

the Huckonian



A publication for alumni and friends

Spring 2019

Jody's 50 Years at Camp Huckins

"You can tell a Huckins girl about a mile away because she looks so cheerful, bright and gay. She always has a smile on her face, you can tell her anywhere ..."

Those of us old enough to remember this song might think it was written about Jody Skelton. There is no one we can think of that embodies the Huckins Spirit and exemplifies a Huckins Girl more than Jody. She is the modern-day Nellie!

So, what defines the Huckins Spirit?

Laughter, resiliency, caring, sharing, courage, risk taking, friendship, teamwork, leadership, work ethic, commitment, adventure, fun, love of all things camp.

Is it any coincidence that the Loon is the symbol of Camp Huckins? And Jody seems to surely love these water fowls based on how much Loon gear she has! Representing the beauty and peacefulness of the natural setting and love of the waterfront that is the signature spot at camp and is the yin of Jody to the yang of her constant movement and action. Anyone who has tried to keep up with Jody knows she has two speeds: Fast and faster!

Nellie Harmon Huckins must have known Jody in a previous life. She would be proud to call her daughter, sister, mother, aunt, friend, wife. In every role, Jody brings an intensity for love and life for the past 50 years to Camp Huckins and everyone she comes in contact with. You can only imagine that Zaven, Audrey, Judy, Pete, Layne and the rest of the older Camp Huckins generation, identified Jody as a camper in Cabin V, as the future caretaker of camp. How right they



Jody with former staff members Brooke Barnes, Emily Thomas Parker and Nancy Feldman at Labor Day Weekend Camp 2018.

were and how proud they all are of the "cute little camper with the beanie"!

Jody has given every ounce of herself to be sure the camp experience is consistent and true since the time she has had any influence on the matter, as a counselor, program director, assistant director and most recently as the leader. Having worked closely with her in leadership positions in the 80s it was impossible not to be motivated by her energy and passion. Speaking for many others that have worked alongside Jody, we just tried to keep up with her!

Like all those thousands and thousands that Jody has touched at Camp Huckins, we sure had some fun and lots of laughs with her. But it is the friendship circle that best defines what Jody has meant to camp. It is the connections that has always been at the center of her Huckins world.

It is hard to imagine Camp Huckins without Jody and Jody without Camp Huckins, and yet, both of them will continue to thrive and grow into the next 50 years.

Ala-men,
With much love and admiration,
Nancy Feldman, '74-'82; '85-'89
Emily Thomas Parker, '66-'74; '87-'89

What's New in 2019

We are looking forward to our 93rd summer and excited to share some of the new projects and program additions that you will see when you visit camp this summer.

In the Dining Hall, the kitchen is being remodeled. There will be a newly refurbished floor, new ceiling lights and tiles and a new ceiling hood over our stoves. These upgrades are going to make everything safer and make the kitchen brighter and cleaner. Thanks to Joel, Mike P. and Mike S. who have been doing lots of the work this winter. Additionally, when the snow melts, we will be adding some landscaping in the front of the Dining Hall. You may not recognize the place!

On the Small Crafts Beach, we can't wait to jump into our pontoon boats with their new floors and seats. We have added two sunfish and more paddle boards to the fleet. Fun Fact: If all of our sailboats, paddle boards, kayaks and canoes are in use at the same time we are now able to have 100 campers and 12 staff on the water at the same time. The existing two pontoon boats add 24 more camper seats and 4 more staff seats, bringing our "on the water" capacity to 138! Lastly, we are replacing one of our water ski boats and will have a 2019 Correct Craft Ski Nautique waiting at the boat dock for our water skiers.

On the Sports Field, NH's Highlands Mountain Bike Park staff will be back again this spring to add another mile to our bike trail. The new trail will be connected to our Lollipop



The snow should be gone in time for the Juniors to enjoy this addition to their playground.

Loop trail so campers will be able to go for a one or two mile bike ride.

Our Program Lodge will be getting a facelift this spring. We are replacing the older windows with new strong Plexiglas. The Lodge will be brighter when we close the windows when it is cooler in the fall. We are also adding new exit doors on the west side (on the Dining Hall side) with a small porch and stairs to give us an additional egress.

There is a new element on the Junior Division playground this year. It is a seventeen-foot net climber. We are sure that this addition will be very popular at summer camp and with our Family Campers.

