

## Building Progress

**B**ig things are happening at Camp! When you return to Camp this summer and walk from the parking lot down to the Senior Division you will notice something missing — the Palace has been demolished. Envisioned during the Capital Campaign, the plan to rebuild the Director's house has finally come to fruition with a lot of hard work from many members of the Board of Directors.

Over the past year a committee worked with the Portland architecture firm SMRT, Inc. to design a new year round residence for the Director. This house will be a fully functional home for a family to live in. The ground level will also serve as a meeting space for staff training or events. Many familiar features from the old house will resurface, such as the porch overlooking the waterfront and the classic white and green color scheme.



*Foundation work at the site of the future "Palace"*

The building construction will get underway in early September after the camp season has ended and will be completed over the winter. When you come back in 2017 there will be a new home that will actually warrant

the "Palace" trademark name.

A few smaller projects have already been completed. This spring the dining hall roof was replaced and the solar panels were reinstalled on top. The roof was showing signs of age and leaks were apparent so this was a project that needed to happen. The old W cabin in the Senior Division has been replaced with a new one that will be functional for years to come. And last fall the floor at the Lodge was reinforced as some supports were no longer maintaining the structural integrity of the building. All of these projects were done to make sure that Camp and its facilities are in great working condition before the summer starts. We hope you will enjoy them all.

*Deirdre Wadsworth  
Chair, Building Committee  
Member, Board of Directors*



*New Big A*

## James Skelton

### 1989-2015



James (Jamie) son of Jody (Hutchinson) and John Skelton, and brother to Michael and Rebecca Skelton lost his fight against brain cancer. Jamie was a true joy to all who met him — whether tearing it up on the soccer fields or stopping

pucks on ice rinks around town, yelling “BUDDY CHECK” on the “Shores of Lake Ossipee” at Camp Nellie Huckins, patiently teaching snowboarding at King Pine, or coaching soccer at Freedom Elementary School. Jamie loved the outdoors and attended YMCA Camp Belknap.

In 2001, he and his family packed up a camper and traveled across the United States and back, traversing 28 states in four months. Remarkably, he developed a passion for traveling. Jamie graduated from Kennett High School in 2006 and Springfield College in 2010; he also successfully graduated from Natural Outdoor Leadership School after living in the snowed-in mountains of Colorado, sleeping in self-dug igloos, and loving every icy minute.

In 2009, Jamie combined his passion for the outdoors and travel; he lived, studied and worked at a YMCA camp in Spain, taught snowboarding in Argentina, and volunteered for the YMCA in Chile. Jamie discovered his talent for developing youth leaders and helping young people through outdoor environmental educational programs.

He spent a summer working as the trip director at YMCA Camp Chingachgook on Lake George in New York, two summers working as leadership director and outdoor educator at YMCA Camp Spears in Dingman's Ferry, Pa., and most recently returned to the beloved shores of Ossipee as the Waterfront Director at Camp Huckins this past summer.

Always searching for the perfect run, he fell in love with the powder at Big Sky Resort in Bozeman, Mont., and spent last winter there as a snow board instructor. He was able to return to Bozeman in October and fulfilled his dream to shred some powder over Thanksgiving weekend.

Donations will be gratefully appreciated in memory of James Skelton to: National Brain Tumor Society ([www.braintumor.org](http://www.braintumor.org)) or YMCA Camp Nellie Huckins Scholarship Endowment Fund ([camphuckins.org/donate](http://camphuckins.org/donate)).

## Camp Nellie Huckins Legacy Society

# 100 for 100



**H**uckins has long been grateful for the support of generous donors who make it possible to provide the nurturing environment that camp has been known for since 1928. Throughout the years, many donors expressed their desire to be able to provide camp with additional support through estate planning. As a result of those requests, the Camp Nellie Huckins

Legacy Society was established. As we begin planning for camp's 100th anniversary, we have set a goal to grow the Legacy Society to 100 members. Please help us reach that goal through simple estate planning now. When you join the Camp Nellie Huckins Legacy Society, you have the opportunity to support camp's future.

