Sheryl Speak

A 110th Anniversary Summer report from our Camp Director, Sheryl Kirschenbaum

It is hard to believe I am writing this on Trip Break...It’s already Trip Break! It seems like only yesterday that the campers were arriving, and now our 2nd Session campers come tomorrow.

Our 110th Anniversary Summer is off to a wonderful start! We had celebrations for July 4th and the 110th Anniversary of camp. Each of our campers received a special birthday bag, which included an SLC drawstring backpack, a 110th anniversary t-shirt, a deck of SLC playing cards, and a flashlight/pen!

A special, unexpected surprise of the summer was that Jamie Russell, our Adventure Coordinator, proposed to Aviva Tombrink, our Merrylane Supervisor. This happened on the stage of the Eddie Cantor Theater in front of the entire camp! (She said yes!)

On the evening of July 11th we had a special visit from Pete Seeger. He accompanied our campers in their tribute to Woody Guthrie! It was a remarkable evening.

Our first session All Camp Shows were fantastic. 55 campers received their 5 year sweatshirts, we gave out Jeff Herman Awards, and of course, ate ice cream!

We are looking forward to Olympics in Session 2, and many other special events that are coming our way! I could go on and on all day, but I have a camp to run! I hope to see you all at camp one day soon!
Alumni Happenings

✦ Mazel Tov to Aimee & Seth Stein on the birth of their daughter, Beckett Lennon (left). She was born on May 10th at 8:59am and weighed 6 lbs, 15 oz.

✦ Mazel Tov to Elise & Corey Zbar on the birth of their daughter, Lillian Marie (right). She was born on July 19th at 7:31pm and weighed 6 lbs, 9 oz.

✦ Mazel Tov to Bob & Debbie Rosen (left) who will be celebrating their 40th wedding anniversary on August 19th. Through friends of SLC, they met on a blind date on July 20, 1969 and have been together ever since!

✦ Mazel Tov to Jessica Karp (right) on her July 22nd marriage to Adam Forman.

******************************************************************************

✦ Our condolences to Bruce, Amy, Greg, Brooke & Dana Jaffe on the loss of Bruce’s mother, Elaine.

Jewish Communal Fund & Asher Melzer Dedications

Regular visitors to Surprise Lake Camp this summer have been met with a new surprise—a fresh, upgraded look for the Main Building. In honor of its centennial year (the building was completed in 1912), the Main Building received a major facelift—she no longer looks her age! Stucco was power-washed and sealed, rotted wood was replaced, new windows were installed, and so much more. All this was made possible by a generous grant from the Jewish Communal Fund, a gift through UJA-Federation of New York.

Another special addition to the Main Building is a new main entranceway. This was made possible by The Melzer Family, and they dedicated it in memory of Asher Melzer, Camp Director from 1954-1973.

On July 11, we held two very special dedications and ribbon cutting ceremonies honoring both the Jewish Communal Fund and Asher Melzer. We were delighted to have so many special guests in camp!

L-R: Jessica Chait, UJA-Federation, Foundation Relations Officer, Karen Adler, Jewish Communal Fund, Chair of Executive Committee, Amy Goldberg, SLC Board Member

Established in 1961 for the Betterment of Camp
At the suggestion of one of its alumni, Mike Berk, Surprise Lake Camp held its first swim-a-thon at camp on Alumni Day, July 22nd. The event was open to all former SLC lifeguards who could raise a minimum of $360 in sponsorships. A total of 13 swimmers participated. Earlybirds were allowed to begin swimming at 8:30am and all participants had to finish by noon. Who could imagine that the event would be such a success? Nearly $17,000 was raised for the SLC Scholarship Endowment! All swimmers received a medal and an SLC Waterfront Staff t-shirt. Trophies were awarded to the top lap swimmer and the top fundraiser, and this year those honors went to the same person . . . Mitch Brenner! We are so grateful to ALL the participants, and we look forward to making this an annual Alumni Day tradition.

**2012 Swim-A-Thon Participants**

*Not pictured*

- Jeremy Abrams
- Mike Berk*
- Mitch Brenner
- Matt Grosshandler
- Jennifer Hochstadt
- Susie Jainchill*
- Team Lisa Mark & Jason Bailis
- Craig Miller
- Ivan Shore
- Josh Suchow
- Naomi Tombrink
- Marty Zalin
- Barbara Zbar
### WANTED!

Camp is always looking for donated items. Money not spent on goods is spent on scholarships so children can come and enjoy the sunshine at camp! As always, your donations are tax deductible. We are currently looking for the following:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Snow Plow</th>
<th>Small Refrigerators</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mah Jongg Sets</td>
<td>Laser Printers</td>
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<tr>
<td>Box Springs</td>
<td>Cars or Vans in Good Condition</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bed Frames</td>
<td>Digital Cameras</td>
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<tr>
<td>Folding Card Tables/Bridge Tables</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pop-up Canopy Tents (like those used by many families on Visiting Days)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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### Surprise . . . Grandpa Went To SLC!

