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Leadership

Welcome!

Camp Beech Cliff couldn't exist without the hard work of our volunteer boards. Board members give their time and resources in support of our mission. Welcome to incoming Directors: Kristi Jacoby, Meryl Sweeney, Paula Vogel and Mark Clark Webster; and Trustees: Kerri Dowdell, Josephine lannelli and Josh Young. A heartfelt thank you to our outgoing board members Liz Angelbeck, Marsha Gill, Vince Messer, Jim Progin, and Patti Selig.



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A Message from our President / Executive Director:

When kids talk about Camp Beech Cliff, I often hear the comment: "Camp lets me be myself," and this really resonates with me. When I was younger, raised as a preacher's kid and an army brat, I was fortunate enough to attend a camp where I was encouraged to take chances, explore, and be myself. Camp had me doing things that I would never do with my family. I went camping in Mt McKinley park

and ran barefoot along the icy shorelines in Alaska; I tried my hand at art and crafts (some of which are still tucked away as keepsakes). Most importantly, the friendships I developed saw me through some rough adolescent years.

My camp experience had such a profound and lasting influence in my life, and it has moved me to make this available to every camper who finds their way to CBC. In celebrating our 20th anniversary this year, we chose the motto "CBC Moves Me" to reflect upon these personal ways in which our camp has affected our community over the years. Within this newsletter, you'll discover stories from our extended camper family sharing how CBC has enriched their own lives.

CBC is a natural space for play and learning, outside an increasingly structured world. Our children are blessed with an abundance of choice and possibility in a growing technological world; sometimes it feels like it comes at the price of play, creativity, and discovery. There are so many voices urging them forward that their own voice can become lost in the crowd. For me, camp should exist outside of this race, a place to embrace that inner voice, and discover at their own pace what delights or inspires them. Children develop confidence and passion here, becoming young men and women who choose to become counselors and leaders themselves.

I am also inspired because CBC has such a strong community, one that believes in our mission to get children outdoors and discover the simple joys in life. To every family member, supporter and staff, every volunteer, including board and committee members – THANK YOU for helping make all of this possible for our campers over these last twenty years. CBC is all of us together, and the collective work you do inspires me. Without a doubt, CBC Moves Me.

So let's move CBC forward together, toward another twenty years of growth and opportunity for the children in our community and for

CBC MOVES ME

to Contribute

I have served on the Board and been behind CBC from almost the beginning. My first meeting at CBC was a finance meeting in what was then the arts-and-crafts building. It was plywood with no insulation and a bare bulb draped over a rafter for lighting. It was a long time ago, but it was with a group of people who could see what was coming and felt as passionate about giving children opportunities as I do. Sure enough, today CBC provides kids with arts, sports and activities, and life skills. Camp allowed me to work with wonderful people and make kids' dreams happen on a regular basis. It has Tony McKim been a wonderful time in my life and I am honored to have been a part of it.







2017 Summer Camp



A Message from our outgoing Camp Director

2017 was another great summer, full of imagination, outdoor play, friendships and personal growth. It has been an honor to be a part of CBC's evolution throughout the years, and a privilege watching the magic grow. In 2006, it was the celebration of creativity, imagination, and nature that captured my attention. It was the philosophy and care

for young people that harnessed my dedication for the following 11 years. Thanks to the many invested staff, volunteers and donors, CBC has grown tremendously, increasing enrollment, the variety of

programs offered, and the amount of campership money given to local families. Thank you for

allowing me to be a part of the camp's mission.

By the time you receive this newsletter, we should be announcing the name of our new Camp Director!

Over 50 candidates...

Narrowed to 3 experienced directors...

All great candidates...

and the new director is.....

The Power of the Overnight Experience

Under the watchful and encouraging eye of their counselors, campers work together to set their own tents, cook their meals over the fire, and hike the twilit trails with a ranger to guide their curiosity. They share s'mores and stories

under the stars, and fall asleep to a lullaby of loons.

Every overnight trip to the Seawall Campground returns to CBC with newly forged friendships and lasting memories. For many of our younger campers, this is breaking new ground for them. Perhaps it is the first time in the woods at night, or the first camping trip without family.

Camping allows campers to safely stretch their boundaries among friends and become more curious and confident. For our veteran overnighters, these trips are an opportunity to lead and support their peers, guide their friends toward new interests, set an example in their cooperation, and empathize with newer campers to help overcome anxieties. That empathy extends to the natural world. When given the opportunity to leave their digital distractions behind and be fully present in the woods for a while, they really begin to see it...

the rhythm of fireflies keeping heat in the canopies, the laughter mixing with the crackling of a campfire. The soft light of morning brightening the walls of their tents, after a night of magic spent in the woods. That's the power of the overnight experience.

