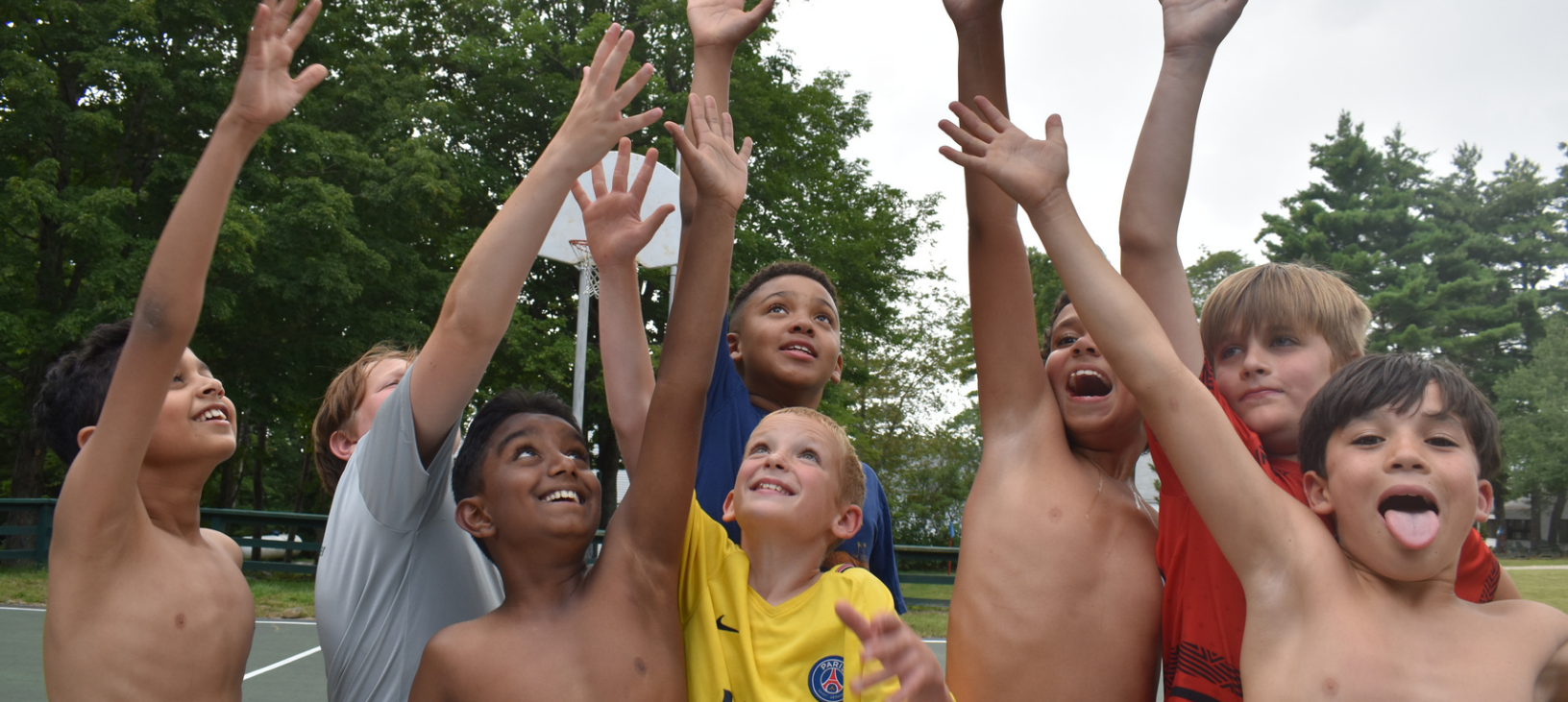
William F. Lewis

Upcoming Events

2023 New Woodsmen

Camp Family Giving Back to WLC





A Message from the Executive Director

It was a soggy but successful season. It is a summer of rain like this that makes one fully appreciate our investment in weatherproofing program areas. The new waterfront building, roofs over riflery, archery and skeet, the library and rec room, a shored-up Barn, and the Centennial Lodge all played a role in helping us continue to provide a quality program for our campers.

