Tired of Winter? Need to breathe some cool, fresh air? Then why not come to VOLUNTEER DAY?

Sunday, April 25, 2010!

Each Spring, the cold melts away, the birds start to chirp, and new life buds from the earth. But for those of us who work at SLC, Spring means only one thing . . . CAMP IS ALMOST HERE!

Volunteer Day is an annual event where our most dedicated campers, staff, and alumni help get camp ready for the summer after a long, cold winter. Projects include painting, spreading woodchips, gardening, weeding, brush clearing, and more! All participants receive a BBQ lunch and Volunteer Day t-shirts are provided to all who work until at least 3pm. This is an excellent way to fulfill community service or mitzvah requirements for schools. Most important, Volunteer Day is fun and fulfilling, an inevitable byproduct of bringing so many warm and enthusiastic members of the Surprise Lake Camp and local communities together.

We hope you and your family will join us this year. To sign up please call 212-924-3131 or email alumni@surpriselake.org with your name, email address, telephone number, and number of people in your party.
Message from the President

Dear Alumni,

Happy New Year!! I hope this message finds everyone well, and like myself, anticipating the warm weather when we will be able to visit camp and enjoy the beauty and splendor of Surprise Lake.

This was an extremely tough year for the economy. Regardless, our alumni stepped up and raised $161,440 for the Alumni Drive, which ended on January 31st. Although our goal was $180,000, we still bested last year by more than $9,000. This figure sets a new, all time high for our fundraising! I want to thank all the alumni who contributed, and especially those who recognized the impact of the difficult economic times and managed to increase their annual gift to make up some of the difference.

The Alumni Association contributed a total of $42,000 to the Alumni Drive this year. This gift was made possible by the combined efforts and participation of our alumni. The proceeds from Annual and Lifetime Membership dues, the alumni fundraising parties, the Golf Outing, the Hike-A-Thon, and our SLC clothing sales all enable the Alumni Association to make a significant gift to the annual campaign. With that in mind, if you are not already a member of the SLCAA, please join! Additionally, if you live locally, please attend one of the many terrific events that we plan throughout the year. As you have read, your support and participation is absolutely crucial to our success, and deeply appreciated.

As we work our way through winter, the Alumni Association is busy planning. If you take a peek at the calendar of upcoming events on page 1, you will see that Volunteer Day is our next event. I would like to invite everyone to come spend a wonderful day in camp, working on projects that help get camp ready for summer. A few weeks after that we will be having our annual 21 & over overnight party in camp. (More information about these events will be circulated in the coming weeks).

I hope you will enjoy this issue of Re-Echoes and that it gets you thinking about SLC and the summer ahead. Even though there is still snow on the ground, the staff and Alumni Association are working hard to prepare for a new season, and to give our campers the summer of a lifetime. I hope that each and every one of you will try to partner with us in some way!

See you all soon,
Joe Goldberg, President of the SLC Alumni Association goldnglich@aol.com

Alumni Drive Update

The 2010 Alumni Drive begins with a bang!

The 2010 Alumni Drive began on February 1 and is off to a strong start!

Help us continue the momentum by making a gift early in the year.

Please remember that your gifts are tax deductible and go directly to support camper scholarships. You may use the donor form on page 10 or make your gift online at https://www.surpriselake.org/about/donate.php.

Ask us about setting up monthly donations charged to your credit card! It’s so easy!

$8,000 Raised So Far!

$180,000
$160,000
$140,000
$120,000
$100,000
$80,000
$60,000
$40,000
$20,000
$0
Our condolences to Adam and Matt Pomerantz, their mother, Roslyn, and their families on the loss of their father, Murray.

The Board of Directors of Surprise Lake Camp mourns the loss of Board Member Pearlie Billie Schwartz. She was an angel—a lady of grace and class, humble, caring, dignified, generous, and extraordinarily kind. Her commitment to camper scholarships enabled thousands of children to go to camp and will enrich young lives for generations to come. We extend our deepest sympathies to her family.

Our condolences to the family of Seymour Wittek, who passed away in late December. Seymour was a Winter Camper in the 1930’s. Condolences may be sent to his granddaughter, Pamela Goldstein, at pngoldstein@mcguirewoods.com.