Recently, Molly Ness became the newest member of the Legacy Society. Molly was at camp from 1981–1993. She has many fond memories of camp life, especially the waterfront, playground and evenings with her cabin.

When asked why she decided to join the Legacy Society, Molly explained, “I am supporting Camp Huckins because I know girls today are getting the exact same experience I got as a camper 30 years ago.”

Thank you, Molly for making your legacy gift to Camp Huckins. For more information about the Camp Nellie Huckins Legacy Society contact Peter King, at [Peter@camphuckins.org](mailto:Peter@camphuckins.org)

### Did you know...

## Camp Huckins turns 100 in 2027!

**YMCA Camp Huckins**  
17 Camp Huckins Road  
Freedom NH 03836-4403

(603)539-4710

camphuckins.org

### **Camp Huckins Year Round Employees**

Jody (Hutchinson) Skelton  
*Executive Director*

Kara (Smith) Couture  
*Sr. Program Director*

Kara Evans  
*Assistant Camp Director*

Angela Lavoie  
*Registrar*

Sue Fullerton  
*Admin. Asst*

Stephanie Paine  
*Director of Alumni Development*

Peter King  
*Director of Donor Relations*

Howard Trask  
*Director of Maintenance*

### **Carroll County YMCA/ Camp Huckins Board of Directors**

Leslie Guenther, *President*  
Eleni Eliades, *Vice President*  
Kristen Fischer, *Secretary*  
Elizabeth (Sanborn) Ventre,  
*Treasurer*

Sarah Bird

Cynthia Churchill

Anne Depew

Ian Dowe

Chris Duprey

Richard Fleming

Robin (Cranage) Lapoint

Kathleen Mulkern

Caitlin Mulligan

Nat Peirce

Priscilla Rowe

Elizabeth (Serio) Eskenazi

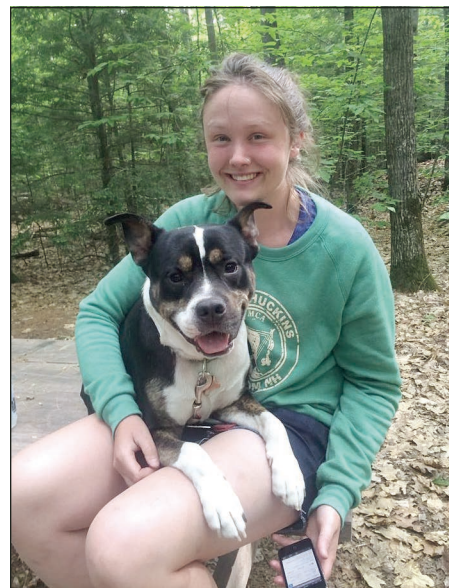
Karen (Greene) Shackford

Lewis M. Vittum

Deirdre (Gaudreau) Wadsworth

# Introducing...

We are excited to announce that Kara Evans has been selected as the next Year-Round Assistant Camp Director. Kara hails from the Philadelphia area and holds a BA in English from Temple University. Starting as a Junior in Cabin Q2, she has risen through the ranks and this year she will celebrate her 15th summer at Huckins. Kara has worked as a counselor in the Senior Division, a Department Head, Program Director, and Barn Director. With her amazing rescue dog, Barley, Kara comes to camp with boundless enthusiasm and a love of New Hampshire and the outdoors. Welcome, Kara!



## *A very Nellie way to give back!* **Re-connecting with Camp Huckins**

The brand-new Alumni Engagement Committee recently convened by conference call for its inaugural meeting. This sub-committee of the board's Alumni Development Committee was formed to "friend-raise" and increase the ways former campers and counselors can re-connect with camp friends and rekindle fond memories.