We continue to work our way out of the effects of Covid...and having zero campers in 2020. We are making progress as our numbers inch upward. We had an extraordinary number of campers age out after the summer of 2022 but we were able to offset this through a robust recruiting effort. The upside of the large age-out was that we had 21 Leaders in Training this past summer. That is the largest group I can remember and bodes well for future staffing. They essentially formed a fourth unit and brought great energy to camp.

Our 110th celebration was a big success. Thanks to all who attended. Program areas were open, the dining hall rocked, and old friends from a variety of 'generations' were able to re-connect. It was a nice topping to a long season.

We have scheduled a large number of Open Houses for the fall and winter for recruiting new campers. We would like it if all those associated with WLC (current families and alumni) could help drive traffic to these events so we can make the next leap forward in enrollment and get back to pre-Covid numbers. We know that there is tremendous value-add for anyone who participates on the Knoll.

We also have our annual reunion on Sunday January 7 in Waltham. Although normally geared to current campers and staff, we encourage everyone associated with camp to join us.



THE OFF-SEASON: WHAT HAPPENS WHEN THERE'S NO CAMP

Did you know that a number of other Programs happen at Camp? We begin in early June with our Certification School on the Knoll. It is a great way to get our counselors certified while hosting counselors from camps around New England to offset the costs associated with certifications. We have been doing this for 30 years now. We offer American Red Cross (ARC) Lifeguard Training, ARC Lifeguard Instructor, ARC Water Safety Instructor, Riflery and Archery Instructor certification as well as SOLO Wilderness First Aid.

Another tradition is hosting a field day for 4th, 5th and 6th graders from the Tuftonboro Elementary School. Taking place on their last full day of school in June and overlapping with our staff training, it is a way for our counselors to get firsthand experience looking after children and running program areas. It is also a nice service to our community.

Camp Kesem is a one-week program for children who have had a parent with cancer. It is organized by students at various universities...or chapters. On the heels of regular camp ending, we welcome the arrival of a group of about 100 campers and staff from the Dartmouth and UVM Chapters followed by a second week of a similar size group from their Chestnut Hill/Boston College Chapter. We provide food and dining hall service along with supervising program areas such as the waterfront, low and high ropes courses and the archery range.

Once again, this past September we hosted two weddings. If you are an alum and want to be married in the Chapel and have a reception in the Lodge, let us know. It is donation-based.



The Scott Giessler Award, created in 2016 to honor Goose's then-25 years at WLC, is "awarded to the first-year counselor who best exemplifies the Camp's commitment to excellence in the areas of camper care and program." In 2023 WLC had two winners, first-year American staff member, Michael Kalinichenko and first-year international staff member, Cian Andersen.



Celebrating 110 Seasons of WLCs



August 26th was a beautiful, sunny day on the Knoll celebrating 110 years of Camp! More than 80 former WLC campers, staff and families — spanning decades — showed up to spend the day participating in Camp activities on the Knoll and on the Waterfront. Lunch in the dining hall was filled with spirit and tradition, including jokes, chants and rafter cakes. A campfire dinner complete with s'mores rounded out a fun-filled day.

Things to Remember!

- ✓ Early Enrollment Discount Deadline is December 1st
- ✓ Annual Fund donations are a tax write-off because WLC is a Not-For-Profit
- ✓ Don't Forget to light your WLC Candle on New Year's Eve to join your WLC brotherhood in spreading light across the world
- ✓ Join the GroupSpot App with invite code 9PtW to see all our upcoming events including our **MA reunion on January 7th** and our **NJ Reunion on January 28th**



WILLIAM F. LEWIS

By Richard C. Brown

William F. "Bill" Lewis (Bill Larry Boy; 1964-1968) began his summer camping experience by attending Camp Waldron on Lake Winnesquam in Meredith, NH. In 1964, at age 16, he would have been a junior counselor at Camp Waldron, but the only job available to him that summer was in the kitchen. Bill decided that job was not for him.