The other evening my mother and I were sorting through old family albums and letters, haphazardly scattered in a seemingly endless abyss of ancestral memories. After a few hours of digging through these hundreds of pictures and documents, we came upon a bound brown manila folder with a shadow print of flowers on the cover and with frayed brown edges. Opening the folder we found that it was an autobiography my grandfather, Alfred Samuel Schnall, had written when he was only eleven years old in 1939.

We carefully read the delicate script describing my grandfather’s young life until we came upon a page adorned with sepia-tone photographs from a camp. Although my mother had some idea that her father had gone to some sort of camp, she never knew the name. My grandfather died in 1999, and he had never really described this place in which he had spent a special summer. We flipped the pages to read more of the autobiographical content. Alas, we came to the last page and found that it was entitled *Camp Life*.

As I turned for a second to look at that night’s homework, my mom began reading off the caption next to the small picture of a lakeside. “Cold Spring??” my mother uttered in a slight confusion, recognizing the name as the town in which I had spent the past summer at camp for the first time in my life. I turned to her, and she said with a newfound astonishment, “Surprise Lake Camp! Isabel, your grandpa went to Surprise Lake Camp!”

Suddenly tears came to our eyes – tears that I had never really felt before, a new sense of emotion that I had never encountered. The closest thing is the feeling that I had when I was at camp. Suddenly, things felt connected. In our lives of many twisting strings of connections and disconnections from our past and present and future – a link was found.

Isabel Owen, Teenside Camper
### 2012 Alumni Drive and Dues Form

**Did you know that . . .**
- All gifts are fully tax deductible?
- All money raised directly benefits camper scholarships?
- You may be eligible to have your gift matched by your company?
- Surprise Lake Camp accepts contributions in memory or in honor of someone?
- You can make a gift of securities, donate a vehicle, or make a bequest in your will?
- You can support camp by having your credit card billed monthly?

**Make Your Gift Online!**
[https://www surpriselake org/donate](https://www.surpriselake.org/donate)

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**Please help us to confirm our records by completing the following:**

- **Name:**
- **Maiden Name:**
- **Address:**
- **City:**
- **State:**
- **Zip:**
- **Birthdate:**
- **Occupation:**
- **Dates/Years at Camp:**
- **Email Address:**
- **Phone:**

**Alumni Drive:** Gifts to the Alumni Drive are used to support this year’s scholarships. *This is camp’s greatest current need.* If you are supporting this annual drive, please consider making an additional gift to our scholarship fund to secure our ability to provide for future scholarships.

**Scholarship Fund:** This money goes toward an endowment to provide for future scholarships. *(Gifts will be credited to the Henry Cohen Scholarship Fund unless you direct that they be put into another scholarship fund.)*

**Alumni Dues:** Membership entitles Alumni to be kept informed of alumni events, receive quarterly Re-Echoes, receive free admission to Alumni Day, a discount at the Alumni store, and a discount to all alumni events at which a fee is charged. All members will receive a membership card and calendar of events.

**Jeff B. Herman Memorial Fund:** Pays for camp’s annual award given to the most outstanding male and female athletes on Teenside and helps to fund camper scholarships. Jeff Herman was a beloved Surprise Lake Camper who became a New York City policeman and was tragically killed in the line of duty.

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**Please Complete:**

- **1 Day at camp:** $135
- **4 Days at camp:** $540
- **The Hinterlands Circle (2 Weeks):** $1,850 or more
- **2 Days at camp:** $270
- **5 Days at camp:** $675
- **The Hudson Overlook Circle (1 Session):** $3,700 or more
- **3 Days at camp:** $400
- **The Bald Spot Circle (1 Week):** $925 or more
- **The Breakneck Circle (Full Summer):** $7,200 or more

**Annual Alumni Fundraising Drive—“Send a Child to Camp”**

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**Total Amount Enclosed**

- **Scholarship Fund**
- **Alumni Association Dues** $250 Lifetime, $36 Annual
- **Jeff B. Herman Memorial Fund**
- **Other Fund**

---

**Please Complete:**

- **Total Amount Enclosed**
- **Please bill my credit card:** (No AMEX, please)
- **Card Number:**
- **Exp. Date:**
- **Total Amount to Charge:**
- **Billing Zip Code:**
- **Signature:**
- **I’d like to make monthly contributions with my credit card.**
- **Preferred day of charge:**
- **Month to begin:**
- **Monthly Amount:**
- **Total Number of Months:**
- **Total Donation Amount:**
- **I prefer to save paper & postage. Please email me my/our acknowledgment letter.**
- **I request that my gift be listed as “anonymous.”**
- **I would like to speak with an Alumni Fundraiser and/or member of Surprise Lake Camp’s professional staff about a special gift.**

