

# Friends of Tranquillity Camp ECHO

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Fall 2013  
email: [Info@FriendsofTY.org](mailto:Info@FriendsofTY.org)

# March 8th

**Save the Date**

## **Casino Night Dinner Dance**

*Carlton on the Park*

*Eisenhower Park, East Meadow, New York*

Watch Your Mail or Go To [www.FriendsofTY.org](http://www.FriendsofTY.org) for More Information

**Open Bar      Friends      Dancing      Gambling for Prizes**

### ***Breaking News.....***

In an effort to be more efficient and to upgrade the graphic quality of our communications, we will be cutting back on our mailings and distributing our Echo and other materials via email. If you received this edition electronically, you are on our email list and you may continue to be without further effort. If you received this via USPS mail and wish to receive future communications electronically, please send us your email address together with your full name, address and phone number to [info@FriendsofTY.org](mailto:info@FriendsofTY.org).

Thank you!

## **A Note from our PRESIDENT**

**Alan Abramson**

I was recently asked if I remembered Elias A. Cohen and if I knew what he was really like. Like so many of us I never met him personally because I am too young to have done so. All that I know comes from the stories, occasional photo and the stuff of legends from over the years. As compared to today, there were no home videos, no sound movies and no tape recordings to create a picture of this man for us, the future generations who have benefitted from his foresight. This question also reminded me that as time goes by, fewer Tranquillity-ites remain who knew Pearl and her generation, first hand, as she ran all aspects of camp, building upon her Uncle Elias's vision of what Tranquillity should be.

What I realized from this inquiry is that many now consider me and my contemporaries (you know who you are) as the new "elders" of Tranquillity, keepers of the values, the history and the wisdom that has been passed down to us starting nearly 100 years ago. This is not only a revelation for someone who still feels young and in touch, but it represents a huge responsibility. Some view us as we would like to be perceived, great experienced teachers who care about Tranquillity and Tranquillity-ites of all ages, while others view us as roadblocks to modernity. What I know is that all try their best, and all contribute from their hearts.

Richard Lawrence recently sent me a publication which was a compilation of articles written by Mr. Cohen, during the early 20<sup>th</sup> century, when Elias A. Cohen was a true leader of the Real Estate community in New York City. As such, he set the standard for ethical business behavior as this great city grew from 2 story buildings and undeveloped farms to a high rise business community. He worked with all of the historic greats of the New York financial world who looked to him with respect and honor. It gave me chills to see reference after reference about how he always had Tranquillity on his mind and incorporated requests for donations of money and building artifacts in his business deals. Reading the story of how he retrieved the fireplace bricks, chandeliers and sconces in what was then the Dining Room and now the TY House playroom, gave me the chills. The stories in his articles had a rhythm and feel that reminded me of how Pearl would speak to us. This was a history lesson about Tranquillity and New York, and it was all true!

Pearl was acutely aware of time and how experience passed from generation to generation. Her messages often used the expression "Tempus Fugit", Time Marches On. She also adopted the song title "Sunrise Sunset", from Fiddler on the Roof as part of her own Credo. Both Pearl and Mr. Cohen valued young people for their ability to influence younger campers. While Tranquillity-ites view the continuous progression from camper to counselor to head counselor as natural, we are unique among camps. Most camps interrupt and stop your camp life at 16, while counselors and head counselors are mostly college educated adults.

Why do I focus on the subjects of time, youthful participation, and continuity? It is because we need increased participation in the Friends of Tranquillity Camp to pass the torch. Presidents and other officers should not hold their positions for 10+ years or until they are physically unable to perform. We need people of all ages to step up, learn from us, teach us and then take Tranquillity to its next generations of families, in the spirit of Mr. Cohen, Pearl and the many who followed them. We need volunteers to assist in our financial management, event planning, social media, fundraising and in re-defining how the Tranquillity community should interact in today's world. It takes time to learn and we are ready to move forward. It is simple. Just call or write to me and we will find a way for you to fulfill your personal dreams of "doing well at doing good". Our fundraising season is about to start. What better time to get involved!

Alice and I look forward to seeing you on March 8<sup>th</sup>. Happy Thanksgiving and New Year from me, Alice and our family to you and your families. May you find happiness, good health, prosperity and Noblesse Oblige.

*Alan*

## **The Chairman's Memo**

**Harold Weinman**

On behalf of myself, my family, our officers and the entire Board of Directors of the Friends of Tranquillity Camp, I wish you a Happy and Healthy New Year.

I would like to thank everyone who helped to make Alumni Day so enjoyable. The parents and guests were extremely considerate given the difficult weather. We had a rainy morning which continued through lunch. Under the leadership of Richie Lerner, our Camp Director, everyone was well fed in an orderly fashion in the beautiful Tranquillity dining room. It turned out to be a successful day. Special thanks to our Chef Taz, his kitchen staff and all of the Friends of Tranquillity Board who pitched in to help serve lunch.