Bill's mom was friends with Stephen Benford's mom, and Stephen had been attending William Lawrence Camp and having a great time. Bill inquired and was accepted as a junior counselor working in the dish room with David MacPherson and in the athletic department with Stephen "Shorty" Richardson and Paul Picard.

In his first year Bill was the junior counselor in Sunapee cabin where he met Rick Brown, a 15-year-old Senior Camper at the time. They became friends and get together often at Camp throughout the year.

Bill had never played a musical instrument before attending Camp, but Steve Benford taught him to play the 5-string, long neck banjo, Scott Cunningham showed him the chords to "Charlie on the MTA" and a bluegrass musician was born to join the Carroll County Boys! Bill also learned to play the AutoHarp at Camp, and Bill taught Rick Brown.



Pictured above are the Carroll County Boys circa 1966. Back row: Bill Lewis (5-string, long neck banjo); Charlie Burdett (jug). Front row: Rick Brown (washboard); Mark Michaud (6-string guitar); Bob Jones (washtub bass).

WILLIAM F. LEWIS

(Continued from Page 5)



Bill is also an artist, and the picture above is a painting from the top of the Knoll that Bill did for our 100th Anniversary Reunion.

Memories of Camp include: Fun In The Barn Night; fast-draw arcade machine “Pistol Pete” at Weirs Beach; Sunday evening Hymn Sings (no, really!); watching Marty Engstrom sign off from the top of Mt Washington on the old black and white tv in the Library; night off doing laundry in Wolfeboro, hanging out on The Bridge and finishing up at Bailey’s; and playing instruments and singing with Marge Pratt in Wolfeboro at the music store and on her houseboat.

Memorable people not already mentioned include: Mr. Pratt (Man in the White); Tom Speth (also a Carroll County Boy); Neil “the wheel” Hulbert; Billy Gartside; Don Hunter; Charles “Pop” Graves; Angelo “keep your hands inside the bus!” Caccamo; and Maude Samuda and Hilda Jackson.

Bill married his wife, Claire, in the Chapel at Camp nineteen years ago. Of course there was bluegrass music at the wedding! Bill and Claire currently reside in Franklin, NH.

Camp Family News



On Saturday, April 15th, camper and staff alumni, Alex Camerino married long-time girlfriend, Tessa in Durham, NH. He was surrounded by family, friends and a few of his WLC family (pictured above).



With a beautiful, tear-jerking ceremony in the Chapel, camper and staff alumni, Ben Marston, married his partner, Aimee. They celebrated with a camp themed reception in the Centennial Lodge.



Will and Cori Hancock welcomed Noah William Hancock on 8/7/2023. Their daughter Noelle (2/18/2021) has adjusted well to being a big sister. They still live in Dover, NH, and Will is the lieutenant for the Rollinsford Police Department.



**WLC Open House -
Somerville, MA**



**WLC Open House -
Ridgewood, NJ**



**WLC Open House -
Newton, MA**



**WLC Open House -
Hingham, MA**



**WLC Open House -
Lexington, MA**



**WLC Open House -
Wayland, MA**



**WLC Open House -
Ridgewood, NJ**



**WLC Open House -
Somerville, MA**



**WLC Virtual Open
House - Zoom**



**WLC Reunion -
Waltham, MA**



**WLC Open House/Reunion -
Ridgewood, NJ**



**WLC Open House -
Waltham, MA**



**WLC Open House -
Somerville, MA**



**MORE INFO, DATES AND
LOCATIONS ON THE
GROUPSPOT APP
INVITE CODE
9PtW**

2024 Annual Fund is Underway

The 2024 Annual Fund is now underway. Make your donation by December 31, 2023, to count in this year's charitable contributions on your taxes. Donate now using the QR code below.



Spread the Word! Enrollment for 2024 is now OPEN!

Please share our Open House dates (found on page 7) and invite your nephews, grandsons, neighbors, son's teammates, daughter's classmates, etc. to join us!