Lastly, thanks to the generosity of the Robert and Dorothy Goldberg Charitable Foundation and a generous donor, we are adding two water bottle refill stations (one in the Dining Hall and one at the Sports Field). We continue to look at ways to put the **green** in our green and white! So campers, do not forget your water bottles!

Our season starts with our Community Spaghetti Supper and Alumni Weekend on May 31st-June 2nd. The following weekend is our Mother/Son Weekend, which will be our largest yet with over 110 Moms and Sons registered. We are so fortunate to have alumni, volunteers and international staff who arrive early to help with our busy early season events.

We are counting the days until Opening Day and hope to see you on the shores of Lake Ossipee this summer.

With lots of Huckins Love and Spirit,

A handwritten signature in green ink that reads "Jody".

Jody Skelton

Share the Spirit of Huckins

Please join in celebrating Jody's 50th summer at Huckins. Help us meet our goal of 1050 donors.

Gifts can be made online at

camphuckins.org/donate/

or by mailing a check in the enclosed envelope.

Thank you for supporting Camp Huckins.

YMCA CAMP HUCKINS

17 Camp Huckins Road
Freedom NH 03836-4403
(603) 539-4710
camphuckins.org

CAMP HUCKINS YEAR-ROUND EMPLOYEES

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Jody@camphuckins.org

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Sue Fullerton
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Stephanie Paine
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Michael Pfluger
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Mike St. Onge
Maintenance

Joel Weeman
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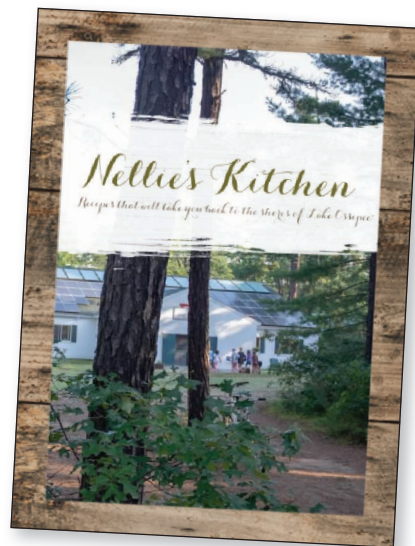
Announcing *Nellie's Kitchen* (the Camp Huckins Cookbook)

by Joel Weeman, Camp Chef

Hey Huckins epicures! We have been hard at work this winter compiling, testing and refining your favorite foods from the Camp Kitchen. Chef Joel and a team of volunteer chefs and writers are excited to bring you the inaugural Camp Huckins Cookbook. *Nellie's Kitchen* will be a collection of some of the most requested recipes from the last 6 years and beyond as well as some new items. There will be selections from all the different dimensions of Camp, from Mother Son Weekend to Women's Wellness Weekend and everything in between.

With recipes ranging from Mac and Cheese to Pancakes to Slow-Roasted Pork Shoulder and Risotto Cakes, cooks of all skill levels should find something interesting to try. There will be nostalgic favorites like Chocolate Chip Pudding alongside newer additions like Quinoa Chicken Salad.

Food kindles such vivid memories in us. A smell, taste or texture can transport us not only to a place or setting but also bring back the emotions and relationships and people tied to that place. We hope that this cookbook will be another way for you to bring a little piece of Huckins home with you to enjoy throughout the year as you dream of sunny days by the lake as well as inspire random moments of standing on your table singing about your spoon. *Nellie's Kitchen* will be available to purchase at the Camp Store all summer and at camphuckinsshop.com in the fall.



Get Your Nellie Gear!

**Nellie's General Store will
be open from May 1-May 15.
Stock up for Summer!**

www.camphuckinsshop.com

There will be many new items
and all the old favorites.

Questions?

sarahcnhstore@gmail.com



*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.*

In Memory of Duke Hermance

He made us laugh. He made us sing. And his love of Camp ran deep. Duke Hermance loved Huckins with a passion. He was a huge part of camp from 1953 to 1963. During those ten summers, he wore many hats. He was Trip Director, Program Director, Assistant Camp Director and in 1963 he was Camp Director.

