P.O. Box 6469 Monroe Township, NJ 08831-6469 www.FriendsofTY.org

Spring 2021 email: Info@FriendsofTY.org



Back for more Summer Fun in 21
Our 103rd Season

It's May... which means that at the end of next month, a large group of excited, and maybe a little nervous, campers will embark on their journey to Tranquillity Camp. Some maybe for the first time, some for the 10<sup>th</sup> or more time. Whatever year it will be for them, it's sure to be a great one and the start of lifelong memories and friends they will never forget.

I remember that excited and nervous feeling of going to camp each summer... Will my friends be in my group? What house will we be in? Who will be our counselor this summer? All those questions swam around in my head as we rushed out of the house with our bulky camp trunks, all packed up with everything I needed and more, and drove to Grand Central Station to board the Amtrak train to Hudson and then hop on the big yellow school bus to camp. Like it was yesterday, I clearly remember Henry ushering us off the train and onto the buses, Pearl ringing the bell to welcome us as the buses rolled into the driveway by the TY circle, and the staff of that summer, already settled in, singing "We Welcome You" in a kick-line along the side of the driveway. I remember sitting by the lilac bush while Pearl and the girls' head counselor would divide us into groups and send us on our way to our houses to get acquainted and re-acquainted with our counselors and friends, new and old. And as we walked to our houses, chose our beds and cubbies, and began to unpack with so many of the previous questions answered, the nerves and jitters of the morning melted away and we all eased into another amazing experience at our favorite summer home.

So many of the activities, traditions and values from my years at TY are still the same today, only better. The one thing that has never changed, and I hope will never change, are the strong friendships and amazing memories that can be made in camp. I recently had dinner with a camp friend that I hadn't seen in person for at least 10 years and it was like no time had passed. Camp friends just "get" each other. They bond in a way that is not like any other bond. They care in a way that is not like other friendships you have. And when you haven't seen them in 10 or more years you can just pick up where you left off. Which makes camp friendships priceless!

The mission of the Friends of Tranquillity Camp is to support Tranquillity Camp financially through fundraising campaigns to be used for the improvement and enhancement of the camp's facilities and to ensure that children can attend Tranquillity Camp regardless of means... but it's really SO MUCH MORE than that. Providing the financial support that Friends of Tranquillity Camp does, enables children to have the best possible experience at camp, allowing them to build lifelong friendships, learn to live with others in peace and harmony, explore new activities, become independent humans that care for one another and the community, and live the lessons of Noblesse Oblige throughout their lifetime. All the while making them good people who are better equipped to live in the real and everchanging world outside of camp.

Please consider giving a contribution to Tranquillity... any contribution... time and energy or financial support. I promise that you will never regret making a difference in a child's life by giving them the gift of all that camp offers.

Our Walk "virtually" with Tranquillity Camp event is currently underway, and you can support this campaign in a number of ways:

- 1. Register to participate (<u>click here</u>) and join us in our virtual walk from the bus stop in Queens, NY to Tranquillity Camp you can track your progress on our interactive map!
- 2. Create a fundraising page and solicit donations from friends and family by sharing via email or social media (details in your confirmation email once you register)
- 3. "Cheer-On" the walkers by being a Sponsor (click here)
- 4. Make a general donation anytime (click here)

"We Welcome You" to join us and help to make our Tranquillity family stronger for longer so we can impact more children now and forever.

Please feel free to reach out to me with any ideas or questions. You can contact me at <a href="mailto:stab.ud@icloud.com">stab.ud@icloud.com</a>

Yours in Noblesse Oblige, Stacy (Cohen) Budkofsky

#### Cheryl's Pearls of Wisdom...... Message from the Cohen Family

The year 2020 made many of us reflect on our lives, from Covid-19 to political and other events, genuinely resulting in shutdowns. We had time to contemplate about many things in our lives. I came to realize some of these events that transpired in 2020 left me feeling the division of the country. I was saddened by the hatred I saw and how badly people treated each other. I even took a break from social media. I questioned if we genuinely cared about others or only ourselves. It also gave me time to ruminate on just how fortunate I am to be a component of something bigger than myself.

The political divisions had me querying whether people would ever live in peace and harmony – which in turn led me to thinking about camp and its impact on my life as well as countless others. Perhaps if more people had the opportunities we had going to camp, the world would be a different place. For camp is where we learned additional values than those taught at home and in school. It gave us an opportunity to fine tune and practice them. It gave us an opportunity to help others and to become more empathetic people.

