



Friends of Tranquillity Camp ECHO

P.O. Box 378 Woodmere, NY 11598-0378
www.FriendsofTY.org

Fall 2015
email: Info@FriendsofTY.org

March to the
100th
Anniversary
Begins!

Lisa and I would like to wish all of you and your families a Sweet, Happy, Healthy and Prosperous New Year.

This summer I celebrated 50 years since first arriving at Tranquillity and hearing about the lessons of Noblesse Oblige. Pearl & Henry, joined by Nat Menis, Leo Skolnik and Sam Leve, among many others, were preparing for “Project 50” and the construction of the New Dining Room. We are now approaching Camp’s 100th Anniversary and preparing our March to 100 and Camp’s bright future. Tranquillity’s future is dependent upon our strength and efforts.

Here is a short summary of how we plan to grow the Friends of Tranquillity Camp in the coming years and continue to support Tranquillity:

- Appealing to our membership to support camp through direct donations and by participating in our spring journal. This will enable our core mission of supporting Tranquillity in its effort to provide a great summer experience to deserving campers.
- Encouraging members to act as ambassadors for Tranquillity Camp, asking them to help drive new camper referrals and increase camp enrollment.
- Increasing membership. Friends of Tranquillity Camp has ended the practice of collecting annual dues. Instead, any former camper or counselor, and any parent, grandparent, friend or relative of a current or former camper or counselor is considered a member. Any member making an annual donation of \$50 or more will still receive our annual gift of a jar of Tranquillity honey for a sweet New Year.
- Changing how we communicate. We now have a presence on the TY Camp Website tranquillitycamp.com with a link to our new Facebook page, [Friends of Tranquillity Camp Inc.](#) Through both, we will have the ability to announce events, keep our members informed, collect donations for supporting Camp, and provide a place online for our members to stay connected to each other.
- Organizing special events. Friends of Tranquillity Camp will maintain a social mission, to keep our members engaged and connected to each other. This includes, of course, staying connected to the younger generations of former campers and friends who are the future leaders of Friends of Tranquillity Camp and the future stewards of Tranquillity Camp.

Our vision is to provide scholarships for deserving campers and fund special projects, such as the renovation and expansion of the Infirmary, and our new project – to restore our iconic and most beloved Camp building – the Barn! (The barn was last renovated by the Alumni in the fifties.)

I would like to thank Richard Lawrence, Marc Cohn and their families for their perpetual dedication and support, as well as Harold Weinman, Alan Abramson, Richard Lerner, and the Board of Directors of Friends of Tranquillity Camp, for their incredible body of work sustaining Tranquillity. I am proud to become the sixth president of our organization.

Cary

The Chairman's Memo

Alan Abramson

As we look forward to the 100th year of Tranquillity, I am pleased to report that great progress has been made toward getting us on track to a lasting future. As the messenger during our recent difficult financial period, I have found the response from most to have been appropriately concerned, because information engenders trust. Unfortunately, a handful called me the prophet of doom, who created this crisis for personal gain or to stimulate fundraising. They hoped that if we ignored our situation, all would turn out fine. Hasn't it always? We saw increased financial support and participation. Most wanted to know what we, the Boards of Camp and Friends, were doing. Due to the hard work of our all-volunteer organizations, together with camp staff, our recovery is trending up, and 2015 was our best camp season in years. We also raised enough to actually begin the detail work on our Infirmary project and start building. That's Noblesse Oblige!

The popular maxim that "what doesn't kill you makes you stronger" applies. Adversity builds strength and from a management point of view, we are moving forward stronger than ever. We have learned many lessons about the need for constant change and how to listen and be diligent. Board discussions are robust with an openness and diversification of leadership responsibilities. Through closer teaming with Richard Lerner and his staff, who have done a fine and unenviable job for 20 years, we will be more effective administratively.

