



# Friends of Tranquillity Camp ECHO

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Fall 2017  
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## Tranquillity Camp



*Celebrating 100 Summers*

**July 28th, 2018**

## ***A Message from your PRESIDENT***

***Cary Spiegel***

Dear Tranquillity Family,

Lisa and I wish you and your families a happy and healthy new year.

Tranquillity Camp had a great 99th summer. Thousands of happy camper memories were created.

Friends of Tranquillity Camp hosted the following events this past year: Our first Walk with Tranquillity Camp last October, a trip to Broadway to enjoy School of Rock, a very successful Florida luncheon, and our second Saturday evening pre-Visiting Day dinner.

This year's Walk with Tranquillity Camp is being held on October 8th, simultaneously in Pinellas Park & Boca Raton Florida, Atlanta, and Alley Pond Park in Queens. Our events serve the dual purpose of engaging an increasing number of participants to enjoy each other's company and to increase our contributions for Camp. Please note that our volunteers are not only board members and their families. We are not a closed group. Please join our group of TY supporters!

This year we celebrated the children of Tranquillity Camp with a mid-summer yearbook, printed and distributed on Visiting Day, and we are currently finalizing the end of summer version to be available online.

Friends of Tranquillity Camp was able to achieve several goals this year:

- We opened our newly expanded and renovated Health Center and a new Street Hockey Rink.
- Our beloved Barn has been completely re-sided. This was the second stage of its renovation; last year it received a new foundation and understructure. By the end of the summer the new siding started to naturally turn gray. Well into the barn's third century, it is ready to usher in Tranquillity's second century.

Camp's enrollment and finances continue to build upon improvements over the last few years, as a result of some very heavy lifting by Richard Lawrence and Marc Cohn, Richie and Sherrie Lerner, and the tireless Camp staff. Friends of Tranquillity Camp is the fundraising arm that will enable Camp to continue to provide wonderful life lessons and summer experiences for children, including those attending courtesy of camp scholarships.

We are now ready to concentrate our efforts towards the 100th Summer Celebration, to be held at Camp on Saturday, July 28, 2018. It will be a great event. We look forward to greeting many former campers and counselors reuniting to celebrate this historic achievement and support Camp's future.

Yours in Noblesse Oblige,

*Cary*

## **View from Lake Pearl.....A Message From The Cohen Family**

This past summer, as I sat and looked out at the grass so green and the sky so blue, it amazed me to think that we are going to celebrate our 100<sup>th</sup> summer at Tranquillity. Almost a century ago, Elias A. Cohen brought ten boys, and later ten girls, to enjoy the little farm upstate. Here we are, enjoying those same fields, yet many more houses and buildings, blessed to be a part of not only the Tranquillity history but also the Tranquillity family. Regardless of whether you attended camp as a camper, staff member or worker, visited camp, or donated time and/or money – you all play a vital role in ensuring the continuation of the legacy of Elias A. Cohen, Pearl C. Miller, and Tranquillity Camp. Tranquillity Camp brought us together and has given us a bond that is truly immeasurable, special, and what most would call magical.

So that others may continue to experience this wonderful place, we all need to work together to ensure Tranquillity Camp is there for the generations to come. You all know the cliché – it takes a village; well, it is true! No one person can do this alone. Some of you may recall that the Cohen family gave the greater part of the fiscal support before the Alumni/Friends of Tranquillity began in 1953. As the years progressed, a portion of the family continued to support Tranquillity financially. As time went on, more funding sources were required to meet the fiscal necessities of running Tranquillity. We found ways to meet our fiscal needs, including relying on gifts and donations from our magnificent Tranquillity family. Today, our future success requires every one of us to do what we can to propagate the superb history of Tranquillity Camp. It is up to all of us to give innumerable more kids a chance to appreciate our beloved summer haven.

Yes, our summer haven: the place where we became better people while creating lifelong friendships, enjoying the glorious warmth of summer. It does not matter in the scheme of things if we do not see each other on a daily basis. It does not matter that we have not been in touch with some people in years. What matters is that those we met through our TY camp experience enhanced our lives and we are better people due to those experiences. Tranquillity shaped who we are today.

