

the Huckonian



A publication for alumni and friends

Spring 2018

What's New This Summer!

The Year-Round Director's Home is Finished

The newly built Camp Director's home is completed! Jody and John will be moving into their new year round home in April. The house has 3 bedrooms and 3 full baths, a kitchen and living area, and a small study area. It also has a beautiful meeting space for our summer and winter board meetings. The new porch will be screened in for our spring, summer and fall meetings, has wifi connections and its own entrance stairway. The porch provides a stunning view of the camp waterfront and we expect it will be a favorite spot for many years to come. We can't wait to give tours this spring; the home will be open on change days for visitors to view and there will be an Open House during Alumni Weekend on Saturday, June 2nd, at 5:00pm.



The living room.



The kitchen.

Thank you so much to all of our donors, the building committee and its chair, Deidre Gaudreau Wadsworth, and the entire Camp Huckins Board of Directors for their efforts in bringing this project to completion!



The conference room will be furnished with a large table and plenty of comfy chairs.

Sports Field Updates

On the Sports Field, we are adding 4 new elements to our Low Ropes Course. Currently, we have 15 stations. The new elements will improve our ability to have large groups on the course at one time and will offer more variety. Most of our elements are designed to develop teambuilding skills for small groups. We can't wait for our community groups and campers to use the Low Ropes Course this summer. Thank you

to The Goldberg Foundation for their support of this project.

The second addition to the Sports Field will be a new Mountain Bike Trail. Please see page 2 for more about our new trail.



Renovated and expanded housing for our nurses.

Nurses' Housing Renovated

The second phase of the Health Center renovation is complete. Phase Two was the creation of renovated and expanded housing for our nursing staff. As of this summer, the three nurses and their families will all live adjacent to the Health Center.

Waterfront

Sailing is still one of our favorite sports and we are adding another Hobie Wave to our sailing fleet this summer. The Small Crafts beach continues to be a very busy place and we can't wait to get out on the water.

Dining Services

Chef Joel continues to upgrade our kitchen and we look forward to getting camp up to speed for Summer 2018. We can't wait to see you there!

Coming in 2018

Huckins Mountain Bike Trail

While the Palace and Health Center get highly visible facelifts in the heart of Camp leading into the summer 2018 season, a more hidden project will snake its way through the back woods of Huckins' 250 acres: a state-of-the-art mountain bike trail constructed by Mountain Trails, LLC. Jody and John toured the Highland Mountain Biking Park in Northfields, New Hampshire last November and were blown away by the fabulous trail system including berms, bumps and various grades of flats and steepness.

This spring, once the snow melts, the folks from Northfields will be in camp to design, clear, grade and totally construct over one mile of mountain bike-specific trails on the land beyond the BB range and west of the horse trails. The mountain biking program during summer camp, having completed its fifth summer, has seen the fleet of sturdy Trek mountain bikes grow every year, from ten in 2013 to sixteen heading in to summer 2018. Each session upper middle and seniors have one instructional period of exposure to mountain biking, and free selection time and Family Camp have seen gung-ho cyclists reach as far as Trout Pond (a 6 mile round trip) in the Freedom Town Forest.

The new trails, totally on Camp property, will afford a great safety: trails of varied ability for beginner, intermediate and more advanced, all accessible without any road travel,



John and Jody doing a little bike trail research.

and 100% separate from Camp's horse trail system behind the barn. The trail designers from Mountain Trails will use their expertise to make the most of the landscape, and to create new pathways which have not been eroded by heavy horse hooves, fire roads or soft sand of the pine barrens.

A new challenge, designed with safety and best land use practices in mind, will await all those who visit Camp this summer and into the future.

Empowerment Day 2018

This year we will hold one Empowerment Day on Saturday, July 29th. Alumni are invited to come and spend a day at camp. Empowerment Day is a wonderful opportunity for camp alums to give back to campers and staff through the sharing of their camp and adult professional and non-pro-

fessional experiences. The program begins at 11:00am. Child care will be available. To register please go to camphuckins.campintouch.com/ui/forms/application/person/App

For more information, please contact Stephanie Paine via email at Stephanie@camphuckins.org. We hope to see you there.