We will soon embark on a journey with the help of a consultant to put the Friends of Tranquillity in lockstep with Camp with regard to fundraising and communication. We are one and need to act as such. While we must pursue the mission, practices and ideals that make Tranquillity special, we cannot live in the cocoon that was emblematic of previous generations, including Pearl's. The world has changed and so must we.

Thanks to all of our Team. We may have different ideas on what it takes to move forward, but we respect each other and stick together nevertheless. May Tranquillity's future shine for all future generations.

Yours in Noblesse Oblige,

Alan

From the President of Tranquillity Camp

Richard Lawrence

Tranquillity is at a pivotal point in its long journey. Like standing atop a hill, we can look back, in this case toward TY's roots. In fact, we are lucky enough that there are still people who are able to tell stories about how Tranquillity was - even back in the 1920's. Remarkable! Other Tranquillity-ites are eagerly looking forward to, and even planning for, TY's 100th Season. BUT. It's going to take a whole lot of work, continuous hard work, for Tranquillity to be able to March to 100 - and beyond. As a Not-For-Profit organization, Tranquillity Camp provides a fantastic sleepaway camp experience [You know! Great activities, food, friends and so forth] at a cost that is well below "other" camps. How can we do this? It's not easy. We follow the principles set by Elias A. Cohen and Pearl C. Miller. The earliest campers were Mr. Cohen's guests. In later years, Pearl was steadfast in her goal to enable TY-worthy children to come to Camp, regardless of their families' circumstances. How is this possible? The shortfall between our costs, offset by camper fees, is covered by donations and contributions. Obviously, it is absolutely essential that we raise sufficient funds each year to cover the shortfall. For the past few years, primarily due to a reduction in the number of campers, the shortfall has not been covered - by an unsustainably wide margin. How to fix? First and foremost, Tranquillity needs more campers. Second, we need to step up and expand/widen our fundraising.

The Friends of Tranquillity Camp is TY's primary *diversified* fundraising source. What does this mean? There is power in numbers! When Cary, Alan, Harold - or any of our "younger" committee leaders ask for your help, step up! If you might not have heard the call, volunteer! Whether you were, or are, a camper, counselor or staff, a parent, a TY friend or acquaintance, the Friends of TY needs you to get involved!

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

Richard Lawrence

In 1952, "The Tranquillity Alumni" was formed. Pearl recognized the need to create an organization to ensure the preservation of TY. She enlisted a former group of original "Tranquillity-ites" - Al Rukin, Abe Berson, Nat Menis and Leo Skolnik - to fulfill that mission. For over seven decades the Alumni, now called The Friends of Tranquillity Camp, has been instrumental in helping to provide a rewarding camp experience for thousands of girls and boys fortunate to call TY their summer home.



Preparations for the ninety-eighth summer of Tranquillity Camp are well under way. Applications have been mailed and new campers are being interviewed. The children's unofficial motto at TY is "We live 10 months for 2". The same can be said for all the preparation that goes into making the summer a success. Soon the quiet and emptiness that is Tranquillity today will be replaced by the joy and exhilaration of several hundred delighted campers. Ask the children who attended camp in 2015 how their summer was, and the universal response is "AWESOME"! An amazing group of campers, great weather, an incredibly dedicated homegrown staff, and the traditions that live on at TY helped make this past summer a huge success. Noblesse Oblige and the ideals that Mr. Cohen and Pearl instilled in us are the cornerstones to the future of Tranquillity.

For the past two years our fundraising efforts have been dedicated to the reconstruction and enlargement of our Infirmary. I am thrilled to announce that as of today we have reached our goal. Thanks to the monumental efforts of The Friends of Tranquillity Camp, as well as numerous personal contributions, we can now begin this project. Special thanks to Eric Kessler, Robert Gershberg and Cary Spiegel for initiating this worthy endeavor.