All our events can be found on the GroupSpot App - founded and created by Alumni, Neil Blaney. Please use the QR code below and the invite code 9PtW to join us on GroupSpot



2023 WOODSMEN



The Honor Society gained 10 new Woodsmen this past summer. While there were a few campers that achieved Trailblazer status and are ready to take their final five, this year's large group came from the ranks of the Leaders in Training.

We welcome and congratulate these fine young men. From the group photo, in the front row are Luke Bissada of Sherborn, MA, Anatole Mahone from France and Derrick Davis of Holliston, MA. In the second row are Charlie White of Newton, Clemens Summersgill of Cambridge, Pdraig O'Brien of Haverhill, Ronan Richards of Sherborn and Ido Kirson of Cambridge, MA. Back row includes current Woodsmen Jim Bullitt, Joel Magic, Victor Brancieri, Theo Braatz and Nat Crane.

In the second photo are Max Liebermann of Holliston, MA and Carl Kirchhoff of Medfield, MA.





GIVING BACK TO THE PLACE THAT BROUGHT THEM TOGETHER

Alan Harding and George Butterworth first met on the Knoll in 1952. They spent many years together at Camp, growing from campers to counselors and finally serving together on the Board of Trustees. Their time together cemented a lifelong friendship and connection. In 1998, Alan and George formed the philanthropic Biber Foundation which focuses on supporting various organizations primarily located in New Hampshire. Alan and the Biber Foundation answered Camp's call for help in 2022 by funding the purchase of our new ski boat that launched and delivered immense fun for our campers this summer. Thank you!

The Biber Foundation has supported WLC in the past with funds for infrastructure improvements and program enhancements. Sadly, George died in December of 2014, but Alan lives in Wolfeboro and still serves as a Trustee of the Biber Foundation.

THANK YOU TO OUR HOST FAMILIES

Word-of-mouth and referrals are our most impactful tools to spread the word about WLC and often introduce the idea and benefits of overnight summer camp to new families. Our current camp families continue to step up and help us spread the word and recruit new families by hosting a series of open houses throughout the off-season to help build a robust group of campers to bring their energy to the Knoll for the Summer. In 2022/23 we hosted 11 open houses from Cambridge, MA to Charlotte, NC. Thank you to the Summersgill, Ferriman, Rimalovski, Kiehl, McCabe, Crellin and Brancieri families for your important efforts.

Beyond open houses, one-on-one recommendations have great influence in bringing in new campers. All returning campers who recruit new families receive limited edition "Home Run Derby" hats as a thank-you for their efforts. Thank you to all who help us recruit to keep WLC filled with loud chants, boundless energy, and smiles all summer long.

If you would like to host an open house or help recruit for one of our upcoming open houses, please reach out to Jessica at knoll@wlcamp.org.



THINKING ABOUT THE LONG TERM

William Lawrence Camp has a rich 111-year history and, thanks to a generous contribution from alum Avand “Andy” Amiri, we plan to be around for many more years to come. Andy, who was a camper/ counselor at WLC for 6 years, says that “WLC taught me foundational skills that improved the course and progress of my life”, and he is proud and humbled to provide the inaugural donation establishing the WLC Perpetual Endowment Fund. The goal of a fully-funded endowment is to “cover operating expenses or get through downturns purely on the interest and dividends”. While this may take years to fully achieve, Andy’s gift of \$25,000 establishes the foundation to ensure Camp’s longevity long into the future.



Nat with Paul Gallagher and Avand Amiri (LtoR) in California.

Summer 2023





WLC Board of Trustees News

Bill McCabe, a former camper and counselor from Ridgewood, NJ, joined the Board in March of 2023. Ben Damon, a current parent from Hollis, NH, became a Member of the Corporation in March of 2023. Chris Summersgill left the Board in February 2023 after 6 years of service. We thank him for his service as a Trustee and as Secretary of the Board.

The current members of the WLC Board of Trustees are Gail Avery (President), Charles Cleary, Seana Crellin, Lucy Hancock, Neil Hulbert, Mark Hyde, Bill McCabe, Sharon Paul (Secretary), Betsy Roguet (Treasurer), Keith Schnaars, Pam Sharpe, and Jon White.

William Lawrence Camp
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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