Our alumni at Empowerment Day 2017

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
Jody@camphuckins.org

Kara (Smith) Couture

Director of Community Outreach
Kara@camphuckins.org

Angela Lavoie

Registrar
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Stephanie Paine

Director of Advancement
Stephanie@camphuckins.org

Howard Trask

Director of Maintenance
Howard@camphuckins.org

Mike St. Onge

Maintenance

Joel Weeman

Director of Food Services
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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.

What does it mean to be a member of the Huckins Legacy Society?



Gail Paine and her granddaughters, Hailey (on left) and Anna (on right) Weisel.

I joined the Huckins Legacy Society because I want to give future generations the opportunities that my sister-in-law, daughters, nieces, and grandchildren have enjoyed each summer as campers and staff members. Camp has been part of our family for almost 50 years. My involvement with camp has been as a board member, a donor and as an adult camper. For several years, I brought relatives to Family Camp for a few days of friendship, relaxation and healthy family bonding. Being able to be a part of camp was a real treat for someone who had not attended camp as a child. Today, camp is an opportunity for girls and young women to spend time in a tech-free environment. There is no need to text message when you can stand on a table and sing at the top of your lungs to and with the Dining Hall full of joyful campers. My granddaughters comment, "it is so nice not to have my phone for a month and to be unplugged". Camp Huckins mission of developing young women into leaders resonates strongly with me. I am proud to become a small part of this very special place on the shores of Lake Ossipee.

Legacy Society members are those alumni and friends who have decided to include Huckins in their estate plans. You may do this through a bequest in your will, a gift of stocks, real estate, or other assets, a beneficiary designation on an IRA, 401K or other retirement plan, a life insurance beneficiary designation or by including Huckins as a recipient of memorial gifts "in lieu of flowers."

We are hoping to have 100 members by our 100th in 2027. Please consider including Huckins in your plans. This act will help to ensure that Huckins is around for generations to come.

Information on these and other planned giving options is available from YMCA Camp Huckins. Please contact Stephanie Paine, via email at Stephanie@camphuckins.org or call (603)539-4710.

Triathlooon Year 5 – New Youth Races Added!

August 19, 2018 will be an amazing day to be at YMCA Camp Huckins. We will host our first ever sanctioned Youth Tri-ath-loon. Children ages 6 through 96 will have age-appropriate races!!! We hope all of our camp families will join us and participate in this fun event. The various races will continue throughout the morning, and all are invited to enjoy a cookout on the Sports field cooked by our own famous Chef, Joel Weeman. Come and spend the day, swimming, biking, running and cheering as our Camp Huckins TRIATHLETES show their stuff!

Little Loons — ages 6-11

- 11:15 am start
- Inside Area Swim (20 yards), short bike (1/2 mile), and run (300 yard) on camp property
- Individuals and teams welcome
- (Registration fee \$25.00 and suggested \$25 donation to Annual Fund)

Loons — ages 12-15

- 10:30 am start
- Swim from Camp Island to shore, 2.5mile bike and 1 mile run all on camp property
- Individuals and teams welcome – each team may include one adult
- (Registration fee \$25.00 and suggested \$35 donation to Annual fund)



Women's Race — ages 16-96

- 9:00 am start
- All women's Sprint Tri individual race
- Teams may include one male athlete
- (Registration fee \$75.00, The Triathlooon is a camp fundraiser. We hope that each participant will reach out to friends and family and ask them to support you and Camp Huckins, suggested \$250 donation to Annual Fund)



**2018 TRI-ATH-LOON
SUNDAY, AUGUST 19**

REGISTER NOW:

CAMPHUCKINS.ORG/TRI-ATH-LOON/

**WE CAN'T WAIT TO
SEE YOU THERE!!!**

Whatever happened to...

Joanie Rogers Leopold

Joanie Rogers Leopold has lived with her husband Dick in the Chicago suburbs for 40 years. Since 2000, Joanie has been running a marketing firm, Ossipee Media Services (of course, no one can pronounce the name correctly). In 2017 she opened Slow Tag Press. She expects to be writing stories for kids well into retirement (whenever that is). Her first book, *Herbert Loves Sherbet*, was sold last summer in the camp store and on Amazon. The second children's picture book, *Do You Like Snow?* is due out in fall.

Joanie's daughter Lizzie is also a Huckins alum, and she worked her way up as camper through all divisions to eventually teach sailing herself. She and her husband Brian Mazzaferri live in Evanston IL with their 2-year-old Adela. Adela is pictured proudly wearing her Nellie hat. They are expecting their second child, a son, this April. Joanie's son Joe and wife Liz Pino live in Boston.