We are enlisting you as ambassadors to help finding deserving children who might benefit from TY. Many families are not aware of Tranquillity or do not believe they can afford sleep-away camp. As a member of the "Tranquillity Family" you are in a unique position to share your experience with relatives, neighbors and friends who deserve an opportunity to become part of our special family. Please have them contact me. We have several tours and Open Houses in New York and Florida scheduled, to allow perspective campers and parents to learn more about TY.

Lastly, I would like to congratulate our new Friends of Tranquillity Camp President, Cary Spiegel. Having known Cary for over fifty years, I have every confidence that the Friends of Tranquillity Camp will thrive under his leadership.

We look forward to seeing you on Alumni/Visiting Day July 31, 2016. Best regards to you and your family from Sherrie and me.

Richard

OPEN HOUSES**LONG ISLAND**

Hilton Long Island/ Huntington – 598 Broad Hollow Rd, Melville NY 11747

Sunday, November 15, 2015, 10 AM – 4 PM

Sunday, January 24, 2016, 10 AM – 4 PM

Sunday, April 17, 2016, 10 AM – 4 PM

FLORIDA

Marriott – 5150 Towne Center, Boca Raton, FL 33431

Saturday, February 06, 2016, 9 AM – 3 PM

FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO ARRANGE A PRIVATE INTERVIEW CONTACT:

Richard Lerner – (845) – 638 – 6351 or CampTY@msn.com

Making that left onto Tranquillity Road still gives me butterflies each and every time. The summer of 2015 was no different. A memorable summer it was... We kept the spirit of Noblesse Oblige alive, upholding the traditions we all know and love while making new ones that will last for years as we march on to our 100th season! Saturday Nights in the Sports Center were entertaining with shows new and old to TY. They included Little Mermaid, Pippin, A Chorus Line and Cinderella, as well as TY favorites Clock Shop and "See who's at the door", Jane Clay.

Sundays on the Field!!! Whether it was dancing to Cotton Eye Joe, getting married at Carnival, 3-legged races or tug-o-war, hanging out with the whole camp waiting for a BBQ lunch was the best.

Sing, Stunt, singing after Saturday lunch in the dining room, Water Carnival, Friday picnic lunches, Breakfast Club, TY Race and Shabbos services under the best star-filled skies are just a few of the traditions that every generation of TY-ers can appreciate.

Theme days were a new tradition. In the dining room on the 4th of July, tables were decorated with red white and blue, while campers were decked out in their best "firecracker" outfits! Arrr. Pirate day (followed by Peter Pan that night). The dining room was transformed into a big pirate ship with decorated tables and Captain Crunch as a treat.

Mud hikes, woods hikes, mini golf, hayrides, handball, soccer, tennis and GAGA, to name a few, kept us busy during the day. Spell It Out, Twilight games, Bungalow party, Counselor Hunt, Dutch auction, Drive-in Movies and dances kept our nights filled with fun times.

Banquet, Breakfast Club and Overlook Review meant summer was coming to an end. New friendships were made, old bonds were strengthened. Memories made will last a lifetime. Tears flowed as the buses pulled away for the last time, bringing the Summer of 2015 to a close. We were all thinking, "Is it summer yet??" Bring on 2016!!!

Did you know:

You can support TY by using
amazon smile

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



<http://smile.amazon.com>

On the Marriage Go Round

Jon Newman married Stacie Katz
Lisa Doneson married Ben Ader
Ian Sheinheit married Melissa Chumsky
Samantha Stern married Michael Goldnerg
Alexandra Schildkraut is engaged to Evan Wasch
Jill Kirschenbaum is engaged to Andrew Steinberger
Danielle Hakim is engaged to Gregory Silverman

Ilyssa Kleinert married Jason Kritz
Melinda Garfield married Kara Lacey
Lisa Eskenazi married Jonathan Boyer
Robin Diamant is engaged to Jonathan Kanfer
Leah Pessa is engaged to Vin Cruciata
Sami Goldman is engaged to Mike Cardell
Robert Janer is engaged to Davita Golovin

MAZEL-GRAMS

A big "Boom-Chick-a-Boom" to Justine Allen on her Clinical Certification in Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology.