In our first meeting, we did some great brainstorming about several topics. How do we connect with people who've lost touch with camp? How can alumni contribute to the recently added summer "Empowerment Days" at camp? How can we best use social media to celebrate all that Huckins means to us as individuals — and to girls and women as developing leaders? And how will we celebrate Huckins' 90th summer in 2017?? Just as it happened back in our camp days of song contests and skit nights, the ideas tumbled out

in an avalanche of excitement and creativity.

Many thanks to Stephanie Paine, who put together this great group of volunteers: Samantha (Gillis) Busenhardt, Margaret Edgell Core, Molly Ness, Anna Cranage Conathan, Amy Kallmerten, Meredith Haff Breiland, Lindsay (Wetmore) Murvachver, Sarah Dodge, Rebecca Levy Corwyn, and Abbey Salon. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Committee Chair Kristen Fischer at [kfischer@holderness.org](mailto:kfischer@holderness.org). We'd love to have you!

# All About the Alumni ...

Alumni notes are listed under the decade in which the majority of their camper years fell.

## The 1960s, 1970s and 1980s

Since her retirement **Judith Dolliver Taylor** has enjoyed skiing, kayaking, traveling and visiting her grandsons.

Following years of traveling for jobs in Boston, Milwaukee, Connecticut and Massachusetts, **Bonny Pope** and her husband settled down with their two boys in Dover, NH. They've lived there for 20 years and she continues to run her graphic design company from an in home studio. Their 2 boys live in Berkeley, CA, so they travel west a lot! Bonny is grateful for all the things Huckins taught her and the values it instilled.



Alums stop to take a photo at Sarah Riley's wedding!



Britt Conway accepting the Junior Sailor Award.

## The 1990s and 2000s

Congratulations to **Britt Conway** for winning Junior Sailor of the Quarter. Britt is currently stationed in Italy with the Navy.

*Olivia Henriques (left) and a classmate interviewed Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsberg.*



**Olivia Henriques** and a classmate at Gettysburg College interviewed Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsberg for a Jewish Women Writers Class.

**Kate Hinnant** graduated from Loyola University in May 2015. Upon graduation, she spent 3 months in Europe, 3 months volunteering at an orphanage in Cambodia and is now in Australia for 1 year.

**Amy Davis** married Jonathan Kosak in June 2014 and they had their first child in April (see page 6)!

## Get Social!



**LinkedIn** | Join our

"Camp Nellie Huckins Alumni" private group by requesting membership. A resource for networking!



**Twitter** |

@CampHuckins

#CNHAlumni

#HuckinsHearts



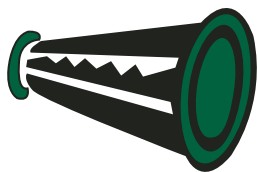
**Facebook** |

YMCA Camp Huckins



**Instagram** |

YMCACampHuckins



Please send us news about your accomplishments — or brag about someone else's — fellow Huckonians want to know! Email Kara at [kara@camphuckins.org](mailto:kara@camphuckins.org).

**Emily Sturgis Pickens** is the mom of twins and lives in Seattle, Washington.

**Elizabeth Sturgis** is an executive with THE OUTNET, a luxury online British fashion outlet with offices in New York City and London, England.

**Lindsay Wetmore Murvachver** ran in the Boston Marathon in memory of her Aunt Laurie. She ran for Dana-Farber Cancer Institute in Boston. Great job, Lindsay!



Hannah Jacobs, Emma Cahill and Britt Conway gather.



On May 4th, alumni gathered at Rivalries in Portland for a reunion.



Alums gather at The Farm in Manchester, NH.