Learning all these things and being blessed with the opportunity to help in whatever capacity I can is truly bigger than myself. It is a magnification of all that Elias A. Cohen wished for – part of his legacy of wanting to see kids prosper and become citizens who people could be proud of – the future of our country.

While it might not have seemed like it, 2020 flew by. Although there was no camp physically, mentally it was still in our hearts. Many of us thought back to past summers. It was the first time in about 25 years I was not there. I have to tell you, it was quite weird, since I have spent more than 3/4 of my life in camp. But my recollections sustained it for me. I could picture campers there having a great time. Heck, I even pictured me as a camper. After all, isn't it yesterday that I was a camper?

Thankfully, 2021 is now underway and there will be a new season of camp where children will learn many things and be mindful and thankful they get to spend time in a glorious place profuse with love, laughter, jubilance, and cheer. It will give them a chance to ruminate on life and think about the past and the future – not only for Tranquillity but for their lives. It will give them a chance to work on bucket lists and goals. If we learned anything about last year, it was that time can be short. Have you ever thought about a bucket list or your goals for happiness? What is on yours? What have you accomplished? Are you happy with how your life has turned out? Is there anything you would have done or can do differently to achieve your lists? What are the most important things you value or want to try that you have not already done?

Some wonderful camp goals and bucket list entries are getting up on the Tranquillity Stage to perform, or making lasting friendships, learning to live in peace and harmony, and as we used to sing, seeing dreams coming true. I have been fortunate to be able to experience many wonderful things in camp and accomplish many of my goals to make me a better person. One thing, however, on my bucket list of adventures I have never done, either in camp or out, is camping. I have never slept outside in a tent under the stars. I have seen the beautiful stars in camp and enjoyed many a campfire – but not slept in a tent. Maybe this will be the year. Maybe this will also be the year where you will be able to reach into your wonderful memories of camp and help monetarily in any capacity you can. No amount is too little, for when added with others gifts the totals grow. Donating to camp is a wonderful goal – as you are helping to ensure the future of Tranquillity Camp. Always know, I deeply appreciate all you have done in the past, the present, and into the future.

May this year be filled with dreams coming true for our campers and staff at Tranquillity Camp – this magical place has brought all of you reading this newsletter together. Wishing you all the best in life. May your lives, your families, and your friends forever find faith, love, and Tranquillity, so your heart fills with happiness.

Love Always,

Spring 2021

Dear Friends,



With great relief and anticipation, welcome, summer of 2021! For the first time in over 100 years, Tranquillity Camp did not open for the 2020 season. In 1918 Elias A. Cohen brought his family to his little farm in "Urlton" in upstate New York to escape the ravages of the Spanish Influenza Pandemic. The following year, 1919, began a legacy that has changed the lives of thousands of young men and women. Tranquillity continues in perpetuity as Mr. Cohen and Pearl wished.

As we prepare for Tranquillity's 103<sup>rd</sup> summer, we want to assure parents that our #1 priority will be the safety and well-being of our campers and staff. We are working closely and following the guidelines of the CDC, New York State Department of Health, Local Health Department and American Camp Association. We have already implemented a number of procedures that will not only provide a safe summer for the campers, but one which we are confident will be a memorable and rewarding experience for all our children and staff.

We have had tremendous support during these trying times from The Cohen Family, Richard Lawrence and Family, The Elias A. Cohen Foundation, The Charles Cohn Foundation, The Schlang Foundation and The Friends of Tranquillity Camp (our alumni organization). Our obligation is the continuance of Tranquillity Camp for our children and future generations. "TY's" program, facilities and staff remain the finest anywhere and are unparalleled at any cost.

We are enlisting you as "Tranquillity Ambassadors" to spread the word. Many families are not aware of Tranquillity, nor do they believe they can afford sleep-away camp. As a member of the TY Family, you are in a unique position to share your experience with friends, neighbors and relatives, who deserve the chance to become part of our very special family.

Even though we will not have the opportunity to greet you on Visiting Day/Alumni Weekend this summer, we look forward to rekindling that special event in 2022.

Warmest regards and wishing you a beautiful summer.

### Richard & Sherrie



#### Did you know...

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

Go to smile.amazon.com

Dear Friends,

I hope all of you and your families are well. The Spring of 2021 is here. After a 14-month battle with Covid-19, our country is healing and starting "the new normal." Over 100 years ago, World War I ended, and the Spanish Influenza subsided. The Cohen Families left the little farm in Earlton where they were fortunate to have gone to escape the pandemic and returned to their "new normal" back in New York City. Elias A. Cohen repurposed his farm into Tranquillity Camp and began a history of over 100 years of happy summers for children that could only be interrupted by a pandemic.