"Bee Whisperer" brings his wisdom to CBC

You know it's Summer at CBC when the island is painted in flowers, a bounty of Lupins and Hawkweed bring color into our world... as well as a menagerie of butterflies and bees, seeking their nectar. CBC welcomed locally renowned 'Bee Whisperer' Peter Cowin to camp to dispel misconceptions and anxiety about bees and promote compassion for our pollinators

"The Beez Kneez", our new specialty camp, placed campers in the role of junior apiarists, suiting up to observe and interact with Cowin's colonies up close, and even harvest honey fresh from the hive. They learned techniques for properly raising hives, and gained a deeper understanding into the life and soul of the swarm, and their vital role

in our ecosystem. When a shift in perspective is achieved, bees shift from shifty foe to friend in need. "The recent challenges of colony collapse disorder, heavy chemical spraying, and the introduction of genetically modified crops have put bee

populations at serious risk," describes Jeff Thibodeau of Brio Promotions, whose exclusive sponsorship makes this specialty camp possible. "To help derail this trend, we're always looking for opportunities to encourage beekeeping."

The Bee Whisperer passionately leads the charge and guides our young beekeepers toward solutions, teaching them responsible methods for promoting pollination and safely relocating swarms. Thank you to Brio Promotions for making this experience for our campers a reality.



CBC MOVES ME Try New Things

This past summer was my 3rd year at CBC. I didn't know anybody when I first went, but I found friends there. This year I was in the LIT program. It gave me more responsibility helping out and I liked that. On Fridays, we have different events and I had to explain the games and rules in front of the different age groups. It helped me overcome my stage fright and I found

that I like to help little kids when they need something. I would definitely like to be a CIT someday.

2017 Northern Lights Specialty Camps

Martial Arts

Dog Sledding

Geology and Rock Climbing

Outdoor Art

Hip Hop Dancing

Culinary Arts

Baking

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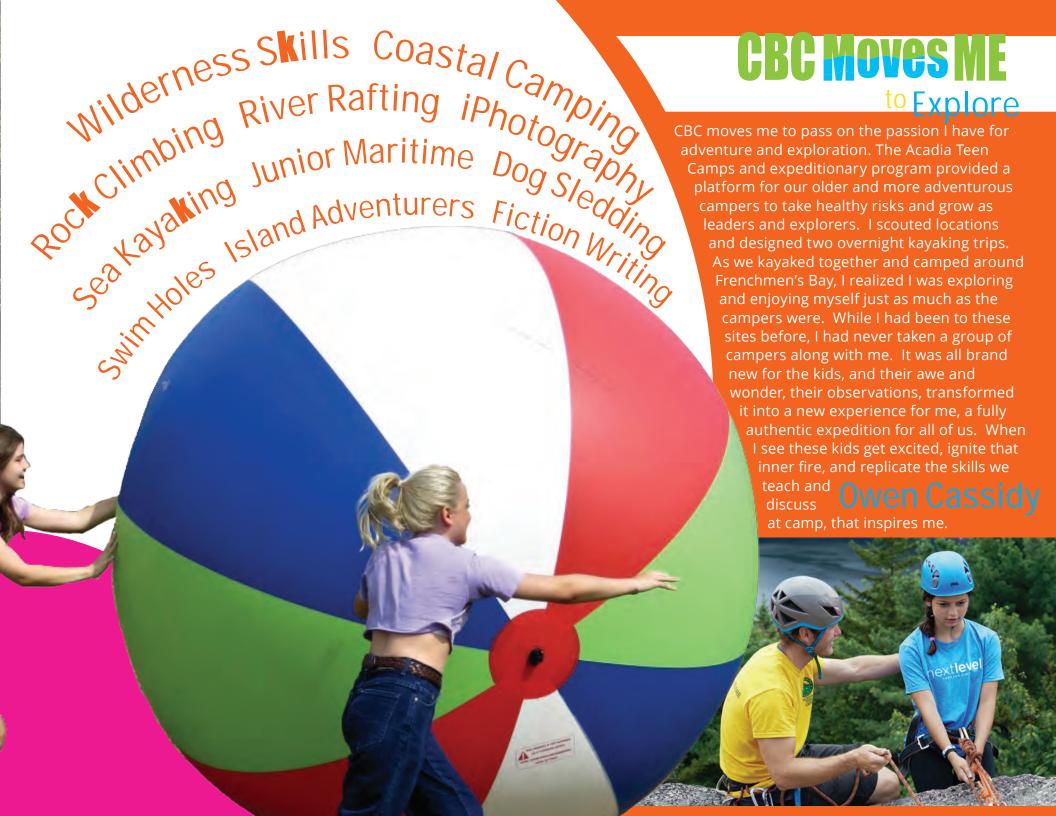
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Our Gratitude

Individual Donations

Thank you for helping us climb our budget totem pole. Your donations last year totaling \$285,000 help keep camp affordable for all by covering the cost of essential areas of our summer camp budget, including:

Grants

Grants

Program Fees

• \$68,000 for camperships...
107 campers received
assistance with tuition as well
as receiving a free bag lunch.

- \$75,000 for buses and vans... 70% of campers took advantage of our free transportation this summer. That equals a lot less cars on our crowded summer roads.
- \$43,000 for program supplies like arrows, boats, balls, paint, ice-pops... 99,000 ice-pops were... just kidding, even your campers can't withstand that much brain freeze.
- \$13,000 for specialty instructors... allowing us to bring professionals to MDI to share new skills with our campers.