## Save the Date

### **The Mount Washington Valley Alumni Reunion**

**Friday, June 3rd, 2016**

7pm, dessert and social

The Lodge, Camp Huckins

Please come early for the annual Spaghetti Supper at 5:30

RSVP: [Stephanie@camphuckins.org](mailto:Stephanie@camphuckins.org)

### **Alumni Reunion Weekend**

**Friday, June 3rd – Sunday, June 5th**

Email [kara@camphuckins.org](mailto:kara@camphuckins.org) for more information or to RSVP

### **3rd Huckins Tri-Ath-LOON**

**Sunday, June 5th**

[camphuckins.org/tri-ath-loon/](http://camphuckins.org/tri-ath-loon/)

### **Dubs of 2006 10 Year Reunion**

Who: All W's of 2006!

What: 10 year "W" Reunion

When: Alumni Weekend, June 3–5

Where: Camp Huckins

Reconnect with other girls from your "W" year while enjoying your favorite things: campfires, s'mores, singing, and some work! You do not want to miss this! For more information, please contact Kara at [kara@camphuckins.org](mailto:kara@camphuckins.org)

# Welcome to the Huckins family!

## Weddings and Babies



1. Evan Levi was born on April 12, 2016 to **Amy Davis** (96) and Jonathan Kossak.

2. **Emily Barlow** (03) is excited to announce that she is engaged to Brian Darrow.

3. Hannah Grace Hughes was born on January 14, 2016 to **Leslie Smith** (90) and Greg Jannetta.



4. **Jess Palmer** (05) married Luke Greenberg on July 18th in York, ME.

5. **Sarah Riley** (12) married Brian Silva on May 2, 2015 in Providence, RI at Providence College where they met.

6. Everly Shea was born on March 13, 2015 to **Marissa Henaghan** (05) and William O'Connor. She joins big sister Delaney Maeve, 3, at home.



# Volunteer Extraordinaire

## Meet Kate Dwyer

**K**ate Dwyer is a former camper and counselor, the daughter of a Huckins' camper and mother of three 15-year Nellie girls (Chapin, Breezy and Jan-na). To say Huckins runs in the family is an understatement! Kate is a teacher/director at an amazing preschool and kindergarten on a farm in Ipswich, MA. Her hobbies include swimming, sewing knitting boating and reading.

When Kate's first born started at camp she realized how much she had missed Huckins — driving into camp brought back so many memories. The sights, smells and sounds were still the same.

When the alumni weekends started, Kate was thrilled to return to Huckins to help! She has been to many of them in the past 19 years. Wanting more involvement in a place she loved, Kate started volunteering as "Week-end Craft Director" for Mother/Daughter Weekend in September. Each year she creates and brings supplies for new and fun crafts. Kate makes the Craft Shop a very popular place. Her volunteer work at camp has given her an opportunity to reconnect with her camp friends Alice Barbar Sabol and Priscilla Rowe from 1975.

Kate says, "It feels so good to be reconnected to camp, not just through my daughters but through my own involvement! I have found other ways to be a part of Huckins and will continue to do so!" This summer her great niece will be coming to Huckins for the first time — the fourth generation!



*Three generations of Nellie girls: Kate with her mother (front) and daughters.*

## Not Just a Summer Camp

**C**amp used to be 8 weeks in the summer. This is no longer the case as camp opens its gates in early June to welcome alumni for Alumni Weekend, the Triathaloon (June 3rd–5th) and Mother/Son Weekend (June 10th–12th) and closes late September with Women's Wellness Weekend (September 23rd–25th). In between, we have our busy summer season where over 1400 girls immerse themselves in camp life and experience the beautiful outdoors and the traditions of Camp Nellie Huckins. No sooner does the staff wave good-bye to the campers on August 20th than the Family Campers fill up the cabins August 22nd–27th and September 2nd–5th. Almost 275 mothers and daughters attend Mother/Daughter

Weekend (September 16th–18th). Off-season camps have become a very popular time for alumni and new friends of Huckins to share and experience the traditions of Camp. Please look on our website for more information [www.camphuckins.org](http://www.camphuckins.org).