Mrs. Yvonne Galapo donated an ambulance to Magen David Adom in memory of her beloved son, Detective Joe Galapo. Detective Galapo fathered three Surprise Lake campers and was sadly killed in the line of duty. The dedication was held on Thursday, October 29th, 2009.
For about a year and a half I have been promising camp that I would write an article about how easy it is to help send a child to camp. Unlike the paper I still owe my senior year English professor, I had to make good on this promise!

Those of you reading this article undoubtedly have a strong connection to camp. Many of you can recall with great clarity the name of every counselor and bunkmate you ever had. Many of you have even connected with them on Facebook! (I admit to the former, not the latter). Camp was the most important part of my life for many years and, in truth, it will always hold a special place in my heart. During my ten summers at camp I made friends that are still some of the closest in my life. I am one of the many who met my wife in camp, and I take my children there to visit every summer. I still remember seeing the lake every year on the first day of camp and how I couldn’t wait to jump in!!

As a child growing up on the Lower East Side, I looked forward to my summers with great enthusiasm. I took for granted that my summers meant eight weeks away at Surprise Lake Camp with my friends. Getting out of the city in the summer was one of the best things my parents could ever have done for my brother and me. Swimming, sports, bug juice, Rocky Mountain toast, overnights... really... who could ask for more? Not me. I can still recall each of my ten summers as though they were yesterday, and at the end of June, I still long to jump in the lake....

I say that I took camp for granted and it is true. I never thought about what camp cost or how my parents paid for it. I just knew that dodgeball, gaga, and endless fun were awaiting me come July and August! As I learned much later, camp for my brother and me would not have been possible if not for the generosity of people I had never met. The SLC Scholarship Fund helped me enjoy some of the best times of my life. I am sure this holds true for many of you reading this article.

A couple of years ago, my wife, Robin, and I decided that we should do something within our means to support Surprise Lake Camp and give a child the same chance at happiness that I was given. For years we put off making any contribution to camp because of the BIG CHECK factor. So what did we do? We figured out a monthly amount that we were comfortable with and I called the camp office. Setting up a monthly deduction took less than five minutes—an email, a bank account, a dollar amount, and we were done! Every month I see a deduction to Surprise Lake Camp and I honestly feel great. We are so happy that we have been able to break the contribution up into monthly payments and we see how it adds up at the end of the year.

Charity is one of the oldest and nicest traditions in Judaism. The sages say “G-d states...If you support my children, I will support yours.” The alumni of Surprise Lake Camp are the greatest asset and hope of today’s generation of campers. So put down Reechoes and call Celia (celia@surpriselake.org) to let her know that you want to donate money to camp on a weekly or monthly basis. She will help you get the ball rolling. It’s so easy to do, and camp needs more people to do it!

Thank you,
Danny Muskin

---

**Registration Report for Summer of 2010**

**SLC is 75% filled!**

We currently have waitlists for the following age groups:

**SESSION 1**

- Mountainview Girls
- Highlands Girls
- Boulder Hill Girls
- Timberline Boys

At the time of printing, other age groups are about to fill.

Registration is arriving daily so we encourage you to contact us ASAP to inquire about availability or to have your child’s name placed on a waitlist. If you know anyone who is hesitating to register for next summer, tell them to give us a call before it’s too late!

**ASK US ABOUT THE CAMPERSHIP INCENTIVE PROGRAM!**

The Foundation for Jewish Camp offers $1,000 incentive grants for first-time campers. Apply now at www.onehappycamper.org, and their online system will let you know whether your child is eligible for a non-need-based grant at Surprise Lake Camp.
Mainside Kitchen Renovation

It is the largest single project since the Belle Abramson Gymnasium was built: the complete renovation of the Mainside Kitchen. All of the outdated equipment is being replaced with brand new appliances, and some things we never had before are being added. One example is a tilt skillet, which chef David Bardari assures us will enable him to perform new acts of culinary magic. But that’s not all. The project also includes new walls, a new ceiling, and a new floor. And, for the first time in SLC history, there will actually be two completely separate areas for the preparation of meat and dairy meals. This was accomplished by building the kitchen out into the Mountainview Dining Room (yes, this dining room will be a little smaller) to accommodate the new meat and dairy dishwasher rooms. Originally the renovation was supposed to only involve the first floor, but when structural issues were discovered in the floor/ceiling between the downstairs and upstairs kitchens, the Board immediately decided to expand the project. The benefit to camp: better food, a better arrangement for keeping kosher, less wasted energy, better code compliance, and a more professional kitchen. Did we mention better food? This is on top of the incredible improvements we made last year, raising the survey scores for our food service a whopping 50%! Like everything else at SLC, the food just keeps getting better and better.

