

SURPRISE LAKE CAMP ALUMNI ASSOCIATION



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RE-ECHOES

Summer 2012

Issue # 3

Editor: Celia Baczowski

UPCOMING CAMP EVENTS . . . MARK YOUR CALENDAR TODAY!

Labor Day/Family Camping Wknd Friday, August 31 to Monday, Sept 3
SLC Rosh Hashanah Service Monday, September 17, 2012
1st Annual SLC Sukkot Program Sunday, September 30, 2012
Annual Hike-A-Thon Sunday, October 14, 2012
SLC Super-Bowl Saturday, January 26, 2013
1st Annual SLC Passover Seder (2nd Night) Tuesday, March 26, 2013



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!



SURPRISE LAKE CAMP ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

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*Deceased

*Established in 1961
for the Betterment of
Camp*



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



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

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!

Top Photo: Shira Adams unveiling the new Asher Melzer plaque.
Bottom Photo: L-R: Shirley Melzer, Shira Adams & Sarah Adams.



First Alumni Lifeguard Swim-A-Thon Raises nearly \$17,000 For Scholarship Endowment!

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:

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

Surprise . . . Grandpa Went To SLC!

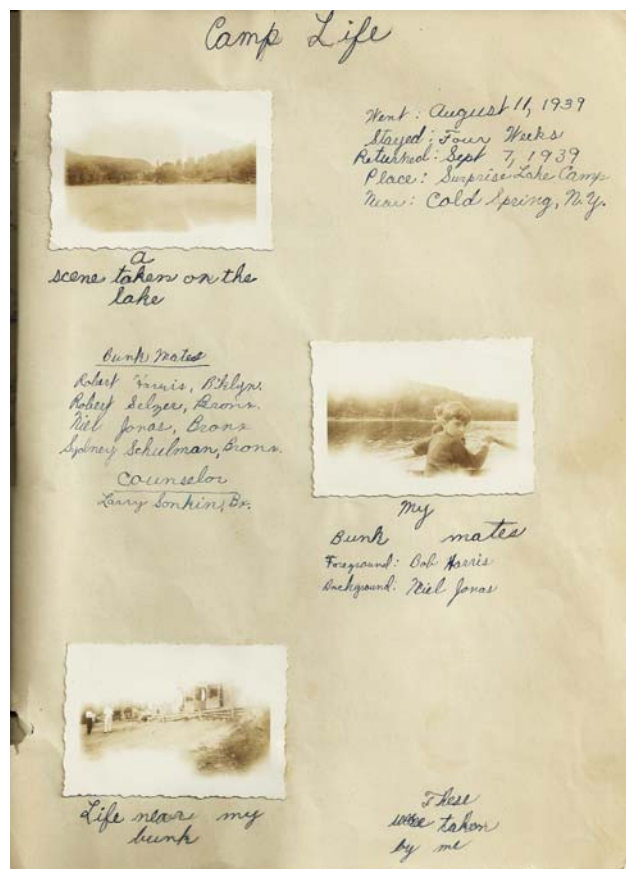
The other evening my mother and I were sorting through old family albums and letters, haphazardly scattered in a seemingly endless abyss of ancestral memories. After a few hours of digging through these hundreds of pictures and documents, we came upon a bound brown manila folder with a shadow print of 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>

PLEASE RETURN TO:

Surprise Lake Camp
Alumni Association

Winter Address

Sept 1— June 15
307 Seventh Avenue
Suite 900
New York, NY 10001
212.924.3131

Summer Address

June 16— Aug 31
Lake Surprise Rd
Cold Spring, NY 10516
845.265.3616

alumni@surpriselake.org

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 Henny 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.

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" \$ _____

Alumni Association Dues \$250 Lifetime, \$36 Annual.....\$ _____

Scholarship Fund.....\$ _____

Jeff B. Herman Memorial Fund.....\$ _____

Other Fund:\$ _____

Total Amount Enclosed.....\$ _____

☐ Please bill my credit card: (No AMEX, please)

Card Number: _____ Exp. Date: _____ Total Amount to Charge: \$ _____

Name on Card: _____ 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. (please include email address above)

☐ 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 accepts contributions in memory or in honor of someone, gifts of stock, matching gifts, and planned gifts (deferred giving). Additionally, camp's long-term Capital Improvement Plan includes many opportunities for endowing scholarships, staff positions, or programs, as well as naming gifts for buildings or recreational facilities. We also welcome major gifts to fund donor-initiated projects.

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.

Attention SLC Alumni!



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



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Please let us know if you move, get multiple copies, or would like to be removed from our mailing list!*

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/