We are thrilled that the long hiatus is over, and our beloved T-Y will be open this summer! Now we can begin our 103rd summer. Some things will be different this year, but it will be joyous for all attending. Richie, Sherrie and Ira are hard at work reshaping daily Camp life so that we can open and operate safely.

Our campers will once again get to experience Stunt; Sing; Sundays on the field; Saturday night shows in the Pearl C. Miller Sports Center; Friday night Shabbos dinners and services; dances and stories in the barn; and shared growing experiences and the start of lifelong friendships. Kudos to Richie, Sherrie and Ira for keeping our community engaged over the last year with a series of Zoom events.

Camp survived due to the generosity of the Cohen, Cohn, Lawrence and Schlang families and the Friends of Tranquillity Camp. Friends of Tranquillity Camp's sole mission is to support Camp in its capital projects and scholarships. Our extended family of former campers, counselors and friends is hard at work ensuring camp's future. We all look forward to getting back to "The New Normal" with robust energy and celebrating the reopening of our beloved T-Y.

The Roost, a converted chicken coop that has been the bunk for the waiter groups for decades and the coming-of-age aspiration for the boys' camp, will open with brand new bathroom and shower facilities, as well as a modernization of the bunk room. Other surprises will greet the campers as well.

We hope all of you will participate in the virtual "Walk with Tranquillity Camp" fundraiser, which is in progress and closes on June 13th. I urge all of you to sign up and share with your friends and family. Let's all virtually walk back to T-Y!

In the Fall we will launch this year's fundraising match challenge campaign to provide the resources that are so necessary to support our mission. Watch for details to be coming later. Happy Spring, Happy Summer, and Happy Camp!

Optimistically Yours in Noblesse Oblige,

Cary

Cary Spiegel
Chairman, Friends of Tranquillity Camp



#### What is the "Walk (Virtually) with Tranquillity Camp"?

May 2nd – June 13th \$15 per person / \$30 per person includes walk shirt

### Be a part of Tranquillity's future and join in our virtual walk today!

The "Walk with Tranquillity Camp" is the perfect opportunity to ensure Tranquillity Camp grows and prospers for many years to come. Prior to this year, we were lucky to be able to walk/run together with family and friends. This year, as we all know, things are different due to the pandemic. We will therefore be initiating our first ever VIRTUAL WALK, which will utilize technology to help bring teams or individuals together, but separately, allowing anyone who wants to participate to do so, regardless of weather, distance, or other limitations. Track your progress on our virtual map while you take a symbolic journey from Alley Pond Park, in Queens, NY (where today's campers catch the bus) to Tranquillity Camp in Earlton, NY, while lending a hand to raise money for capital projects in camp. You can participate by logging any activity, not just walking! All you have to do is register, link your fitness tracker or use the app (instructions will be provided), publicize to your friends and family to support your efforts, and start raising money as you exercise and remain healthy.

### Register today

https://www.charityfootprints.com/WalkwithTY/eventdetails

## Mazel-Grams

# On the Marriage Go Round

Gabriel Skoletsky married Yulia Loginova in October.

Adam "Boomer" Goldstein was recently engaged.

Anne Goldstein is engaged.

# Future Tranquilliy-ites

Former camper and counselor Matthew and Jennifer (Greenberg)
Lashway gave birth to her first child, Jameson Robert. Uncle Andrew and
Aunt Erica are thrilled to meet the newest miracle.

Ryan and Camryn (Benjamin) Cooke welcomed daughter Maren Allyson to the world on February 28th. Big Brother Miles, Grandpa Harvey, as well as Justin, Janet, Skylar, and Kaleb, are thrilled.

On March 28<sup>th</sup>, former camper and counselor Michelle Forman Golden and husband Andrew welcomed their first bundle of joy, Emma Rose. Excited grandparents Scott and Elissa (Taub) Forman and new Uncle Jason.

Alex (Shildkraut) Wasch and her husband, Evan, welcomed their daughter Zoe into the world on December 20. Zoe and her big sister, Kaia, are excited to be future TY campers!

Ben and Amanda Pond welcomed their first child, daughter Abigail Ruby, on May 19<sup>th</sup>.

Jackie (Bamme) and Jason Biegel welcomed their first child, Lilah Nora. Excited uncle Mark.