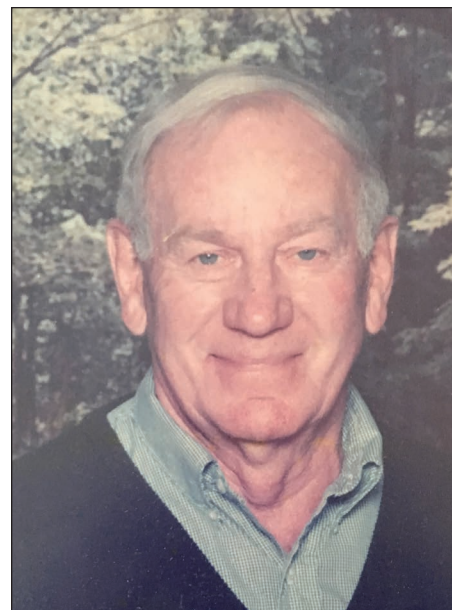
There was something special about Duke. Maybe it's because he made every camper feel important to him and he would stop during his rounds of the camp grounds to talk (and joke) with everyone who crossed his path. Maybe it's because he brought music, singing and laughter with him. Camp songs after meals were a certainty and always led by Duke. I can still hear his rendition of "On Top of Old Smoky" accompanied by the entire camp. And the "Circus Song" and the "Orchestra Song," all conducted by Duke, left us all breathless and laughing at the same time. Maybe it was his humor and his

ability to laugh at himself as well as the rest of us ... with laughter and kindness mixed together. And maybe, it's because he brought out the best in all of his staff with a smile, a kind word and faith in all of us.

So fortunate am I to have known this renaissance man. This man who returned to camp and directed the two Huckins Songs CDs, which brought back "all those happy memories" to so many of us and Huckins music into all of our hearts.

Duke said, in the 1963 *Huckonian*, when describing his summer as Camp Director, "For me, it has been one of the most memorable experiences of my life.... because...we had confidence in the loyalty and ability of the staff and in that wonderful, intangible something called the Huckins Spirit."

And so, on behalf of the hundreds of campers and staff who loved Duke, his memory will live long in all of our hearts. Camp was very blessed to have



him for so many glorious summers.

In the Huckins Spirit, Duke ... you are forever loved.

Fran Colmes Davis, 1957-66

Meet Mike Pfluger

Our New Maintenance Director

In 2011, Mike and his wife, Carleen moved to New Hampshire from New Jersey. While in New Jersey, Mike was a partner in the family landscaping business for over 20 years. Mike has three children and two grandchildren. When he is not working, he enjoys fishing, skiing, bicycling, gardening and hiking with his dog Kayla. Mike currently resides in Madison, NH. Mike has great patience and enjoys working collaboratively with others to problem solve. He joins veteran Mike St Onge on our year-round Maintenance team. Welcome!



New Maintenance Director Mike Pfluger
with his best friend, Kayla

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**Carroll County YMCA -
Camp Huckins**

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Amazon will make a donation to Huckins every time you make a qualifying purchase!

Making tomorrow's leaders

The Leadership Division

“Are leaders BORN or MADE?” This is one of the first questions Jody and Kara ask the “W” campers upon their arrival at camp. MADE, of course! Camp Huckins believes each girl has the potential to lead and will develop her own leadership style given the right opportunity, environment and mentors.

Although camp has had a Counselor-In-Training or “CIT” program since 1960, it was not until 1992 when the “W’s and CITs” had a Division Leader forming the “Leadership Division.” Finally, in 2012, the Division Leader, W’s and CITs had a spot to call their own amongst the pines with brand new cabins surrounding a beautiful pavilion. The “Pav” quickly became a popular spot to enjoy fires, sing songs, and a catalyst for important discussions. Because of the shared space, friendships naturally form among the 9th and 10th graders and created a safe space for important discussions around self-esteem, bullying, and diversity.

Camp Huckins takes pride in its history and its many traditions that hold true today — bugle calls, rest hour, singing on tables, dress-up days, hucksters and candlelight, to name a few. While traditions are powerful and meaningful and will be remembered for a lifetime, we realize the importance of adapting and changing with the world around us. Over the last decade, the leadership program has evolved, but the goal remains; provide each girl with an opportunity to grow in leadership and responsibility — qualities that will help her succeed not only at Camp Huckins, but at home, school and in the community.