All of these "extra camps" provide a staffing challenge for the year-round staff. Each year we have a handful of dedicated volunteers who come and work in the kitchen, in the craft shop and on the waterfront. If you are interested in coming and helping at camp during one of our spring or fall weekends, please contact Jody ([jody@camphuckins.org](mailto:jody@camphuckins.org)) or Stephanie ([Stephanie@camphuckins.org](mailto:Stephanie@camphuckins.org)).

# Huckins Fall/Spring Programs

YMCA Camp Huckins' work extends far beyond the traditional four two-week sessions. The camp's facilities, staff, and volunteer services are utilized throughout the spring and fall "shoulder seasons" in order to serve both the camp and local community. Groups ranging from elementary school students all the way through senior citizens are served both on site and remotely throughout the year. Here are just a few examples of how Huckins utilizes its resources throughout the spring and fall seasons:



## Spring

- Madison Recreation Department Archery Program
- Squeaky Swimmers
- New Hampshire JAG Program teambuilding
- NH Youth & Government
- Jackson School Teambuilding
- Spaghetti Supper
- Tri-Ath-Loon
- Conway 5th Grade (3 Elementary Schools)
- Pine Tree Elementary School Field Day
- Mother/Son Weekend
- Freedom School Overnight (3rd, 4th, 5th, and 6th grades)
- Freedom School Field Day/Picnic
- Kennett High School Project Graduation

*Children from area schools participate in overnight retreats each year.*



*Camp facilities are used by a variety of groups for teambuilding exercises.*



Jody and Kara work with New Hampshire teens in the Youth in Government program each year.

## Fall

- Freedom Elementary Soccer Program (Grades 1-6)
- Family Camp
- Dover High School Band Camp
- Always An Adventure
- NCIL (North Country Independent Living)
- Exeter Unitarian Church
- Mother/Daughter Weekend
- Women's Wellness Weekend

## Spring and Fall

- Local Women's Tennis Group Wednesdays 5-7 pm
- Barre Class
- Girls on the Run
- Squeaky Sneakers
- Short Sports



Fall and spring programs for young children include Squeaky Sneakers (above) and Short Sports (below).



The Barre Class is offered in both spring and fall.





## Women's Wellness Weekend

September 23–25, 2016

*“Restore Your Spirit, Mind & Body”*

Join us for our 4th Women's Weekend on the shores of Ossipee. The weekend will offer many opportunities to enjoy camp activities in the company of other women. Do as much or as little as you want, design your weekend and focus on you!

This is a weekend for women to share their skills.....cooking, painting,

yoga, massage, dance, holistic/natural living, stylist, professional organizer, estate planning.....if you have a specialty to share let us know!

The cost for the weekend is \$150. Please contact [kara@camphuckins.org](mailto:kara@camphuckins.org) for more information or go to [www.camphuckins.org](http://www.camphuckins.org) to register. We hope to see you!



## What ever happened to...**Francia Davis**



Camp Huckins taught me about the outdoors, being responsible for a cabin full of girls, taking healthy risks, and trying new activities. My last year as a camper was in 1964 and then I was a counselor in the Middler Division for three summers and ran the canoe program.

In the years following camp I joined the Peace Corps and served for three years in Botswana, Africa; got married; had two daughters and worked for 36 years as a staff member of the Maine Human Rights Commission. One of my daughters attended Huckins and, hopefully, her daughter will join the legacy. Until then, I will continue to

sing camp songs to my grandchildren.

I often think of Huckins, constant and true, and know that camp made me into the strong, independent person I am today. Last summer, at Women's Empowerment Day, I told the Middler campers to treasure every day, sing as loud as possible, and “remember the fields and woodlands, the sky so heavenly blue. For you girls belong to Huckins and Huckins belongs to you.”

