

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: Mairzy Krulic, Sylvie Piquet, Diane Templeton and Jaime Torres; and Trustees: Matt Barton and Jack Frost.

A heartfelt thank you to our outgoing board members for their years of volunteer service: David Hales, Ali Kassels, Gail Amalia Barth Katz, Vince Messer, and Margaret Morton.

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As a start-up organization in the 1990's, Camp Beech Cliff had an enthusiastic following of volunteers, camper families, business leaders and other supporters rally to build a place where local children could thrive in the summer. They added new buildings, expanded the field, and established a campership fund to ensure that every local family could afford camp. When I arrived 17 years ago, I thought that Camp Beech Cliff had an impressive start for a young organization, but I stand here today amazed with what our community has gone on to develop in the shadow of Beech Mountain.

In this 25th anniversary issue of our newsletter, there are many images recording the development of Camp Beech Cliff, but look beyond the physical changes to the infrastructure and you will notice generations of smiles, excitement and surprise in the faces of all the campers that have called Camp Beech Cliff home for a few weeks a summer.

Though CBC is still young compared to other traditional camps in Maine that started over



a hundred years ago, I took special joy this summer welcoming a new generation to camp. Many of our campers are children of former 25 Years of CBC!



campers and counselors. One Monday this July, I was thrilled to meet Jen O'Donnell at camper drop-off. Jen was a young counselor at CBC in the early days when her father, Vance O'Donnell, was the founding Camp Director. This year Jen and her mother, Carole Plenty, brought her son Avery to camp. I like to think that one day Avery will be introducing a fourth generation to CBC.

Just last week, at our third annual "Trail of Treats" community Halloween event, Tony McKim, President of The First, and one of the original Founders of the current Camp Beech Cliff, walked the trail with his son Tyler, a former camper, his toddler grandchild, and other family members.

It is truly amazing what this growing multigenerational camp community of volunteers, supporters, and staff has built but the true legacy of their efforts are the memories, small moments of discovery and friendships that have been forged at Camp Beech Cliff over the last 25 years and all that are yet to come.

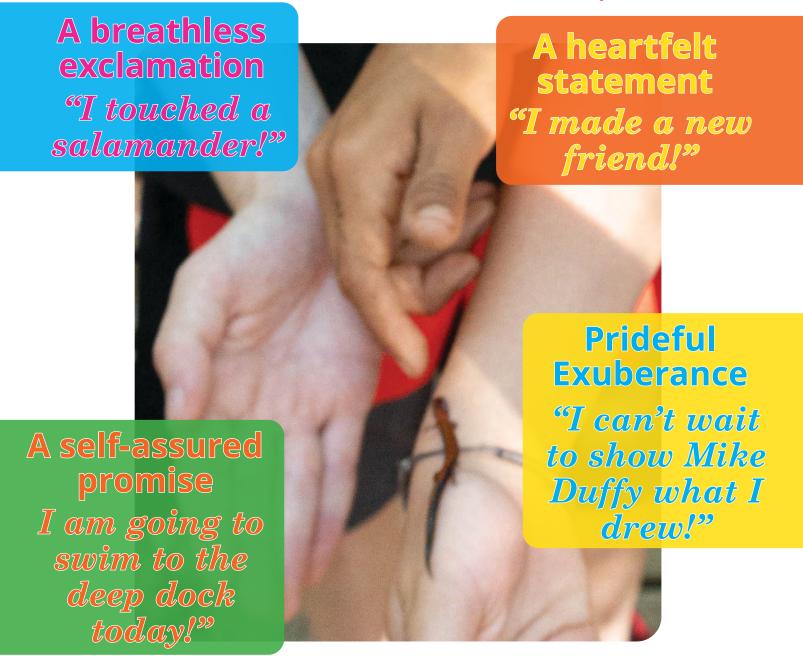
Executive Director

The Best Part of Being a Camp Director

There is much to celebrate this year! CBC received top marks in our accreditation with the American Camp Association and the world's greater covid awareness allowed us to bring back camper experiences like campers' choice and the circus specialty camp, along