In our organization we have so many people who volunteer, whether in our Florida Chapter or in New York. My thanks to all. A special thank you to Ira Altman who puts together our newsletter, The Echo, and also helps assist with our annual Dinner Dance. He is wonderful, a big boom-chick-a-boom!!

My sincere thanks to Paul Cohen and his family. They founded the Jan Cohen Memorial Foundation. The Foundation's main event is a Golf Outing, with significant participation by Tranquillity Friends, and whose proceeds resulted in a \$30,000 donation to Camp. The Foundation is dedicated to the memory of Jan Cohen, late wife, mother and grandmother to new generations of Tranquillity-tes. Jan was an extraordinary individual who served on our Board and as our Treasurer for years. Our deepest gratitude to the family.

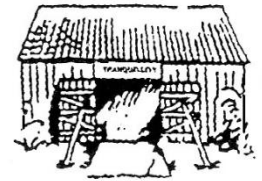
I'm delighted to announce that our 61<sup>st</sup> Annual Casino Night/Dinner Dance will be held at the elegant Carlton at Eisenhower Park in Nassau County on Saturday, March 8<sup>th</sup>, 2014. This event will mark the 95<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Tranquillity Camp. The donation to attend this event is still \$300 per couple. You can sell ads in our Journal, sell raffles or make a personal or business donation toward attendance. Get in touch with people you do business with on a regular basis, whether it be weekly or yearly contacts. For example; your cleaners, your hair salon or your favorite restaurants or doctors. If you are in business, talk to your employers, co-workers and vendors. These are great prospects for selling ads. This event is always a blast, great food, dancing and gambling. You can win iPads, iPods, LCD TV's and many other fantastic gifts. Call your friends and put together a table. If you have any questions, please call me. My number is 718-468-0514 or drop us an email at [info@FriendsofTY.org](mailto:info@FriendsofTY.org). SAVE THE DATE!

I'm happy to welcome Ellen Gerson to our Board of Directors. Ellen is a person who has never said no through the years to help our organization. She will be a great asset to our Board.

In closing, my appreciation to the Florida Chapter led by Robin Kessler and assisted by Cheryl Janer, Wendy Seslowsky and Robin Diamant. Keep up the good work. Hats off to our President Alan Abramson and his wife Alice for leading the organization. Thanks to Richard and Sherrie Lerner for always being there for our organization. Special thanks to Richard Lawrence and his family as well as to Marc Cohn and his family for their financial contributions to the Friends of Tranquillity Camp. My gratitude to all our members who support all the camp projects. Without your help, these projects would never become a reality.

*Harold*

Tranquillity Camp's ninety-fifth summer has come to a successful conclusion. Like all the our previous summers, the children, as well as the staff, were rewarded with the unique Tranquillity experience that can genuinely be appreciated only by those who have been privileged to attend TY. The ideals that Mr. Cohen and Pearl instilled in us are the cornerstones to the continuance and success of TY.



From the ten boys Mr. Cohen brought to his farm in "Urlton" in 1919, to the hundreds of children who attended camp throughout this summer we certainly have grown. Tranquillity now has over a thousand acres of land, and thanks to the devotion of so many people, Tranquillity's facilities have improved. Swimming pools, tennis courts, the Dining Room, Overlook Lane, Frindel Lane, the Pearl C. Miller Sports Center, The Hills and many more projects were completed. We are indebted to the Cohen Family, the Elias A. Cohen Foundation and the Friends of Tranquillity Camp for their dedication to Mr. Cohen and Pearl's vision. Their support throughout the years has been resolute and steadfast.

In 1952, the "Tranquillity Alumni" was created. Pearl along with a group of former campers and counselors, Al Rukin, Abe Berson, Nat Menis and Leo Skolnik, recognized the need to create an organization to ensure the preservation of TY. For the past 60 years the Alumni has been instrumental in helping to fulfill Tranquillity Camp's mission to provide a safe haven for deserving boys and girls. We appreciate and count on your support in the years to come.

It is only through the collaborated efforts of the Cohen Family, The Elias A. Cohen Foundation, The Charles Cohn Foundation, The Schlang Foundation, the Lawrence family, The Friends of Tranquillity Camp and people such as you that Tranquillity will survive. Whether you can help us financially, with goods or services, or by volunteering your time, we need your assistance. As we move forward towards the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Tranquillity Camp we are dedicated to the continuance of Pearl's noble work.

Recently you may have received information enlisting your help in finding deserving children who might benefit from our camp. Many families are not aware of Tranquillity or do not believe they can afford sleep-a-way camp. As a member of the "Tranquillity Family", you are in a unique position to share your experience with relatives, neighbors and friends whose families and children deserve an opportunity to become part of our special family. Please have them contact me.

Best regards to you and your family from Sherrie and me. We look forward to seeing you at the Dinner Dance/Casino night as well as Alumni/Visiting Day August 3, 2014.

***Richard & Sherrie***

What if Tranquillity went away? What? Did I read that correctly? It couldn't possibly be. How could that have happened/ How could ***they*** let that happen? It's easy. Let me tell you.