*Our Fall 2016 Huckonian will focus on this Huckins alum... can you guess who it is?*



# Strength in Mind and Body

It is the mission of the Carroll County YMCA, through its many programs, to strengthen the Spirit, Mind, and Body of youth, families and communities; Girls on the Run, a 10-week after-school program for girls in grades 3 to 5, does just that. The program's mission is to inspire girls to be joyful, healthy, and confident using a fun, experience-based curriculum which creatively integrates running. Girls learn to celebrate their bodies, honor their voices, recognize their gifts, and activate their personal power, thus empowering the youth the Carroll County YMCA strives to serve.

Girls on the Run encourages positive emotional, social, mental and physical development. Participants explore and discuss their own beliefs around experiences and challenges girls face at this age. Designed to allow every girl to recognize her inner strength, the Girls on the Run curriculum inspires girls to define their



*These Girls on the Run had a blast strengthening their spirits, minds and bodies.*

lives on their own terms. Throughout the season, the girls make new friends, build their inner confidence and celebrate all that makes them

unique. Running is incorporated throughout the curriculum to inspire an appreciation of fitness and to build habits that lead to a lifetime of health.

At the end of the season, the girls participate in a Girls on the Run 5K event. This celebratory, non-competitive event is the culminating experience of the curriculum. Completing the 5K gives the girls a tangible understanding of the confidence that comes through accomplishment as well as a framework for setting and achieving life goals. Crossing the finish line is a defining moment when the girls realize that even the seemingly impossible IS possible.

The program had over 36 sites and 593 participants this past fall in New Hampshire; Center Conway was the only site north of Gilmanton, NH. For more information about the program, to sponsor a girl, or to be a volunteer at the 5K, contact Kara Couture at [kara@camphuckins.org](mailto:kara@camphuckins.org).

*Come back to camp and tell your stories*

## Empowerment Days

At Camp Huckins we pride ourselves in developing strong women and leaders. For the past two summers, we have invited alumni to come back and share their memories of camp with campers and share their life experiences with staff. Alumni volunteers spend time together then fan out across camp to spend counselors' free time with a cabin. Alumni and campers are encouraged to exchange stories and find out what is the same and what is different. All are pleased to know that so many things have not changed and many of the traditions have remained. At lunch, the alumni go to the dining hall and sit with their cabins. The sounds and activity of the dining hall are fun to experience with the campers and louder than we remember. After lunch, staff and alumni gather in the lodge for networking.

This summer there will be two Empowerment Days – July 16th and August 13th. Please consider being part of this fun and rewarding camp program. You may sign up online at <http://camphuckins.org/alumni/empowerment-day-registration/> or contact Stephanie Paine at [Stephanie@camphuckins.org](mailto:Stephanie@camphuckins.org).

YMCA Camp Huckins  
17 Camp Huckins Road  
Freedom NH 03836-4403

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

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Freedom, NH 03836



## You're Invited

The Carroll County Board of Directors would like to invite you to our Spaghetti Supper at the Camp Huckins Dining Hall—Camp's opening meal welcoming our New Campers/Parents. Come and see Camp, enjoy a meal and talk with Staff.

**Friday, June 3, 2016**

**5:00-6:30 PM**

Cost: \$5.00 per adult and \$3.00 per child

CAMP TOURS AVAILABLE!

Please RSVP: (603) 539-4710 or  
[karacouture@camphuckins.org](mailto:karacouture@camphuckins.org)

*Public is invited!*

## YMCA Camp Huckins 2016 Season • Important Dates

Alumni Reunion Weekend • June 3–5

Women's Tri-ath-LOON • June 5

Mother/Son Weekend • June 10–12

Early Bird Week • June 13–18

Staff Training Week • June 20–24

1st Session • June 25–July 9

2nd Session • July 9–23

3rd Session • July 24–Aug 6

4th Session • Aug 6–20

Staff Parents Day • July 30

Family Camp • Aug 22–27

Labor Day Family Camp • Sept 2–5

Mother/Daughter Weekend • Sept 16–18

Women's Wellness Weekend • Sept 23–25