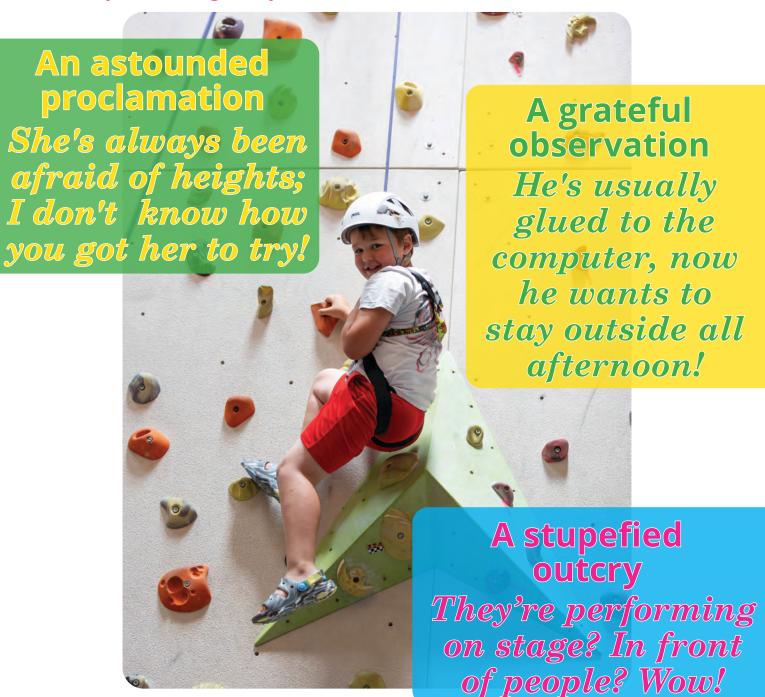
with family experiences like Morning Mug-Ups and Family Fun Nights. I relish all the moments at camp; believe it or not, though, one of the best times of the camp day for me, as Camp Director, is the organized chaos of camper drop-off in the morning and pickup in the afternoon. It is my chance to interact with campers of all ages and to connect with campers' parents. **Sometimes** all I get to share is a wave, but sometimes, I get to share much more...

from campers...





from parents & grandparents...



I have only been here for 5 years, but in looking at the pictures collected from all the years of CBC, I am not surprised to see the same expressions of joy and moments of discovery captured from each year of camp. A good camp experience is a timeless camp experience! And I do not doubt that all the camp directors who proceeded me took joy in similar moments when campers and parents expressed themselves.

Camp Director





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Contact Elly if you would like to join the list of recurring supporters.

Ladies Who Loonch

Fifteen Fabulous Years of Friends, Fun and Fashions in Support of Campers



Special thanks to the 2022 Loonch Committee Volunteers: Back Row: Shannon Pelletier, Katrina Rank, Anne Woodman, Elly Preston, Maria Ikwugwalu, Ali Kassels, Lori Stanley, & Lyn Cook.

Middle Row: Caroline Cunningham, Kay Theede, Liz Angelbeck, Sid Salvatore, Shelia Greene, Faith Pulis, Lee Worster, Paula Vogel, & Jacqueline Weiss.

Front Row: Kim Storey, Carroll Fernald, Gail Caruso, Susy Flach, Maggie Kelley, Deb Deal, & Michele Marks.

How did the Ladies Who Loonch come to be?

The brainchild of Sally Kellogg and Anne Pomeroy, the "Loonch" as it came to be known, was and continues to be the work of a committee of hardy volunteers. Starting in 2007 with several dozen camper moms and camp supporters at the Fiddler's Green restaurant in Southwest Harbor, the event has grown and moved to various venues but has always had the goal of raising funds to support Camp Beech Cliff's Campership and Transportation Funds. These funds make it possible for CBC to offer scholarships for local children and provide free transportation to all campers.



The "Founders" of *The Ladies Who Loonch*, Sally Kellogg and Anne Pomeroy at the Fiddler's Green Restaurant in 2007



A Brief Photo History Of The CBC Campus





Last month a gentleman walked into the Admin Building and introduced himself as a former counselor from 1973. After saying that he almost did not recognize the camp, he proceeded to share a series of memorable stories about his time leading the sailing program for a motley collection of boys.

It is not uncommon for former campers and counselors of various eras to wander into Camp Beech Cliff and find that they do not recognize the camp, but once they get to the shore of the unchanging lake, the memories of experiences that we would recognize as quintessentially Camp Beech Cliff experiences come flooding back.

The original Camp Beech Cliff was established and operated by 'Click' and 'Dot' Pulis as a private sleep-away camp for boys from the 1950s until 1978. After a period of disuse, the local community got together and the facility was reborn as a day camp for both boys and girls in 1991. That was a decade of tremendous growth for the camp. A successful fundraising campaign in the mid-90s made possible the purchase of campus, thus ensuring the property would remain a permanent resource for our youth.

We date the current Camp Beech Cliff from 1997 when it was incorporated as an independent private 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. CBC earned accreditation with the American Camp Association in 2002. In 1991 CBC's summer camp program hosted just 20 campers a week and now, more than 200 kids immerse themselves in nature and fun every summer week on Beech Mountain.





The Pulis camp was a multi-week sleep-away program. Campers in 1972 would have recognized the sleeping tents of 1964, but by the 70s some bunk houses were also in use.





Over the years, more buildings were added to the waterfront. In this photo (left), "Lookout", the last remaining 'original' building on today's campus is under construction with the help of campers.