Too many Tranquillity-ites didn't take to heart the lessons which have been passed on for 95 years. They took the easy way, figuring somebody else, anybody other than they, would expend a little personal effort, or maybe go a little out of their way, to do their part, helping keep Tranquillity going. Each year, they sit back and watch. They think, "See? Tranquillity doesn't need *my* help. Another summer went by and it's still there!"

If you are reading this Echo, you ***are*** part of the Tranquillity family. Successful families work together. Every member does their share. No one is too busy to do something. If you don't know how you can help, ask someone. Harold, Alan, Cary & Lisa, Ira, Amy - and so many others - will be more than happy to give guidance, assign a task or ask for your assistance. You don't have to "write a check." There are numerous other ways you can help raise funds to ensure Tranquillity's future.

The Friends of Tranquillity Camp's Casino Night and Dinner Dance at the beautiful Carlton House is just around the corner. It's a "Great Evening." T-Y friends getting together to catch up and enjoy games of chance, great food, music, dancing, Raffle prizes and our fund-raising Journal.

This year, more than ever, we are looking TO YOU to give back and HELP Tranquillity. Even if you can't make it to Casino Night, you can do something. Sell ads for our Journal. Tell your local merchants about Tranquillity; ask them to place a business card (or larger size) ad. Ask them to put up a "Friends of Tranquillity" supporter card and let them see just how many Tranquillity families patronize their business. Sell Raffle tickets. There are fantastic prizes to be won!

Please do your part and HELP. Express your pride and join us as we celebrate 62 years of the Friends of Tranquillity Camp.

Best wishes to you and your families for a healthy, safe and prosperous New Year.

*Richard Lawrence*

# CALLING ALL FLORIDIANS

## SAVE THE DATE!

February 16, 2014

Our Annual South Florida Luncheon for  
Alumni, Friends, Parents, Campers, Staff



Boca Raton  
11:30 AM

For more info,  
contact Cheryl Schwartz-Janer at [CheGodiva@aol.com](mailto:CheGodiva@aol.com)  
or Wendy Seslowsky at [Sunjunkie24@aol.com](mailto:Sunjunkie24@aol.com)

## Bar and Bat Mitzvahs

Marissa Kanter  
Tommy Seslowsky  
Andrew Yanover  
Pam Kreinces  
Russel Holtzman

Sam Williamson  
Ari & Lev Bergfeld  
Allison Seidman  
Emily Garten  
Samantha Ehrman

## Get Well Soon

George Faber

Arnold Novick

# On the Marriage Go Round

**Alan Seslowsky and new wife Stacy. Proud parents Harvey and Helaine, brother Eddie and sisters Wendi and Cheryl.**

**Andrew Gorman Alicia Bagatti**

**Jennifer Pastrich and Daniel Solomon**

**Linda Spiro and Ryan Wilichinsky**

**Michele Lederman and Rob Panish**

## MAZEL-GRAMS

**Jamie Sheinheit had a baby boy, Proud grandparents Renee & Steve Sheinheit**

**Nicole Kleinert has been newly promoted to Senior Physician Assistant**

**Jody Lowitz Corbett, Elyse Goldstein and Genna Himelfarb recently ran the NYC Marathon.**

**Laurel Dorfman has joined the Nassau County All County Chorus and recently sang at a dinner supporting the Yad Vashem Museum in Israel with the Hazamir chorus.**

**Jill Kirschenbaum was awarded tenure this year from the NYC Board of Education.**

**Michael Green is a Siemens Regional Finalist and a National Merit Semi-finalist.**

**Lenny Klein has enrolled at Florida Atlantic University as he approaches retirement with the Federal Drug Enforcement Agency. He is pursuing a Masters Degree in Criminal Justice.**

**Jeremy Goldberg is graduating Queens College**

**Alex Krasner is graduating Florida Atlantic University**

**Adam Spiegel's musical, "Cloned!" will premier at the 2014 New York Musical Theatre Festival! Check out the Cloned website: [www.clonedthemusical.com](http://www.clonedthemusical.com)**

## In Memoriam

**Susan Rosen , Mother of Daniel and Ben**

**Amy Susan Marin, Mother of former campers William (Chilly Willy) & Jonathan Marin.**

**Anna "Honey" Miller, nee Noodelman, attended Tranquillity in the 1930's. Pearl was her counselor. Her children Barbara and Andy attended camp in the 1960's.**

**Esther Green, wife of the late Harry, mother of Jodi Werner and our Board Secretary David, and her 4 grandchildren, was the matriarch of a great Tranquillity family.**

**Friends of Tranquillity Camp**  
**P.O. Box 378**  
**Woodmere, NY 11598**

## **Upcoming Events**

February 16<sup>th</sup>, 2014 – Friends of Tranquillity Florida Luncheon

March 8<sup>th</sup>, 2014 – Casino Night Gala Fundraiser

March 23, 2014 – 2013 Summer Reunion

July 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2014 – First Day of Camp

August 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2014 – Alumni/Visiting Day