We continue to strengthen the program by making positive changes. To become a CIT, girls must apply after their W summer by completing an application including references and answering a few questions by a deadline — putting the responsibility on the camper. The CITs receive a CIT



The 2018 Leadership Division staff with Kara and her daughters.

Manual by email before the summer with helpful information to better prepare them for the upcoming summer. Girls are staying more connected in the off-season (and not just with social media!). Last year, Kara created a periodic e-newsletter, *The LeadHERship*, for W’s and CITs to stay connected to camp in the off-season. It contains upcoming events, photos of camper reunions and an educational piece. In the fall, Kara leads a weekend program at camp called LTI (Leadership Training Institute) to continue to develop the participant’s skills. Also in the fall, camp hosts a Leadership Division reunion in Massachusetts for all leadership campers from the previous summer. Many girls are also finding other leadership opportunities outside of camp, including the Harvard Young Women’s Business Leadership Conference.

High schools now require students to complete Community Service hours to graduate. Camp recognizes the importance Community Service and incorporates projects into the program. Service opportunities range from helping with camp operations, to mentoring younger campers during activities, to projects such building divisional gaga pits, painting picnic benches or running the “Imagination Station” for Thomas the Train.

Camp is proud of the leadership Division and the way it continues to meet the needs of campers. In a world full of technology and instant gratification we take pride in our tech-free slice of heaven. If you have questions regarding the leadership program, please feel free to contact Kara Couture at kara@camphuckins.org.



The August 2018 CITs in the Gaga Pit they helped build in the Middler Division.

Legacy Society Member

Meredith (Haff) Breiland

I became a Huckins Legacy Society member by accident. I mean, hardly “by accident”—I called the camp office to set up the correct beneficiary information and all, but it wasn’t in my grand scheme of “estate planning.” In fact, there was hardly any thought of “estate planning” as a new college graduate trying to figure out the paperwork for her first non-camp job.

My first professional job after college, in advertising, offered a 401k benefit and I was quickly bombarded with the messaging of “start saving early.” I maximized the matching contribution from my company by setting aside a portion of my income, hoping that this benefit helped outweigh the paltry salary and my decision to choose a position that offered potential over profits.

I started filling out the registration forms and had a bit of a panic. Here I was, feeling self-assured that I was making sound financial decisions, and yet I felt a bit lonely about listing beneficiaries in case of, you know, the plan has to pay out (if I were, to—you know—die).

Now this was over 19 years ago, but I still remember asking my company’s Human Resource department if I could name a beneficiary other than a person. It was a lightbulb moment; there is nowhere else on earth I would rather contribute to than the happiness of a future camper at Huckins.

Now I am married and have a family of my own. I have two young girls who have already stayed in a Huckins cabin and fell in love with camp. I went from having no beneficiaries to having a few—along with plenty of responsibilities. I’ve never given much thought as to why I decided to become a Legacy Society Member since it was, as they say, a “no brainer.”

The why of the Legacy Society feels trite: I’m not able to articulate all the reasons I love Huckins any better than the next girl. I think my photo from the 2017 Tri-ath-Loon reflects



Meredith with her husband Erik and their daughters Margo and Elsa.

my enduring enthusiasm for our shared home beneath the pines. I love camp. If that “what if” moment were to happen and my 401k had a pay out, I would want my legacy to live on along the shores of Ossipee. In revisions of estate planning, I’ve made room for Huckins. I hope other girls and women consider joining the Legacy Society thanks to their shared love of Huckins, too!



Meredith in the Huckins Tri-Ath-Loon.

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.

Welcome to the Huckins family!

Weddings and Babies



1 **Lauren Roberts (11)** married **William Long** on May 19, 2018 Manchester, VT.

2 **Luke Tyler** was born on November 15, 2018 to **Ashley Schultz (95)** and **Joe Sayen**. He joins sister, **Madison (11)** and brothers, **Joseph (9)** and **William (6)** at home.

3 **Liv Parker** was born on October 15, 2018 to **Lindsay Wetmore (06)** and **Russell Murachver**.



2



3

4 **Penelope Rose** was born on November 17, 2018 to **Laurence Cadoret-Laroche (06)** and **Reed Kipp**.

5 **Ellery Paige** was born on December 1, 2018 to **Lauren Sherry (08)** and **Steve Weaver**.

6 **Leonardo Philip** was born on January 1, 2019 to **Siobhan O'Malley (08)** and **Phil Capizzi**.

