

RE-ECHOES

The official newsletter of the Surprise Lake Camp community

Fall, 2019



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NY, NY 10018
(845) 265-3616
alumni@surpriselake.org

Please email your
newsletter submissions
or notify us of any errors:
alumni@surpriselake.org

UPCOMING EVENTS

Florida Reunion, Delray Beach – December 29, 2019

For more info, email Howie at heshb@aol.com

Volunteer Day – May 3, 2020

<https://surpriselake.org/event/annual-volunteer-day/>

Spring Shabbat – May 16, 2020

More information to come

Check the calendar of events on our website often for additional events.

<https://surpriselake.org/events/>

INVITE US TO SPEAK ABOUT SLC!

Over the winter months we travel to communities to speak with families about our incredible program. We'd love to come to your living room, school, JCC, or synagogue to explain why SLC creates magical, transformational summers for our campers. Email sheryl@surpriselake.org to set up a time or call 845-265-3616.

SLC Tribute Fund



A gift that continues to give to others is truly the ultimate gift, and a donation through the SLC Tribute Fund will help us to continue our historic mission. We believe that an SLC experience should be accessible for every Jewish child, regardless of their family's ability to pay. The Tribute Fund supports the SLC Scholarship Endowment program.

By acknowledging a special person, a memorable occasion, an outstanding achievement, or honoring the memory of a loved one, you are supporting a commitment that has been core to our mission since 1902. In addition, an acknowledgment will be sent in your name to the person of your choice. Please visit www.surpriselake.org/donate at any time to make a Tribute gift.

Executive Director's Message

For this issue, Bradley is sharing his words from Camp's Rosh HaShanah services.

The Torah Portion for Rosh HaShanah begins with the words, "Some time afterwards."

I asked myself, "After what?" Why does the text include these words? Since there is no definitive answer, I decided to fill in the blank myself. I think, "some time afterwards," as we sit here together today, in our case, "the afterwards," I am thinking about is, "after Camp" - but let me come back to that.

The next thing we learn is that God tested Abraham - at first we are not told of the details of the test only that God called out to Abraham and Abraham immediately answered, "*Hineini*" - "Here I am."



It's abundantly clear to me that each of us, every single one of us is being tested. You might be asking yourselves, what is the test? I think it's fair to say that for any of us who are reading the newspaper, or even worse, watching the news on TV, we are living in a world that feels like it might not make sense.

Some people look to Camp, look to SLC, as an escape, as a haven from the uncertainty of the rest of the world. You are in good company. In the very early 1900s, 1902 to be exact, a wise small group of people had the same idea - the world around them also felt like it was more than they could handle and they wanted to take better care of their children - just boys back then. They wanted a safe haven, a refuge - at that time for their sons living on the lower east side of Manhattan.

They came up here to the shores of this lake and found exactly what they were looking for - that is the essence of SLC. A place where young people feel safe, feel at home, feel welcome, are able to say *hineini*, Here I am to one another, to themselves, and to their community.

While all of us know how important that is and that was - we also know that that is not enough. Surprise Lake Camp is meant to do more.

Today, *Hineini*, Here I am, needs to mean that we are taking the values, the feelings, the experiences of community that we feel here and bringing them back to each of our homes to the other communities that we are part of. It's not enough to feel safe, welcomed, at home here around Lake Surprise for two months of the year.

The rest of our world needs what we have here and it's our job to share it with them. Whether you came up Lake Surprise Road today for the very first time or whether you can navigate the road with your eyes closed (please don't try that).

Yes - success is when campers want to return for another summer. Yes - success is when we have second, third, and fourth generation campers here. But our real success is something more. It's when we take the lessons we learn here around this lake and bring them back home and share our ability to include others, to welcome, to accept, to be generous, to be caring.

The world outside of this world needs us - now more than ever - to teach them how to say *hineini*. Here I am - I am here to help make the world a better place because I have experienced a better place and want to share that experience with you.

We remain grateful to camp's former Directors who have helped us achieve greatness and have brought us to where we are today

▶ Max Oppenheimer: 1919–1954 ▶

▶ Asher Melzer: 1954–1973 ▶

▶ Jerry Mark: 1973–1984 ▶

▶ Carol Seigel: 1985–1986 ▶

▶ Jordan Dale: 1986–2016 ▶

President's Message

Hello SLC Alumni, Family and Friends,

And just like that, another SLC summer has come and gone! It seems like it was just yesterday that we were getting Camp ready for the campers' first day!! Now, the kids are all back at school and the Alumni Association is back at work.