It is exciting to know that Tranquillity will be celebrating its 100<sup>th</sup> camp season one year from now. I genuinely hope there are 100 more. I humbly ask you to do what you can to guarantee our camp has a strong future, bringing joy to children long after we are only memories. Always remember, your participation is valued. If you would like to help, and are not sure how to help, please just ask. My dream is for Tranquillity to always be filled with happy boys and girls learning the same lessons we did about Noblesse Oblige and living together in peace and harmony, developing the lifelong friendships we were lucky to experience. I hope tomorrow's children will take these same lessons to heart and do what they can for others in the spirit of Noblesse Oblige and for the future of Tranquillity Camp. Pearl used to say, "And so it goes...from one generation to other." May we pass down the best parts of our lives, and may we always remember – we are all God's little children.

Personally, I am profoundly proud of you all and deeply honored to know such a variety of awesome and inspiring people. Thank you all for being part of my life and a wonderful part of Tranquillity's long and glorious history. I look forward to creating many more happy times with all of you and wish you the best.

Love,

*Cheryl Schwartz Janer*

Dear Alumni,

Tranquillity Camp has just completed its 99<sup>th</sup> summer. As the campers and staff return to school and college, I would like to congratulate and thank each one of them for helping to make the summer of 2017 an extraordinary one for us all.



On Alumni/Visiting Weekend this summer, we had dozens of former campers and counselors, who came from all over the country to reunite at TY. Throughout the summer, I received numerous calls from past Tranquillity-ites wishing us well and wanting to visit. It is obvious what an impact Tranquillity has had on all our lives. TY was not just a summer home to so many, but a place where our characters were developed and molded, first under the guidance of Elias A. Cohen, and for many of us by the influence of Pearl Miller. Although Pearl is gone, her memory remains in all of us. We are dedicated to carrying on her noble work in perpetuity. She remains the guiding light for camp, and will continue to be an inspiration to us all.

Thank you to Paul Cohen and his family for our new street hockey rink, which immediately became one of the campers' favorite activities. The barn restoration was completed before the start of the summer and, thanks to the Leeds Family's generosity, the iconic barn will be here for generations to come. Thanks to the fundraising efforts of the "Friends of Tranquillity Camp", the newly expanded infirmary was a great and necessary addition to our first-rate facilities.

As we continue to flourish, it is the responsibility of all of us to lend a hand to Tranquillity. This summer as always we maintained our tradition of helping deserving children. We search for children who need TY. Whether due to financial hardships, family circumstances or a host of other reasons, it is our obligation to help.

2018 will mark the 100<sup>th</sup> milestone summer of Tranquillity Camp! What better way to celebrate our centennial summer than a party at camp. We hope you will join us on Saturday, July 28 (Visiting Day/Alumni Weekend) for a gala celebration with campers, parents and Alumni. Invitations soon to be sent.

We look forward to seeing you all. Happy and Healthy New Year to you and your family.

*Richard & Sherrie*

## On the Marriage Go Round

Greg Politan is engaged to Stacie Rosenblatt  
Cori Sobolow is engaged to Keith Landon  
Rebecca Brown is engaged to Tucker Burr  
Mike Pond is engaged to Becky Affleck  
Aaron Feldman married Petra Vaessen  
Sara Adler married Derek Goins

Ali Kaufman is engaged to Jason Jacobson  
Jackie Bamme is engaged to Jason Biegel  
Shari Jaffess Davidson is engaged to Jonathan Golub  
Mara Brockman married Seth Dorne  
Lila Breindel married Tim Fanelli  
David Eisenbaum married Claire Marian

## MAZEL-GRAMS

A big "Boom Chicka Boom" to Jon Garner on his new job as a lecturer in Neurological Physiotherapy at Charles Sturt University in Australia

Congratulations to Sarah Menis on getting 1<sup>st</sup> place in the Robotics Regional Fair in Atlanta  
Rebecca Brown has graduated USF Morsani College of Medicine - Tampa, Fla. and has begun her Orthopedic Surgery Residency at Loyola Chicago.

Mazel Tov to Daniel Menis on his Bar Mitzvah.