Their son James is 3 and their daughter is due this summer. Joe has already explained to his wife that all Rogers girls go to Huckins — smart guy!

Joanie's first year at Huckins was 1963. She went on to spend 12 summers at camp (non-consecutive) and had a first-hand view of lots of changes over the next decade plus: She saw Zaven and Audrey arrive at camp in 1965; the addition of waterskiing to camp activ-



Joanie served as sailing counselor from 1972–1974. In 1988, she returned to Camp as Assistant Small Crafts Director with her family in tow.

Joanie continues to be in touch with Huckins friends from all her years at camp. Huckins is part of her history, her present and her future. Her Huckins friends are family. She is proud of and grateful to everyone who works so hard to keep the Nellie Spirit alive for girls every summer. Over the years, she has met people who have similar long term, life-changing relationships with their summer camps. She truly understands them. But, she also smugly know that none of those camps can hold a candle (literally) to Huckins. As proof of her love of Huckins, she even has a Huckins inspired license plate on her car — LAFNGLN.



Joanie's granddaughter Adela proudly sports her Nellie hat. Adela's mother Lizzie is also a Huckins alumna.

ities; the new paved tennis courts and dining hall; the transformation of "W" for Waitresses into the W Program; and, the first CITs to live in the new cabin at the end of the Jr Division (now Big V).

Our Fall 2018

Huckonian will focus on this Huckins alum... can you guess who it is?



Today a reader, tomorrow a leader. - Margaret Fuller

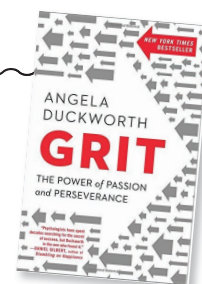
Join the Camp Huckins Alumni Virtual Book Club!

The Alumni Engagement Committee has generated lots of great ideas for connecting alumni; among those ideas is a Virtual Book Club, which will "meet" online for the first time this spring. We hope to read three or four books a year, and you can join in for any or all meetings!

The focus for book choices will range from women in leadership, to stories of strong women and girls, to books written by women. For the first meeting of the book club,

we'll be reading the book *Grit: The Power of Passion and Perseverance* by Angela Duckworth. We're still working out details, so the meeting date and platform will be announced soon on Facebook and on the Huckins website. Keep your eye out!

If you'd like to be on an email list to receive information directly about the book club, please contact Stephanie Paine at stephanie@camphuckins.org.



2018 Women's Wellness Weekend – September 28–30

“Make New Friends, But Keep the Old”

by Anne Depew

At some point last Spring, I got a Facebook message from Kristen Olson saying that she was going to Women's Wellness Weekend and asking a group to join her. I confess that I did not really consider going. Two nights away in September seemed impossible and I really had no idea what one did at a wellness weekend. But, when I picked my head up in early September, saw that the stars had aligned and that the weekend presented the possibility of reconnecting with women I had not been with since the mid-80s, I took Friday off and headed north.

I laughed more that weekend than I have in years. I walked into the cabin to find fellow CITs, one of my CIT trainers and one of my W counselors. I also met women I have never met



before. We had almost magical meal times in the Lodge and my thought that wellness might include two days of weight loss evaporated because the food was delicious. I tried yoga, went for walks, kayaked, participated in an inspiring wellness workshop, learned to use a selfie stick and threw a skillet. I laughed almost constantly, cried once and watched as the women around me laughed, connected and were well. It was a wonderful weekend and I highly recommend it.



**Please join us next September
28th - 30th, 2018.**

**For more information contact
kara@camphuckins.org. or
register online at camphuckins.
org/camper-families/fami-
ly-campother-camps/**



A few of Jody's 1978 Cabin S campers.

Welcome to the Huckins family!

Weddings and Babies



1 **Amanda Needham** (12) married **Bryan Quick** on August 26, 2017 in St. Louis at the Missouri Botanical Garden.



2 **Ellie Eckerson** (11) married **Kyle Peters** on September 23, 2017 in Westport, CT.

3 **Eliza Joy** was born to **Andrew Barr** (14) and **Christina Fenton** (Pookie, 14) on May 27, 2017.