We would love to have a naming gift for this high profile improvement. Imagine a big plaque saying “The (your name here) Kitchen”! Please call Celia or Jordan if you are interested!!!! In the meantime . . . bon appétit!

Welcome Steve and Siri!

Surprise Lake Camp is pleased to announce the hiring of our new full time caretaker, Steve Frey, and our new part-time housekeeping supervisor, Siri Wengaard. Both Steve and Siri will be living at camp year round. Steve will work alongside our Head Caretaker, Gene, assisting with the upkeep and maintenance of our precious site. He was born in Yonkers, has worked in construction for 19 years, and has a 20 year old daughter. Siri, who will supervise our housekeeping crew from April to October, was born in Norway, came to the US when she was six weeks old, and grew up in Hopewell. Both Steve & Siri are excited about joining the SLC family, and look forward to meeting everyone this summer.
Because You Can’t Take It With You . . .

Sustaining Surprise Lake Camp into the 21st century is the responsibility of those who believe in its mission and have been touched by its efforts.

The 1902 Society recognizes people who have decided to include SLC in their estate planning.

This can be done in various ways. If you are interested in becoming a member of the 1902 Society or learning more about what planned giving/estate planning means, please contact Celia in the camp office at 212-924-3131.

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.

Anonymous                              Rhonda & Bob Greenblatt                              Shelli & Larry Olinsky
Faith Altschuler                       Pati Henshel                                         Eve Rubinstein Papernick & Jon Papernick
Walter Arnstein                        Barbara & Stanley Hirsch                               Johanna Pinzler & Avri Klemer
Margery Arsham                         Nancy & Alan Hoffman                                   Sheila & Ken Pollet
Celia Baczkowski                       Chuck Jainchill                                      Michael Rieger
Molly & Pat Benton                     Stan Josephson                                       Robin & Larry Rubinstein
Evie & Jon Berger                      Karri & Joel “Whammy” Kaufman                          Judy Freiser Sails & Steven Sails
Howie Berk                             Sheryl Kirschenbaum                                  Nigel Savage
Martin Blum                            Alan Kleiman                                        Gayle Schwartz
Amy Bram                               Andrew Kominik                                      Harvey Sills
Jane Hershey Cuozzo                    Jerry Meyer                                          Steve Sommer
Jordan Dale                            Jim Meyer                                           Jeff Spiegel
Noam Dolgin                           Lee Meyer                                           Seth Stein
David Fleischner                       Judy & Michael Margulies                              Adele & Henry Stern
Ralph Forgacs                          Linda Markowitz                                     Mara Rubinstein Tanzman & Jeffrey Tanzman
Ken Freedman                           Caryl & Mike Melasky                                  Audrey & Mark Tenenhaus
Dr. Joseph Goldberg                    Ruth Messinger                                     Alice & Steve Terner
Gwen & Larry Hamberg                   Suzanne Moskowitz                                  Anne & Joel Zbar
Irving Harris                          Stephen Nitkin                                     Barbara & Michael Zbar
Roberta & Peter Hirsch                 Joey Novick
Letter of Intent

We hope you will tell us when you have included Surprise Lake Camp in your estate plans. We would very much like the opportunity to say “thank you” for your generosity. Letting us know of your intentions also helps us to be better aware of your particular interests and will allow us to keep you informed of developments at SLC which may be relevant to your planned gift. Recognition of your gift may also inspire generosity in others.

In support of the work of Surprise Lake Camp, I/we want to provide for future generations and to ensure the continuity of the services it provides.

This Letter of Intent represents my/our commitment to Surprise Lake Camp. It does not represent a legal obligation on my/our part and may be changed at any time.

I/We have joined the 1902 Society by:  (Please check the options you are considering)

☐ Making a bequest in my/our Will or Trust
☐ Investing in a Charitable Gift Annuity (CGA) with Surprise Lake Camp
☐ Naming Surprise Lake Camp as Beneficiary of a Charitable Remainder or Lead Trust
☐ Naming Surprise Lake Camp as a Beneficiary of a Life Insurance Policy
☐ Naming Surprise Lake Camp as Beneficiary under a Retirement Plan
☐ Directing my/our Foundation to make annual gifts beyond my/our lifetime(s)

☐ Optional: The amount of my/our planned gift is: $______________ or _____% of my/our estate.