8 **Isabel Brandt** was born on November 16, 2018 to **Jess Brandt (19)** and **Ben Eisner**.

9 **Oscar William** was born on February 12, 2019 to **Maxine Wolfe (16)** and **Mark Cadman (16)**. He joins sister, **Mae (4)** and **Harriet (2)**, at home.

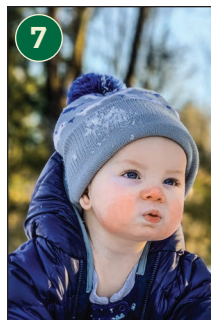


4



6

7 **Damon** was born on July 22, 2018 to **Morgan Sherry (10)** and **Daniel Evarts**.



7



8



9



5

All About the Alumni ...

Last summer, **Molly McMahon (16)**, traveled to Tanzania, Africa, where she taught English to sixth grade students, built 2 new classrooms, and spent time volunteering in the orphanage. This summer she will travel to Indonesia where she will experience firsthand a female healthcare clinic and birth center, which will help prepare her for Nursing school in the fall of 2019. Molly is grateful for camp giving her the confidence to travel and meet new people.

Emily Hayden Baya (88) and **Elizabeth Abbott Wright (86)** met up for a Nellie breakfast in Philadelphia, PA (photo A).

Stephanie Martinez-Ruckman (02) was surprised with an amazing 40th Birthday cake from her husband, Rob. It was made by Charm City Cakes, founded by Duff Goldman in Baltimore. The bakery had its own show on the Food Network: Ace of Cakes. Everything you see is edible (photo B).

Laura Spector Lennig (93) and **Leslie Guenther (89)** completed the New Orleans Marathon (photo C).

Lauren Browning (10), Marissa Toselli and Ella Toselli, Ricki, created a swimwear line, Ricki Rum, focused on fit and inspired by the New England summers



Get Social!



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YMCA Camp Huckins



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LinkedIn |
Camp Nellie Huckins
Alumni group



Instagram |
YMCACampHuckins



CampMinder

Update your Alumni Information

Huckins strives to keep our database up to date and complete. Please take a minute to check that we have your current contact information, relationships, and alumni history. Campminder allows you to connect with other alumni in the system.

Please go to www.camphuckins.org/alumni/426-2/



of their childhood. Their suits are made from Italian fabrics, made in the United States and designed to flatter real body types. Most importantly, they are committed to taking care of the oceans they grew up on by using fabric made of 100% recycled material. They are launching their e-commerce in May and will have pop-up shops around New England this Spring/Summer. Check them out- www.rickirum.com (photo D).

These soon to be W's — **Charlotte Butler**, **India Siecke** and **Alice Donahue** — found each other at the Harvard Forensics Tournament in February (photo E).



Katie Croyle (11) is a 3rd year MFA Acting Candidate at Brown University/ Trinity Rep in Providence, RI. She holds a B.A. in Theater from Bryn Mawr College and has trained with The National Theater Institute at the Moscow Art Theater in Russia as well as the Stan-

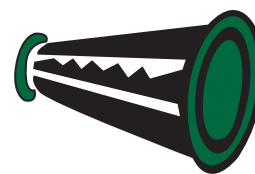
islavsky Summer School in Cambridge. She has also trained in physical devised theater with the Headlong Dance Theater in Philadelphia (photo G).

Sarah Pier (14) was recently hired as a Production Supervisor at the Shed in NYC. The Shed is a new performing arts center in Hudson Yards.

Several Counselors-In-Training from 2018 attended the Harvard Young Business Leadership Conference: **Ashley Girouard**, **Sophie Pappas**, **Adele Jennings**, Abby Wright and **Molly Denning** (photo F).



On February 23rd, camp hosted their annual "Snow Day". There was lots of sledding, walks to the island, hot chocolate and s'mores!