---

**Surprise Lake Camp Alumni Fundraising Policy:** The Alumni Association is aware that some organizations raise money by bombarding donors with phone calls and mailings. We find this offensive. We ask our alumni for two things each year: annual dues and a gift to the Alumni Drive. From time to time, we also do special solicitations for capital projects. While we may send reminders to those who do not respond, we do not resolicit people during the same calendar year if dues have been paid and a gift has been made. In addition, we never give our address list to anyone, and we honor any request by an alumnus to block his/her name from our fundraising mailings.
186 people have joined the 1902 Society!

This is a special way for people who love camp to help secure its future.

Please contact Celia (celia@surpriselake.org) or Jordan (Jordan@surpriselake.org) to learn more or visit www.surpriselake.org/1902society to download a Letter of Intent.

Why I Became A Member of the 1902 Society

Surprise Lake Camp has been such an important part of my life for the last 15 summers. I have made friends here that I treasure more than anything. In my eyes, the 1902 Society is the best thing I can do to ensure that future campers will have the opportunity to have the same experiences I have been blessed with. I truly believe that camp changed my life for the better and without it, who knows where I would be?! At present, I don’t have the means to support camp with donations the way I wish I could, but joining the 1902 Society is my promise that I will one day give back to the place that gave so much to me.

-Allie Ball

In late August of 1989, after dating for a brief time, Dave and I went camping. As soon as we lost radio reception, both of us started singing the same camp song. Dave began with “whenever you see a hearse go by” and I was able to sing the next line! It was at that moment that we realized we were connected in some weird, profound way. We had an unspoken understanding of experiences that helped to shaped us—CAMP. Camp had given us similar histories, values, and memories, and we knew that if we ended up together, our children would be camp kids as well. My daughter has now been at SLC for 9 years. She is currently on staff and hopes to be for a long time! My son was a camper for 7 years and became an avid lover of the waterfront. He was recently certified as a lifeguard and hopes to return to camp in the future as waterfront staff. Dave comes to visit on weekends and even has an unofficial title of “Dave Support.” (I have been the Mainside Support Supervisor since 2006) We feel great knowing that by joining the 1902 Society, we are securing camp’s future and its ability to fulfill its mission. We know firsthand the incredible impact camp has on the lives of both children and adults, and want to make sure that these experiences are made affordable to anyone who needs it, regardless of their financial status.

-Carolyn & Dave Samuels
Current Members of The 1902 Society

We are extremely grateful to the following individuals who have made provisions for Surprise Lake Camp in their estate planning.