I/We intend to include Surprise Lake Camp in my/our estate plans by the following date: ______________

I/We wish to become a member of the 1902 Society but wish to remain anonymous

Name (s) as you would like it (them) to appear (for Anonymous, please check the box above):
____________________________________________________________________

Address: ______________________________________________________________

City: __________________________ State: _______ Zip: __________

Phone: (            )_________________________ Email address: _________________________

Signature: ________________________________ Date: ____________________
The following letter was emailed on February 8, 2010 to all alumni who are listed in our alumni database. We are reprinting it for those whose emails we do not have or those who do not have internet access. If you would like to be added to our database, please email alumni@surpriselake.org with your full name and email address to be included.

We never sell or share our database information with outside parties.

A Letter From Jordan: Reflections on the 2009 Alumni Drive

We have just finished our Alumni Drive for 2009. (Our fundraising year ends on January 31 so that end of year givers whose checks get held up in holiday mail, etc., can have their gifts count for the year they intended.)

I want to thank the 349 alumni who participated in this year's Alumni Drive and gave a combined total of $161,115. While this was short of our goal for the year of $180,000, it was still nearly $10,000 better than we did last year, and it was still the best Alumni Drive we have ever had! When the goal of $180,000 was set back in the fall of 2008, we had no idea how bad the economy was going to get or that unemployment would exceed ten percent. Given the conditions we faced this year, we feel pretty good that our Alumni Drive did so well.

I also want to take a moment to thank the many people who did not give to this year's drive because they were not in a position to do so, but who expressed so poignantly in so many ways their love of SLC and their desire to participate in future fundraising when their situations improve. I had the privilege of assisting Celia, our Development Director, with some of the calls and other outreach, although for sure she did the lion's share of the work and deserves the affection and appreciation of all of us who love SLC, because the job she does is absolutely critical to keeping our camp strong.

I have a few reflections about my experience with the Alumni Drive I want to share with you.

• There is nothing more gratifying than hearing or reading people's thoughts about how much SLC means to them and how deeply it has affected their lives. We, the collective SLC alumni community, share an incredible bond that continues to enrich our time on this earth whether we went to camp last year or decades ago.

• I was deeply moved by those alums who shared that they had lost jobs or were under significant financial stress, but wanted to make a gift anyway. These gifts of $18 or $36 or $100 were some of the most special gifts of all.

• The opportunity to touch base with old friends was priceless, whether or not a contribution was made. In one case, it led to a get together while I was interviewing for summer staff in Israel with someone I hadn't seen in nearly 30 years!

• I have noticed that giving is easier for people, and often more generous, the more advance opportunity they have to think about it and plan for it. For instance, someone who, at the end of the year, feels they could only afford a $50 gift, might be very comfortable making a gift of $10 a month, which would translate into a $120 gift over the course of a year. If this method appeals to you, we can set up a monthly debit to your credit card that would enable you to have the honor of being a larger donor with less impact on your budget. Just send me or Celia an email if you want to do this for 2010!

• If anybody out there found me a little pushy, I apologize. It comes from my passion to make SLC succeed and to do the best we can for the children who need us most, something I know you share. A lot of fundraising is about follow up and persistence and getting as wide a circle of participants as possible. I am just trying to do my best, and I thank you for your understanding and support.

• I feel it is important to consistently remind people why we have the Alumni Drive. Every dollar raised is used to support camper scholarships and maintain SLC's historic commitment to serving Jewish children who otherwise could not afford a camp experience. If you went to SLC, either as a camper or as staff, then at least one person dear to you only entered your life because of an SLC scholarship, either that they got or that you got, or both. These scholarships change lives in powerful ways, and the ability to fund them is critical to SLC's mission and its well being.

• Last, the potential for fundraising among SLC alumni is enormous. We are limited in our ability to develop it mostly by the amount of time and energy it takes. If there are folks out there who would enjoy making contact with old friends, getting nachas from helping people to perform the mitzvah of tzedekah, and being inspired and touched by the warm feelings people express toward camp, we'd love to have you on our growing team of Alumni Drive volunteers. This is also a great way for someone who can't afford as large a gift as they would like to contribute to the effort. If you are interested in helping, please be in touch with Celia at 212-924-3131 or celia@surpriselake.org.