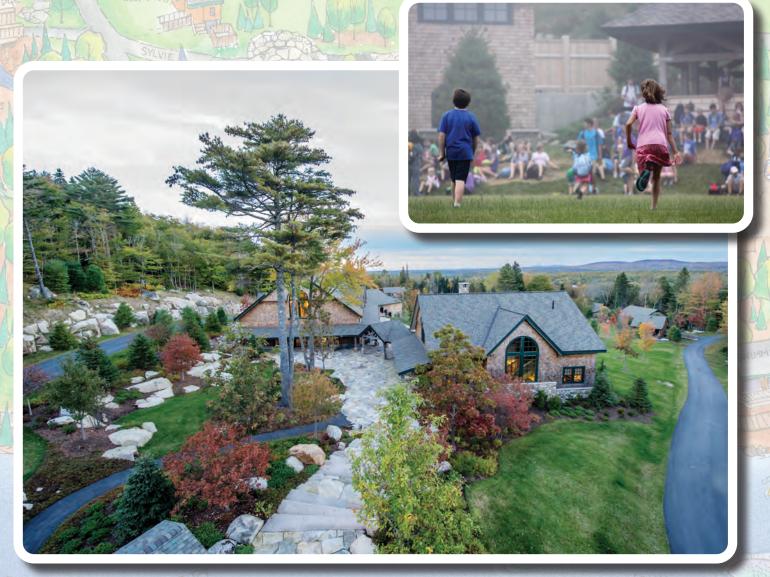


Whereas the previous boys' camp was focused at the waterfront, when the day camp was launched in the 1990's several new buildings were constructed to add more indoor program space at the top of the hill. These buildings were literally built by the camp community and volunteers.





Even with the newer buildings on the campus, it was very evident that the existing infrastructure would not last much longer and a new capital campaign was launched. The current state-of-the-art campus that welcomes campers back each summer is the result of that community fundraising effort and a large gift from an anonymous benefactor.



After a year of camp elsewhere on the Island, Camp Beech Cliff re-opened in June 2012.



Summer Soiree - Thank you Founders!

Each summer we gather on a beautiful evening in August for our annual donor and volunteer appreciation event, the "Summer Soiree." This year's celebration held special significance as we honored the founders of Camp Beech Cliff. This evening of gratitude continued the year-long celebration of CBC's 25th Anniversary, giving us the opportunity to thank the founders for their contributions to the vision and creation of CBC. Executive Director, Deb Deal, presented each founder with a beautiful watercolor of beech tree leaves by Mike Duffy, calligraphed with their name and a note of gratitude. From founders, to donors, to volunteers, it is CBC's incredible community of supporters that make camp happen for hundreds of children each summer!

CBC's Founders

Jane Adams
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Andrew Dewey
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Pam Fountain

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Tony McKim
Vance O'Donnell
Eliot and Linda
Paine
Lee Patterson
Keating Pepper

These individuals made a significant contribution to the vision and creation of CBC and were instrumental in the early success of Camp Beech Cliff.



I recently came across a statistic which underlines the fact that CBC prioritizes

making camp accessible for all. According to the American Camp Association the average cost for a week of day camp in America is roughly \$900. This includes for profit camps, nonprofit camps, great camps and not so great. When hearing this you might ask "How does Camp Beech Cliff afford to operate an exceptional camp by only charging \$190-\$375 for a week?"

The answer is You - Community Members, Camper Families, Businesses, Foundations, and some rental revenue. When you support Camp Beech Cliff's programs for children and the community, you can be confident in knowing your donation will go directly to providing the excellence for which CBC is known. This is not just something that we say, this is acknowledged by Guidestar, the world's largest source of information on nonprofit organizations. Guidestar has awarded us the Platinum Seal of Transparency, indicating we share clear and important information with you about our Saul DESTAP organization and our goals, strategies, and

2021

the difference we are making.

Thank you for continuing to help make camp accessible for all.



Our 25th Anniversary Celebrations!

- 554 donors (includes over 75 local businesses) and 129 volunteers made CBC possible this year
- 91 campers awarded camperships to attend summer camp
- Secured \$84,000 in sponsorships and grants to support programs & events
- Raised over \$120,000 at the Ladies Who Loonch event to directly support camperships, transportation and programs.
- Launched our Youth Mental Health First Aid initiative
- Fully funded free transportation to and from summer camp
- Established an endowment to perpetually support lower camp fees for local families
- Kicked off the inaugural Winter Warm-Up, a new event for the community
- Introduced a Family Fun Night carnival
- Collaborated with a dozen nonprofits to provide the Trail of Treats, a safe Halloween event for over 350 children in our community.

"Receiving the Campership means the world to our family... provides us the peace of mind that our children are safe and nurtured while learning about the outdoors... CBC is one of the best things on MDI." Director of Development

2022 camper family

9 Weeks of Camp 10
230 Total Campers 773
465 Weekly Resident Fee \$190
Frogram Expenses 34%
Covered by Fees









More than Summer Camp

Throughout the year Camp Beech Cliff hosts or participates in many community events. Come join in!

January's Winter Warm-Up

March's Outdoor Safety Day



July 4th Parade

August's Family Fun Day



November's **Bed Races**



Pickleball Tournaments

School Vacation Camps

Family Climbing Nights







2023 CBC Calendar

Winter Pickleball Mon/Wed/Fri 9-11am

Mental Health First Aid Training Winter 2023 TBD

Winter Warm-Up January 29

February School Vacation Camp

Summer Camp Early Registration March 1-10

April School Vacation Camp April 17-21

First Day of Summer Camp! June 19

16th Annual July 12

Last Day of Summer Camp : August 25

Trail of Treats October 28

Please support the year round programming of Camp Beech Cliff.
Thank you!