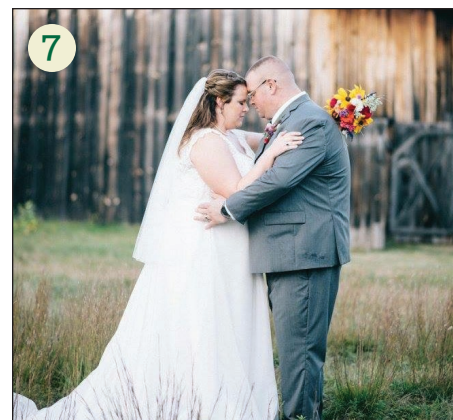
4 **Charley Jean** was born to **Lindsey McCarthy** (07) on August 24, 2017 in Greenville, South Carolina.



5 **Kendall Brown Reed** (02) and **Brock Hollowell McCarthy** (02) daughters, Lily and June, were born a day apart and already linking arms Huckins style. Kendall and Brock met in the JD as campers and Kendall met her husband at Brock's wedding with **Beth Seeley Dietz** as her "wingwoman!" So much Huckins love!

6 **Oliver Magnus** was born to **Lilja** (11) and **Chad LeMay** (11) on December 25, 2017. Lilja, originally from Iceland, and Chad met while on staff together on 2011.

7 **Molly Mullins** (13) married **Chris Greenwood** on September 23, 2017.



All About the Alumni ...



Jody and **Becca Skelton** bumped into **Heidi Packard** (02) and **Lee Winer** (05) in the parking lot at Loon Mountain this winter (top left). You never know where you will see a Huckins face. **Heidi** will graduate this spring with a PhD in Management from MIT's Sloan School of Management. This summer she starts her new job as an Assistant Professor of Accounting at the University of Michigan's Ross School of Business. **Lee** is a veterinarian at the Wayland Animal Clinic in Massachusetts.

Huckins friends gather for a photo at **Ellie Eckerson's** wedding (top right): **Jenny MacQuarrie** (10), **Rachel Damery** (10), and **Grace Healey**



(11). **Susan Krasker Elsbree** (Ellie's aunt and Huckins alum) and **Abby** and **Lizzie Elsbree** (her cousins who will be CITs this summer) were also at the wedding!

Noelle Braddock (12) is finishing a Masters Degree in Psychology from California Institute of Integral Studies in San Francisco, CA.

Sarah Ploss (13) is working for NBC News as a researcher. She works for our correspondent Tom Costello as well as NBC Nightly News!



The best surprise is a Camp Huckins surprise—**Jessie Felber** (16) bumped into **Tatum Mannion** (16) at *Dear Evan Hansen* in NYC. A Huckins "selfie" (above) was an absolute must!

Is there anything better than a mini March Huckins reunion in Amsterdam? Thank you for the photo **Taylor Sherman** (17), **Floor Toxopeus** (10), and **Britt Conway** (12) (right).

Get Social!



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Camp Nellie Huckins
Alumni group



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YMCACampHuckins

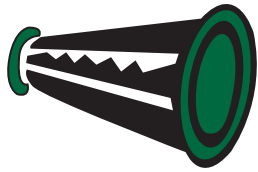


CampMinder

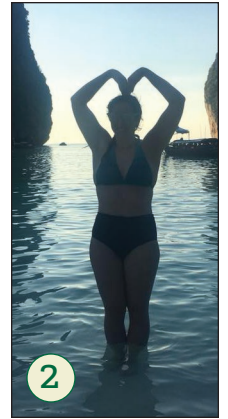
Update your Alumni Information

Huckins has a new database and we need all of our alumni to put in their connections to other Nellie Girls and their alumni history. The new database allows you to connect with other alumni.

So please go to
camphuckins.org/alumni/426-2/



Please send us news about your accomplishments — or brag about someone else — fellow Huckonians want to know! Email Kara at kara@camphuckins.org.



- 1 Alumni gather for a photo at the World Cup in Killington, VT.
- 2 Elizabeth "Boo" Kennedy sends a beautiful Huckins heart while traveling in Thailand.
- 3 Boston Alumni Reunion in October 2017.
- 4 Connecticut alumni reunion, November 2017.
- 5 Alumni reunion at the Boston University Club in December 2017.