In closing, I want to once again note how blessed SLC is to have such wonderful alumni. You make me very proud personally, and your support in a thousand ways helps make our camp strong. With your help, SLC will continue to move forward and reach new heights, and it will always be a place where you can come home.

Shalom,

jordan
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?

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: Used to pay for Alumni reunions, scholarships sponsored by the Alumni Association, and other functions that support camp. Membership entitles Alumni to be kept informed of alumni events, receive quarterly Re-Echoes, and receive a discount at Alumni activities for 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: $125 4 Days at camp: $500  The Hinterlands Circle (2 Weeks): $1,750 or more
2 Days at camp: $250 5 Days at camp: $625  The Hudson Overlook Circle (1 Session): $3,500 or more
3 Days at camp: $375  The Bald Spot Circle (1 Week): $875 or more  The Breakneck Circle (Full Summer): $6,600 or more

Annual Alumni Fundraising Drive—“Send a Child to Camp” $______________
Alumni Association Dues $180 Lifetime, $25 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. Please bill me on the 1st of each month.
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.
SLC’s Community Corner: YOU CAN ADVERTISE IN RE-ECHOES TOO!!!
Submit your business card or advertisement to alumni@surpriselake.org.
The rates for advertising in each issue are as follows:

Jersey Lynne Farms, Inc.
MATCO JEWELRY CO
FANCY FACES
LAW FIRM OF SETH STEIN, PC

Jersey Lynne Farms, Inc.
Tel. (718) 649-6730
Fax. (718) 649-1256
8801 Foster Avenue
Brooklyn, NY 11236
Email: kseligson@jerseylynnefarms.com

Wholesale Distributor
Quality A Eggs
Dairy Products
Deli Provisions
Meat
Frozen Food
Candy
Beverages
Paper, Plastic, Restaurant Products

Kenneth Seligson
Ext. 149
Vocal IP Networx is a converged network solution comprised of your Local, Long Distance, & Data Services. We have the ability to provide companies such as yours savings up to 50% annually.

A portion of any proceeds from this ad will be contributed to Surprise Lake Camp.

For detailed information please contact:

Eugene Laykhtman
Direct: 646 329-9680
www.vocalipx.com
307 Seventh Avenue, New York NY 10001

Did You Know . . .

220 billion paper cups are used per year worldwide, and 130 billion of those are used in the United States alone. 16 billion are used for coffee, the production of which is equal to over 6.5 million trees cut down, 4 billion gallons of water wasted, and enough energy used to power nearly 54,000 homes for a year. Not to mention the millions of pounds of waste in landfills.

Tikkun Olam (Repairing the World): You can save money and reduce damage by carrying your own stylish mug. You can even get a Surprise Lake Camp Mug!

Save Money: Many coffee shops now offer between five and ten cents of savings when you bring your own mug! That may not sound like a huge savings, but it adds up! Starbucks has seen some impressive results: customers brought reusable mugs to Starbucks 22 million times in 2008, saving almost a million pounds of paper.
It takes money and resources for the Alumni Association to mail you this newsletter. Please let us know if you move, get multiple copies, or would like to be removed from our mailing list!

Teva Seminar 2010…Registration Now Open!
The 16th annual Teva Seminar on Jewish Environmental Education, June 7-10, 2010, at Surprise Lake Camp, is a one-of-a-kind conference for anyone interested in Jewish education, environmental sustainability, gardening, camping, or just enjoying the wonder of nature. This 4-day program brings together students, camp staff, congregational and day school educators, Torah scholars, lay leaders, and farmers every year. We’re excited for you to be a part of it all! Participants choose sessions in Congregational Education, Ethics and Texts, Camp and Wilderness, and Organic Agriculture tracks. Come meet, learn, sing, pray, hike and share with others also passionate about the stewardship of Creation. Set in the beauty of late spring at Surprise Lake Camp, you will have the opportunity to experience starlit nights, tasty vegetarian food, campfires, new and old friends, eco-art, text study, outdoor prayer, night hikes, the Topsy-Turvy Bus, composting, Mountain Laurel in bloom, beautiful sunrises and sunsets, wild edibles and so much more! Gain the skills to bring your learning back to your community and run your own Jewish Environmental programming!

To register and for more information, visit: www.tevacenter.org/seminar
Teva Seminar on Jewish Environmental Education
June 7-10, 2010 at Surprise Lake Camp
Seminar@tevacenter.org
212-807-6376

Teva Learning Center is a program of Surprise Lake Camp