We gratefully acknowledge the following donors who gave between October 1, 2016 and September 30, 2017. Your contributions help us deliver a quality summer camp experience.

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or omissions.

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CBC Moves ME to **Make New Friends**

CBC is my favorite camp because they do a lot of fun stuff like swimming, boating, arts and crafts, and pottery. Swimming is my favorite, because I like putting goggles on and going under the water. I like making friends and spending time with 'Gigi' LaPointe the counselors.

Sometimes it is sad because it is your camp counselor's last week and you will miss them.



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Second row: Birgitt Adams, Paula Vogel, Judy Eason, Deb DeWalt Third row: Shelia Greene, Carroll Fernald, and event coordinator, Andrea Gaalswyk

Back row: Marsha Gill, Kim Storey, Ali Kassels and Lyn Cook

The 10th Annual Ladies Who Loonch: Friends, Fun, Fashion & Philanthropy

For its 10th Anniversary, the Ladies Who Loonch hosted a record 190 ladies on a gorgeous day in July. This year the fundraiser was held at Camp Beech Cliff while the camp was in session, giving our campers a chance to connect with the wonderful donors who make CBC possible. The annual luncheon and fashion show benefits the Campership Fund, which provides needs-based summer camp scholarships for Hancock County families. This summer, the ladies raised \$57,000, which will help 60-70 children attend camp.

The luncheon is a wonderful way for women to reconnect at the beginning of the summer season, enjoy a great lunch and exciting fashion show, and have fun giving local children the gift of summer camp. One patron noted: "the benefit seems to draw both the local and summer residents, which is exactly what this summer camp does. I like that it is so inclusive and we're all working together to help children attend camp."

The 2017 Pink Rose Award was given to Liz Angelbeck, who has co-chaired the Loonch for several years now and has helped to expand the event and build support for Camp Beech Cliff's Campership Fund. Executive Director Debra Deal thanked Liz and added: "It is honor to have worked with Liz for so many years and have her so committed to helping so many children and families." To the delight of many, 40 or so campers came on to the stage and led the whole audience in singing and moving!

Elegant summertime fashions were provided by The Kimball Shop & Boutique, The Holmes Store and J.McLauglin. We are grateful for our sponsors and the many businesses who donated items for the popular raffle baskets and silent auction prizes!

Plan to
join us at the 2018

Ladies Who Loonch
Wednesday, July 11

Send a message to events@campbeechcliff.org to have your name added to the invitation list!

On a beautiful August evening, Camp Beech Cliff's donors and volunteers were celebrated by the staff, Trustees and Directors at the Summer Soirée. Executive Director Deb Deal

Celebrating the spirit of camp and uniting in support of the camp movement. The exclusive 20th anniversary sponsor **Join the Movement!**

expressed her gratitude to each guests' important contribution to the history of CBC and the camp experience with a celebratory toast. 'Founders' Sally Kellogg and Tony McKim along with previous camp director, Vance O'Donnell, were honored for their commitment to camp and campers over the life of CBC.



2016 Summer Soirée

An Evening of Gratitude

Soirée attendees arrived to our traditional reception of appreciative camp staff.

Sally Kellogg and Tony McKim were in attendance to receive their honorary camp paddles in recognition of all they have done for CBC over the years.

Tony McKim reflected on his motivation in supporting CBC and other children's organizations as president of First National Bank, "Like CBC, the First National Bank has come a long way in the last twenty years... FNB loves to get behind efforts and organizations that involve children and we have been pleased to support CBC and help propel it to where it is today."



Our son, Liam, a 6th grader at Conners Emerson School in Bar Harbor, adores Camp Beech Cliff. He loves swimming in Echo Lake, exploring with "Nature Kyle," and playing games with the counselors and campers. One evening this summer he described how, at camp at the end of a particularly tiring day, he built a shelter in the woods, lined the floor with leaves, and then climbed inside for what would become a nap.

We loved this story for two reasons. First, CBC tires kids out. CBC moves kids to move, to stay active, and this is exactly what parents want in a summer camp. Second, and perhaps more importantly, Liam felt well enough at home, comfortable on his counselor's watch, to use his own resources and rest. Thank you, CBC, for the wonderful caring staff, for the safe place in the forest, and for days full of creativity and adventure.

Mount Desert Island is so fortunate to have Camp
Beech Cliff in our community. Through its
summer camp and other programs, CBC
welcomes hundreds of children to its
home-in-the-woods. CBC could not do
what it does without our collective
support and we should all rally
around their vital mission.
Please join us in supporting Camp
Beech Cliff. Our support will help
sustain this remarkable program and
continue to change lives one session (or

lean-to) at a time.
Sincerely,

Mike and Tara McKernan







Camp Beech Cliff PO Box 381, 264 Beech Hill Road Mount Desert, ME 04660-0381 Nonprofit Org.
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