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

Women's Wellness Weekend

Come back to Ossipee's shores

Fall is a busy time but the perfect time to get away and spend a weekend relaxing, trying something new, connecting with old friends and making new ones. You can have all this at the 2019 Women's Wellness Weekend – September 27th-29th. Come enjoy yoga, meditation, massage, kayaking and canoeing, archery, a trip on the newly expanded bike trail, walks, crafts and so much more. Did we mention the wonderful food? Joel Weeman, Huckins Chef Extraordinaire, fresh off his book tour (*Nellie's Kitchen* will be on sale this summer in the Camp Store), will be serving fabulous meals in the Lodge overlooking the lake. This is your time, so ladies – Treat Yourself! For more information contact Kara@camphuckins.org or register online at camphuckins.org/camper-families/family-campother-camps/





What ever happened to... **Lois Kessin**



Four days after her second knee replacement, Lois headed to the polls to cast her vote.

I attended Camp Huckins from 1957 to 1965. Camp was the place where I could forget the restrictions placed on girls—I could be smart, innovative and athletic without comment. I think that I may have driven the staff crazy, but they always allowed me to be me!

After Huckins I went to NYU then moved to Cambridge, MA. Two years ago I moved back to NH to my hometown of Laconia.

In my twenties (and until I moved), I was very involved with groups that tried to make Cambridge a better place to live. I realized that organized sports for women were almost non-existent. Over the years, I organized a competitive women's volleyball team which was recognized throughout New England.

When I wanted to play soccer, I looked around and found again that there were no opportunities for women. In 1978, I joined a small group of women to start the EMWSL (Eastern Mass Women's Soccer League) an organization that still exists today and has grown to include 70 teams from throughout Eastern Massachusetts. I stayed involved with EMWSL (and still played) until I retired in 2017. Hopefully, some Huckins women are currently playing in this league.

For 20 years, I was a high school soccer and softball coach in the Boston area. In 2003, I was inducted into the Mass Soccer Hall of Fame and in 2007 to the New England Soccer Hall of Fame in recognition of my contributions as a player, coach and organizer.

My greatest personal achievement was the establishments of the first girls' soccer team in Dorchester in 1994. The program still exists today with over 100 girls playing. Stories from this program and others were highlighted in *Kicking Grass, Taking Games: Women fight for their right to play the beautiful game* by Maddie Davidson.

Since I moved to Laconia, I have gotten involved with local organizations and hope to do more as I settle into retirement. One of my current projects is the Huckins library.

**Our Fall 2019
Huckonian will
focus on this
Huckins alum...
can you guess
who it is?**



Huckins on the Job

Maggie Bland, former camper and Staff member

I am currently teaching 5th and 6th grade Spanish at Greenwich Academy, and I am grateful for everything I learned at Huckins every single day. Just this week, I organized the distribution of "snaps" (compliment) jars to each middle school advisor, as it was one of my favorite activities we did as a cabin. Then, during down time later in the day, I played the shoe game with my advisees where we get to see what we all have in common—another camp favorite!

There are no words or enough examples to express how much I appreciate my time at camp and all of the people who lead by incredible example. Snaps for Huckins!



Sarah Daley Popescu and Maggie Bland.

Empowerment Day 2019

Calling all alumnae – Empowerment Day will be held on Saturday, June 29th. Alumnae 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-professional experiences. The program begins at 11:00am. Child-care will be available for ages 3 and up.

To register please go to: <https://camphuckins.org/alumni/empowerment-day-2019/>

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



Announcements, Announcements, Announcements!

The Huckins Leadership Circle

We are pleased to announce the Huckins Leadership Circle – a leadership society for donors who give \$1000 or more annually. Camp Huckins relies on the generosity of our donors to support all aspects of camp including the scholarship program, the professional development of our staff, the enhancement of programs and the maintenance and management of our facilities through endowments. Leadership gifts make a difference to every camper, family and community served by the programs of Camp Huckins and the Carroll County YMCA.

Developing leaders is an important part of what we do at Camp Huckins. If you would like to be a leader please join the Huckins Leadership Circle over time. Donors who commit increasing their gift to \$1000 in three years enjoy the benefits of the Leadership Circle immediately.

Benefits of Membership

- Invitations to special leadership events
- Special updates from the Executive Director
- Donor may opt to receive one of the camp special recognition camp swag
- Recognition in the Huckins Annual Report

Remember the times you've had here and the beauty of the tall White Pines and the sun glittering off the lake. Please consider becoming a member of the Huckins Leadership Circle and help keep Huckins Constant and True for today and for generations to come. For more information, please contact Stephanie Paine, Director of Advancement at stephanie@camphuckins.org or by phone at (603)539-4710.