6 Alumni gather in Manchester, NH, following the annual New England Camp Conference.

7 A very Nellie gathering: Tracy Puinton, Teri Moag Olson, Elizabeth Kowal, Abby Brown Steinberg and Mindy Stewart Sheehy.

8 There was an abundance of Huckins love (and alums!) at Molly Mullins Greenwood's wedding in September.



Community Involvement

The Carroll County YMCA continues to serve its community members with various programs: Squeaky Sneakers ❶, Short Sports ❷, Girls on the Run ❸, Freedom Soccer, Squeaky Swimmers and Youth & Government. In 2017, the Carroll County YMCA brought 40 delegates to the Youth & Government program in Concord, New Hampshire ❹ from Kennett High School, Kingswood Regional High School and Moultonboro Academy. The Carroll County YMCA is considered a “Y without walls” and is grateful for the communities’ willingness to collaborate!



The Flavor of New Hampshire

by Joel Weeman, Director of Food Services

Like most places at Camp this time of year, the kitchen is cold and quiet. When I go there, it is funny to think about all the hustle and bustle, music, steam, laughter, heat and aromas that fill it in the summer. After putting out close to 95,000 meals each season it seems right to have this time of silence and stillness. However, while the kitchen rests, I look ahead to next summer.

One of the most important parts of planning for next summer is, "Where are we going to get all that food?!" At Camp Huckins, our goal is to provide an environment where "each person can grow to realize their full potential". For me that means serving you the best food I can and I happen to think the best food comes from New Hampshire. We are so fortunate at Camp to know who we get a lot of our food from.

Most of our vegetables come from Pork Hill Farm in Ossipee and Mountain Heartbeet Farm in Effingham, both just a few miles away. The veggies we get from these hard working, organic farms are some of the best I've had the pleasure of working with. Biting into a cherry tomato that is still warm from the sun because it was picked minutes before landing in



our salad bars is a highlight of my time at Camp.

I am excited to add another farm to the list for this coming summer. We will be getting corn and maybe a few other things from Little Field Farm in Madison. We will be sourcing all of our ground beef for the summer from White Gates Farm in Tamworth. Our coffee is roasted in North Conway by our friends at Good Vibes. Our eggs come from Pete and Gerry's in Monroe. Our blueberries come from right here on Camp Huckins property and our Maple Syrup is produced by none other than Angela Lavoie, of Camp Huckins office fame.

There is a French word, *terroir*, that is mostly used when talking about wine, but I think it can apply to food as well. It is the idea that food has the taste of a place. Those tomatoes and corn and maple syrup have a flavor deliciously unique to this place. Next time you eat at Camp, remember that you are tasting a little bit of New Hampshire and the Mount Washington Valley. You are tasting the hard work of our growers and chefs and it all starts while the kitchen sleeps...



Our 6th Snow Day held on February 24, 2018

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

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YMCA Camp Huckins

2018 CALENDAR

April 17 NYC Alumni Gathering,
The Long Hall

April 18 Philadelphia Alumni
Gathering at the home of Sandy
(Frazier) Connelly

May 14 Portland, ME Alumni
Gathering, Nonesuch River
Brewing, Scarborough, ME

June 1-3 Alumni Weekend/
Spaghetti Supper

June 2 New Director's Home
Open House

June 8-10 Mother/Son Weekend

June 23-July 7 Session One

July 7-21 Session Two

July 22-August 4 Session Three

July 28 Staff Parents' Day

July 29 Empowerment Day

August 4-18 Session Four

August 19 Triathaloon (new date!)

August 20-25 Family Camp

Aug. 31-Sept. 3 Labor Day
Weekend Camp

Sept. 14-16 Mother/Daughter
Weekend

Sept. 28-30 Women's Wellness
Weekend

October Boston Alumni Gathering
(TBD)

November Colorado Alumni
Gathering (TBD)

November Boston University Club
Event (TBD)

Get Your Nellie Gear!

The online store will be
open from
May 1 – May 20, 2018.

www.camphuckinsshop.com

We have new Nalgenes,
Umbrellas and more! Get it
here first.

Questions?

sarahcnhstore@gmail.com

Support Camp Huckins via Amazon Smile!

It couldn't be easier. Just visit smile.amazon.com and select *Carroll County YMCA - Camp Huckins* as your charity. Amazon will make a donation to Huckins every time you make a qualifying purchase!