Mazel Tov to former camper and FOTY supporter Robin (Levine-Sadler) and husband Josh on the B'nai Mitzvah of their children, grandchildren of former camper and FOTY members Lewis and Lorraine Levine.  
Congratulations to Hunter Scott and the Plainview Hawks on winning the New York State Little League Championship. Hunter was able to compete in the Little League World Series.

## Glad You're on the Road to Recovery

Paul Cohen

Wendy Seslowsky

Ira Waldinger

Harold Weinman

## Future Tranquility -ites

Congratulations to Brandon Pflaum and his wife Amanda on their newborn, Wesley Draker Pflaum.  
Congratulations to Ilyssa Kleinert Kritz and her husband Jason on their newborn, Brayden Garret Kritz.

Congratulations to Daniel and Stephanie Cohn on their newborn, Rachel Tami Cohn.

Congratulations to Jamie Kupfer Hughes and her husband on their newborn, Landon James Hughes.

Congratulations to Genna Himmelfarb Custard and her husband Ben on their newborn, Dylan James.

Congratulations to Jennifer Pastrich Solomon and her husband Daniel on their newborn, Lilah Sylvie.

Congratulations to Dana Leff Doucet and her husband AJ on their newborn, Charlee Marie Doucet.

## Sunshine Greeting Cards

The Friends of Tranquillity Camp continues to offer **Sunshine and Greeting Cards** for all occasions. Cards can be sent in honor of a birthday, anniversary, graduation and many other occasions. Cards are also available for sympathy and remembrances. Cards are available for a minimum donation of \$5. For more information or to order cards, please contact **Brittney (Ronik) Scott**: [brittney1scott@gmail.com](mailto:brittney1scott@gmail.com) or visit the **Friends of Tranquillity website**: <http://friendsofsofty.org/>.

## Off to the Halls of Ivy

Sarah Wachs- Binghamton University  
Rachel Gillman – SUNY Cortland  
Skylar Ruiz – Quinnipiac University  
Lauren Rossman – University of Delaware  
Ali Schear – The Ohio State University  
Jennifer Mindes – SUNY New Paltz  
Devan Kaner – East Stroudsburg University  
Max Heller – Binghamton University  
Mark Thurston – SUNY New Paltz  
Max Scelfo – SUNY Oneonta  
Ethan Klein – University at Buffalo

Holly Gozinsky - SUNY Cortland  
Sydney Cassano – University of South Carolina  
Stephanie Stern – University of Delaware  
Jenna Goodman – University of Albany  
Jordan Cohen – University of South Florida  
Rachel Aber – Tulane University  
Ben Jacobs – Towson University  
Zach Mortman – Virginia Tech University  
Josh Thurston – Vaughn College  
Noah Jacobs – SUNY Oswego  
Scott Budkofsky – University of Indiana

Josh Rosen – Old Dominion University

## Off to the Real World - University Graduates

Aaron Brown – Binghamton University  
Rachel Friedman – University of Tampa  
Sydney Kaplan - University at Buffalo  
Abbie Levison - Lewis and Clark College  
Sasson Rafailov – Cornell University  
Stacey Davidson – James Madison  
Alexa Bergenfeld – Binghamton University  
Nicole Hoffman – SUNY Plattsburgh  
Lucy Zicherman – SUNY Oneonta  
Kelsey Urrutia - Binghamton University

Brett Kanter – Binghamton University  
Carly Acker – University at Buffalo  
Stacey Weinberg – Western Connecticut State  
Jill Faber – Cornell University  
Stephen Samolsky – Tulane University  
Stefanie Goldberg – Binghamton University  
Stephen Bozier – Brown University  
Lisa Guerrera – Macaulay Honors College  
Matt Pidgeon – University of Rhode Island  
Carly Messitte – University at Massachusetts

Ryan Gandolfi - University at Massachusetts

Ashley Newmark – Hofstra University (MBA)

Hannah Grossman – Stony Brook University (Masters Degree)

### Did you know...

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...when amazon shoppers switch to [smile.amazon.com](http://smile.amazon.com) and choose **Friends of Tranquillity Camp**, TY will get  
.5% (1/2%) of every purchase