Liana and Justin Kamen welcomed their first child, daughter Nellie Rose on April 28<sup>th</sup>. Super excited grandparents Marina and Roy, proud uncle Tyler and Aunt Tess

# Something to Crow About

Congratulations to Austin Glasgow, son of Wendy Kenduck and grandson of Sherry & Mel Kenduck, on his Bar Mitzvah on June 26, 2021.

Sarah Menis celebrated her Bat Mitzvah with her proud family, parents, Michael and Lauren Menis, brother Daniel and many cousins from the Tranquillity family.

Samantha Linden, former camper, received Singer scholarship, Foote Fellow honors program, and she is now graduating Summa Cum Laude with degrees in finance and accounting and a minor in business law from University of Miami.

Sasson Rafailov was awarded a master's degree from Harvard University. Super proud brother, Leon

## Off to the real world - College Graduates

Sarah Wachs – SUNY Binghamton

Max Heller – SUNY Binghamton

Rachel Gillman - SUNY Cortland

Holly Gozinsky – SUNY Cortland

Scott Budkofsky – Indiana University

Seth Rosen – University of Florida

Noah Jacobs – SUNY Oswego

Lauren Rossman – University of Delaware

Ben Jacobs – Towson University

Ryan Stern – Rutgers University

Skylar Ruiz – Quinnipiac University

Ali Schear – The Ohio State University

Zach Mortman – Virginia Tech

Ryan Stern – University of Maryland

### In Memoriam

### Craig (Taz) Garner

For 12 wonderful summers, Taz made our days even brighter than they already were. He was so very proud of the food he served the children, and made sure the entire camp was well fed. He was both boss and friend to everyone in the kitchen. When mealtime was over, Taz was back in the kitchen preparing for the next meal, baking camper birthday cakes, or making chocolate chip cookies. He managed to do all this for over 300 people, 3 times a day, 7 days a week with a smile, warmth, and a sense of humor. Taz, you will forever be in all our hearts.

### **Irwin Daniels**

Irwin was a kind and gracious man who loved his family dearly and was loved by them even more. Survived by his wife Stefanie of over 63 years.

Irving Brown, Father of Larry Brown, grandfather of Aaron and Jesse

### **Arthur Cohen**

Beloved husband to Ronnie, father to Laura & John Cromwell, Cari and David and Roni, Poppy to Sarah and Zachary Cromwell and Logan Cohen, brother to Paul Cohen, Uncle to Robin, Stacy, Alyssa, Debbie, and Jodi. A camper in the 1950's, he was a one-of-a-kind family man who will be greatly missed.

**Elaine Silverman**, camper in the 50's, husband Sid, mother of Mitch and Erica Leben, grandma to Scott and Brett.

Steve Karp, a true supporter and friend of Tranquillity Camp

# Sunshine Greeting Cards

The Friends of Tranquillity Camp continues to offer **Sunshine 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 \$18.

For more information or to order cards, please contact:

Beth Mindes: <a href="mailto:bethstaci@gmail.com">bethstaci@gmail.com</a>
or visit the Friends of Tranquillity website:
<a href="mailto:www.friendsofty.org/please-contribute">www.friendsofty.org/please-contribute</a>

## **Board Elections**

#### Re-nominated Board of Directors and Officers (one-year term)

Chairman of the Board – Cary Spiegel; President – Stacy Budkofsky
Vice-President – Ira Altman; Vice President – Michael Menis
Vice President – Wendy Seslowsky; Corresponding Secretary – Beth Tichler Mindes
Recording Secretary – Wendi Weinman; Treasurer – Elissa Forman; Co-Comptroller – Paul Cohen;
Co-Comptroller - Larry Brown

The terms of the following Board Members expire with the Annual Meeting on August 1st.

The Board of Directors is pleased to nominate them for re-election:

#### Re-nominated for a 3-year term (expires 2024)

Harvey Benjamin Nancy Brown Zach Goldberg Cheryl Janer Erica Kassler Mel Kenduck Robin Kessler Sherrie Lerner Robin Newmark Tracy Reina David Spiegel Eric Spiegel Alexandra Wasch

The above slate of Officers for the years 2021-2022, for the 3-year term ending in 2024, has been proposed by the Board of Directors, which recommends a favorable vote. To propose any additions or changes for consideration by the membership, a petition containing 25 signatures of Members in Good Standing must be received at Friends of Tranquillity Camp, P.O. Box 6469, Monroe Township, NJ 08831-6469, by July 15, 2021. Elections will be held virtually on August 1, 2021.

### TY Word Search by Cheryl Janer

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JUNIOR HOUSE
LAKE PEARL
LAUGHING
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