Congratulations to Andrew Gorman on his job as a General Manager of a new hotel, the Hilton Garden Inn, in Greensboro, North Carolina.

A big congratulations to Andrew Faber on his recent induction into the National Honor Society

Get Well Soon

Adrienne Garnett

Harold Weinman

Future Tranquility -ites

Congratulations to Jessica Winters Brown and her husband Eddie on their newborn, Samantha.

Daniel Bindler and his wife welcomed daughter Ella Stephanie Bindler, weighing in at 6lbs, 5oz.

Jill Diamond Ernst and her husband Jarrod welcomed their first born, Gavin.

Erica Davis LaVecchio and her husband Andrew welcomed their first born, Lucca.

Hailey Haft Pagnotta and her husband John welcomed daughter Sally Pagnotta, weighing in at 4lbs, 13oz.

Congratulations to Adam Abramson and his wife Melissa on welcoming their first child, Max Alister Abramson; Proud Grandparents Alice and Alan Abramson.

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 and up. For more information or to order cards, please contact **Brittney (Ronik) Scott**: brittney1scott@gmail.com or visit the Friends of Tranquillity website: <http://friendsofty.org/>.

In Memoriam

Friends of TY is saddened by the passing of Sheldon Levine. He is survived by his children Elisa, Cary, Debbe and Robby, his grandchildren David, Jessica, Adam and Eric Spiegel, and David, Alixandra, and Lexi Greenberger, as well as his Great-Grandchildren Abby and Zeke. He is also survived by his wife Ros.

It is with sadness that we announce the passing of Mollie Levy, mother of Esther and Victor Levy.

Joseph H. Mirsky, father of TY alumnus Mark Mirsky, passed away August 25 at the age of 94. Mr. Mirsky served in WWII in the Navy and then worked for the Navy Department for over 40 years, first in the Pipe Shop at the Brooklyn Navy Yard and then as the head of the Pipe Shop. Afterwards, he became Contract Coordinator of SUP Ship 3, also at the Navy yard, where he oversaw the ships that were dry docked there for repairs. He retired in 1977 and then became a Real Estate Salesperson until he became sick at the age of 90. Mr. Mirsky is survived by his daughter and son (TY Alumni) from his first marriage and a daughter from his second marriage.

Arlene Komel has passed away after a long battle with cancer. She is survived by her sons Billy and Michael. Both attended camp in the 90's and early 2000's.

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 print out a form from TYCamp.com, or contact Richard Lerner. Pearl's Memorial Walk is located in front of the Pearl C. Miller Sports Center and currently has over 100 personalized bricks.

TY HAPPY HOUR November 13, 2015 The East Wing

WE'VE REACHED OUR GOAL!! COME HELP US CELEBRATE THE "NEW INFIRMARY" PROJECT.

\$55 gets you an OPEN BAR from 6pm - 8pm (this includes top shelf liquors-draft beer-wine-sodas) There will also be passed hor d'oeuvres

Pay before OCTOBER 31st, \$50. After Nov.1st, \$55

You can use the donate button on our NEW Facebook page to pay for this event; just specify in the notes what your payment is for.

<https://www.facebook.com/FriendsofTranquillity>

**or send a check to:
Friends of Tranquillity
P.O. Box 37A
Woodmere, NY 11598**

**The East Wing is located at:
1454 2ND AVENUE, NY, NY 10021, CORNER OF 76TH STREET**

Friends of Tranquillity Camp

P.O. Box 378

Woodmere, NY 11598

Upcoming Events

November 13th, 2015 – Friends of Tranquillity Happy Hour

November 15th, 2015 – Tranquillity Camp Open House

February 7th, 2016 – Florida Luncheon

June 29th, 2016 – First Day of Camp