As of July 27, 2012

Anonymous (4)
Paola & Ronnie Adragna/Gilbert
Michele Albo
Marcia & Bob Altabet
Faith Altshuler
Walter Arnstein
Margery Arsham
Margie & Bob Atwater
Celia Baczkowski
Sylvaine Baczkowski
Marilyn Bailis & Jerry Mark
Allie Ball
Janeen Bellafiore
Jennifer Herman Benalt & Adam Benalt
Molly Benton
Evie & Jon Berger
Blanche & Edward Berk
Howie Berk
Jeff Berk
Jennifer & Matthew Berk
Michael Berk
Andie Biederman
Jake Biederman
Martin Blum
Nelson Braff
Amy Bram
Elyse Braun
Mitchell Brenner
Ezra Cahn
Justin K. Cantor
Meridee Simon Cole
Larry Cooperstein
Anita Cruso
Jane Hershey Cuozzo
Elena & David Dale
Jordan Dale
Wendy & James Dinn
Michele Mars DiRuggiero
Laurie Dobkin-Helm
Noam Dolgin
Matt Dorter
Michael Fandal
Lori (Heitzner) & Seth Fishman
David Fleischner
Ralph Forgacs
Ken Freedman
Marissa Garfinkel
Rose & Harris Ghersin
Scott Gilden
Jordan Golian
Dr. Joseph Goldberg
Michelle Goldstein
Linda & Ben Gordon
Stephen Gordon
Pam & Jay Greenbaum
Suzy Greenberg
Rhonda & Bob Greenblatt
Lenny (LG) Grinberg
Matthew & Brenda Grosshandler
Andrea & Arthur Gruber
Gwen & Larry Hamberg
Irving Harris
Joy Henshel
Patti Henshel
Andrew Hess
Barbara & Stanley Hirsch
Roberta & Peter Hirsch
Thelma & Sanford Hochberg
Gayle Hoffman
Jason A. Hoffman
Nancy & Alan Hoffman
Rachel Israel
Seymour Israel
Sharon & Jeff Jacobs
Amy & Bruce Jaffe
Chuck Jainchill
Susie Jainchill & Tsahi Gelardin
Danielle Johnson
Stan Josephson
Michael Kall
Linda Kane
Heidi & Bruce Katz
Karri & Joel "Whammy" Kaufman
Sheryl Kirschenbaum
Alan Kleiman
Ele Klein
Andrew Kominik
Andrew Korn
Marc Krigsman
Karen & Stewart Lantner
Maureen & Howard Lantner
Moran & Murray Lantner
Beth & Dave Levene
Dena & Elly Levine
Mark Levine
Fred Levy
Randi & Scott Lieberman
Laura & Carter Mansbach
Judy & Michael Margulies
Ed Markowitz & Children
Caryl & Mike Levene
Miriam Messinger & Felicia Hayes
Ruth Messinger
Emilie & Andrew Meyer
Estelle Meyer
Jerry Meyer
Jim Meyer
Jodie Meyer & Steven Tuber
Lee Meyer
Jonathan Miller
Susan Feldman-Miller
Barb & Steve Mink
Jill (Simon) & John Miskanic
Karen & Jim Morrison
Suzanne Moskowitz
Alyse Kunkin Murabito
Roni & Jason Nadell
Stephen Niktin
Joey Novick
Shelli & Larry Olinsky
Stacey & Rob Panepinto
Eve Rubinstein Papernick & Jon Papernick
Jerry Person
Nicole Pilevsky & Joseph Osheroff
Johanna Pinzler & Avi Klemer
Julia Pisetsky
Jared Pollet
Sheila & Ken Pollet
Lee Posnack
Marc Rentzer
Michael Rieger
Max Damon Robkoff
F. Peter Rose
Robert Rosenbaum
Mara Rubinstein
Robin & Larry Rubinstein
Judy Freiser Sails & Steven Sails
Alan Saltz
Carolyn & Dave Samuels
Joshua Sarkozi
Nigel Savage
Robert Schechter
Dan Schulman
Gayle Schwartz
Maria & Ken Seligson
Michael & Julia Seltzer
Eliot Senor
Laurie Feldman-Shepherd
Joanne Sherain
Jenna Sidor
Harvey Sils
Rebecca Solomon
Steve Sommer
Susan Namn Spencer
Randi Sperber
Jeff Spiegel
Gary Spielvogel
Seth Stein
Charles Stendig
Adelle & Henry Stern
Brittany Sternberg
Denis Sternberg
Mandy Storfer
Elaine & Paul Suchow
Jennifer Sussell
Audrey & Mark Tenenhaus
Bret Tenenhaus
Mike Tenenhaus
Alice & Steve Terner
Jordan Waldman
Lisa & Steve Weinberg
Diane & Allen Weiner
David Weintraub
Tommy Wills
Cheryl & David Wolff
Anne & Joel Zbar
Barbara & Michael Zbar
Elise & Corey Zbar
Jordana Zbar
Come celebrate the new year at SLC... In more ways than one!

Surprise Lake Camp is pleased to offer its campers, staff, alumni, Board members, and friends the opportunity to celebrate the holidays of Rosh Hashanah AND Sukkot in the most beautiful synagogue we know, right here at Surprise Lake Camp.

### The Rosh Hashanah Program

This will include a relevant, meaningful, child friendly Surprise Lake service surrounded by camp’s natural beauty. Following the service, activities will be offered for both children and adults. And what Jewish Holiday would be complete without a festive meal?

**Date:** Monday, September 17  
**Time:** Service will begin at 9:45 am.  
**Refreshments will be served at 9:00 am.**

In lieu of a fee for the Rosh Hashanah program, we ask those who participate to please make a contribution to camp of an amount they see fit. An average gift of $36 per person makes the program financially viable.

### **NEW THIS YEAR!!!** The Sukkot Program

Experience Sukkot!!! Shake the lulav and etrog, eat in the sukkah, and celebrate Judaism’s connection to the land!!! Learn about Sukkot through fun activity stations that involve art, food, reflection, music, and of course, FUN!!!

Following the activities, we will have a BBQ lunch (with plenty of vegetarian options!)

**Date:** Sunday, September 30  
**Time:** Program will begin at 11 am.

**Cost:** $10 per person/$36 per family

If guests would like to help with set up and cleanup for the event, this can be done in lieu of payment.

[RSVP TODAY AT WWW.SURPRISELAKE.ORG/JEWISHPROGRAMS/](http://WWW.SURPRISELAKE.ORG/JEWISHPROGRAMS/)