<http://smile.amazon.com>

# In Memoriam

Garrett Kassler – former TY Alumni, beloved son, brother, nephew, grandson and friend, was taken from us too soon on February 4th of this year at the tender age of 26. He will always be remembered for his enlightening smile and his unique ability to offer a kind word of support, his friendship, and his desire to help others. He attended SUNY Oswego and Nassau Community College, where he made the Dean's List. Garrett enlisted in the USMC in 2014, but due to an injury was discharged before he could finish his commitment. In 2015 and 2016, Garrett volunteered his time to promote drug prevention and awareness for the Nassau County Executive, Ed Mangano. He spoke at many official functions, sharing his story and his fight with addiction. He was an active participant in the teaching of Narcan administration and the promotion of Vivitrol, an opiate antagonist. Although it cannot be measured, his efforts may have saved some precious lives. He will forever be survived by his sister Erica, a current TY alumnus, and his mother and father.

David Freund - Tranquillity played a huge role in David's life. The Freund family has a long history at TY, as their father Alex was an original camper. All three of his children (David, Babette and James) attended camp for many years, as well as Babette's daughter Alyssa. Please keep Babette, James, her mom Jewel, and her daughter Alyssa in your thoughts and prayers.

Robert Quinn - Condolences to Muriel (Shelby) Schwartz Quinn, former counselor, and Cheryl Janer, Beverly Vitale and Barbara Weiler, former campers and counselors, on the passing of Shelby's dear husband Robert Quinn. Though Shelby and Robert found each other later in life, they were truly soulmates and spent four glorious years together. Together, they were an inspiration for all who knew them. Robert will continue to be loved and remembered by all who knew him.

Stephen Vitale - It is with great sadness that we announce the death of Stephen Joseph Vitale, who passed away peacefully on September 4, 2017 in Palm Bay, Florida. He was full of life and was loved dearly by his family and friends, all of whom enjoyed spending time with him. He made family events a fun time with his colorful stories. His wife and kids were the joy of his life. Stephen is survived by his wife, Beverly Schwartz Vitale, former camper and counselor, and his children, Anthony and Gianna, a current camper.

Ilana Goldstein - On July 9, 2017, Ilana Tess Goldstein was tragically taken from this earth at only 25 years of age. Among many things, Ilana had a fantastic sense of humor, with a laugh that lit up the room, and she was an incredibly talented musician with a passion to create. Ilana is survived by her father, Adam, and her sister, Rachel.

## Memorial Bricks

Engraved Bricks are currently being sold to help support Tranquillity Camp. Bricks can be engraved to honor your family, Alumni members, and current campers and will be placed around Pearl C. Miller's Memorial Tree.

Bricks are available in two sizes, at two donation levels. There is a 4" x 8" brick, which can be personalized with 3 lines of text with 13 letters per line. These bricks require a minimum donation of \$100. The larger brick is 8" x 8" and will support 5 lines of text, and will require a minimum donation of \$500. Please add to this project and help support Tranquillity.

If you wish to purchase a brick to add to the walk, please contact Richard Lerner, or go to <http://www.friendsofty.org/please-contribute>. Pearl's Memorial Walk is located in front of the Pearl C. Miller Sports Center and currently has over 100 Tranquillity personalized bricks.

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## **Upcoming Events**

October 8, 2017 – Walk with Tranquillity  
March 2018 – Tranquillity Camp Reunion  
July 28, 2018 – Tranquillity 100<sup>th</sup> Celebration

### **Our newly-elected Board of Directors and Officers**

**President – Cary Spiegel**

**Vice President – Ira Altman    Vice President – Stacy Budkofsky    Vice President – Wendy Seslowsky**

**Recording Secretary – Wendi Weinman    Corresponding Secretary – Brittney Scott**

**Treasurer – Elissa Forman**

**Co-Comptroller – Paul Cohen    Co-Comptroller - Larry Brown**

### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**Re-elected for a 3-year term (expires 2020)**

**Stacy Budkofsky  
Marvin Ronik**

**George Faber  
Michael Schwartz**

**Daniel Flaxman**

**Tracy Reina**

**We welcome the following new Board Members  
For a 3-year term (expires 2020)**

**Nicole Kligerman**

**Tina Rizzi Baron**