Membership in the Huckins Leadership Circle is renewable annually. Matching gifts count towards membership if received within the calendar year.

CCYMCA Community Impact

Parenting young children can be isolating — particularly in an occasionally unforgiving climate like ours. When we relocated to North Conway with no nearby family or friends, Squeaky Sneakers was a lifeline. It was one of the first communities we belonged to after moving to the Valley, and I could not have hoped for a warmer or more welcoming introduction, thanks to your cheerful disposition and tireless dedication. (Only you, Kara, could seem happy singing “The Wheels on the Bus” for the 50th time because a child requested it.) But Squeaky Sneakers isn’t just a fun thing to do; it is a nurturing space in which kids learn and practice critical life skills: how to wait their turn for the slide, point out colors underneath a parachute, and politely request more juice. Later, both of my children learned the foundations for water safety and swimming in the safe, encouraging environment of Squeaky Swimmers. *Joanna, parent*

When I joined Youth and Government my freshman year of high school, I had no idea that it would one day change my life. I parted with the program after one year to pursue other government clubs and initiatives because of the thrill that I found when advocating for something that I believed in. However, it was not long before Youth and Government found me again, this time in my junior year. I was given the opportunity to apply for a program in Washington D.C. in which I could lobby on behalf of the YMCA in Congress. I was not surprised to learn that Youth and Government was the supporting program, as it seemed appropriate that the organization that began my legislative journey would also play a role in the most significant step I had taken yet.

After being accepted to the program, I was sent to Washington D.C. with another Youth and Government member from New Hampshire to meet with similar pairs from other states across the country. The YMCA gave me the opportunity to sit down with my representatives in Congress and speak



Girls on the Run.

about priorities of the YMCA, priorities that resonated with me because of all that the organization has done for me. Not only did this program play an indescribable role in establishing what I now know that I want to do with my future, but it also impressed within me the critical skills that I will use in every facet of my life: Caring, Honesty, Respect, and Responsibility. *Grace Jarell (Junior, Kennebec High School)*

Girls on the Run was fun because I got to spend time with friends. I felt happy when I did the 5K. And the food was yummy. *Caroline, Girls on the Run participant*



Squeaky Sneakers.

For me it was inspiring to see the turnout at the 5K with teams of girls from all over the state running. It was really heartwarming to see the Pine Tree Team cross the finish line together. *Ardis (Caroline's mom)*

The Carroll County YMCA and Camp Huckins have been a happy influence on our world for several years now. When my children were toddlers, we attended Squeaky Sneakers in North Conway where we made friends young and old who are still an important part of our lives today. Now a sophomore and about to attend Huckins as a CIT, my daughter Celia will spend a month surrounded by the dear friends she sees less often but loves just the same. Camp Huckins and Squeaky Sneakers have made our world bigger and better in a genuinely nice way. *Kerry (Parent, North Conway)*

Mother/Son Weekend



We Need You!

This is your chance to spend time at Camp with wonderful fellow Huckonians.

Alumni Weekend, May 31st-June 2nd

The weekend will be some work, some fun, great food and lots and lots of laughter.

Mother/Son Weekend, June 7th-9th

Our Mother/Son weekend continues to grow. Put on your staff shirt (we will provide them for those who need them) and come back to camp for the weekend. We need help in our program areas and in the kitchen.

Please contact Kara Couture at kara@camphuckins.org for more information or call the office (603) 539-4710.

Mother/Daughter Weekend



YMCA Camp Huckins

IMPORTANT DATES ~ 2019 SEASON

April 30 Portland, ME Alumni Event, Nonesuch River Brewing Company, Scarborough

May 6 NYC Alumni Event, Ginger Man, 11 East 36th Street

May 31 Carroll County Spaghetti Dinner

May 31-June 2 Alumni Weekend

June 7-9 Mother/Son Weekend

June 16-21 Staff Training Week

June 22-July 6 1st Session

June 29 Empowerment Day

July 6-20 2nd Session

July 21-Aug. 3 3rd Session

July 27 Staff Parent's Day

Aug. 3-17 4th Session

Aug. 19-24 Family Camp

Aug. 30-Sept. 2 Labor Day Weekend Camp

Sept. 13-15 Mother/Daughter Weekend

Sept. 27-29 Women's Wellness Weekend



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

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Photo by Tom Wraight