People often ask how they can get involved in the Alumni Association and the work we do.

The first thing one can do is to join the Association. The revenue from dues helps offset costs of running the organization and supports annual scholarships as well. Annual dues cost \$36 or you can become a Lifetime Member for \$250. One perk of membership is a 10% Alumni Store Discount!!

Another great way to help out is to consider joining the Alumni Board. As a member of the Board, you would be hands on in organizing our fundraising efforts and in nurturing alumni - SLC relationships.

The SLCAA organizes and sponsors numerous fundraising events throughout the year, raising vital funds for Camp. We are proud to be among the largest contributors to Camp's Annual Scholarship Drive, which has an overall goal of \$265,000 for 2019. Please consider a gift today. This money directly funds the scholarships that Surprise Lake Camp distributes which provide the magic of summer camp to every child. This past summer, SLC distributed over \$727,000 in scholarships!! It is this same scholarship program that many of us used as kids to be able to come to SLC!! We all have our own amazing stories and experiences of our times at Camp. We are now in a position to pass along that wonderful gift of SLC to the next generation of children. Your generosity is greatly needed and appreciated!!

If you have not already checked it out, I recommend that you all visit SLC's new website, www.surpriselake.org. The site is now our hub. From here you can catch up on all things SLC. You can access the Alumni Store to purchase amazing Camp merchandise, www.surpriselake.org/shop/. Chanukah is just around the corner after all!! Here you can see all upcoming events. Find one you would like to try and join us!! Camp families can get important information about registration... and so much more!!

The Alumni Association is always working on new events and if you have ideas, we would love to hear them. There is always an open invitation to everyone out there to get involved. There is no better way to keep SLC strong and vital, than to stay active in the Alumni Association.

See everyone in Camp!

Joe Goldberg
President, SLCAA
Member, SLC Board of Directors
goldnglich@aol.com



SLC NEWS!

Let us know, so we can share with the entire SLC Family!

We want to hear about new babies, jobs, engagements, graduations, anniversaries, celebrations, reunions, and more!

Email alumni@surpriselake.org at any time to have your news included in a future issue of Re-Echoes.

Also, if you have SLC nostalgia, pictures or anything that could be included in the SLC Museum, please let us know.

Mazel Tov



Lake Madison Benmoise, born July 14, 2019, to Lauren and Mark Benmoise.



Brayden Charles Cancellare, born on May 16, 2019, to Kerry O'Donnell Cancellare & Anthony Cancellare.



Carmelo Joseph Oliveri, born on February 12, 2019, to Jamie Anemone Oliveri & Rosario Oliveri.



Madison Hope Schneider, born Sept 15, 2018, to Steven Perez & Roni Schneider.



Abigail Sarah Warshall, born March 1, 2019, to Jenna & Daniel Warshall.



Best of luck to Ryan Krauthamer, son of Roy and Carrie Krauthamer, on his American

Rachel Fishman, daughter of Heidi and Howard Fishman, graduated SUNY Oneonta, May 11, 2019. (right)



Craig Kramer and Lauren Brickner, on their May 24th engagement. (right)



Ninja Warrior Jr. journey and upcoming competition. (left)

Happy 46th Anniversary, August 12, 2019, to alumni Judy Freiser & Steve Sails. (see story p15)



Jenn Davis and Henry Nabholz on their September 8th engagement. (left)

Our deepest condolences to the following SLC Alumni, Friends and their Families

Jordan Dale, on the passing of his father, Alvin.

Michele DiRuggiero, on the passing of her father, Dr. Donald Mars.

Ivy Forray, on the passing of her husband, and former SLC farmer, Alan Forray.

Nadia Frukter and the Felson family, on the passing of Stuart Felson.

Abe Greenstein on the passing of his wife and Bryan Salz, on the passing of his grandmother, Selma Greenstein.

Stephanie Locurcio-Lustig and family, on the passing of alum, Stephen Lustig

Susan Osinoff and family, on the passing of former Alumni Association Board Treasurer, Shelly Osinoff.

Jillian Rauer, Alumni Association Board Vice President, on the passing of her father, Martin Jaffe.

Hilda Stark, on the passing of her husband, alum Bob Stark.

Matt Stollerman, Alumni Association Board Member, on the passing of his grandfather, Herbert Stollerman

Samuel Weinbaum, on the passing of his wife, Alice Weinbaum.

Teen Health Center Renovation

As first mentioned in the spring edition of *Re-Echoes*, Surprise Lake Camp is proud to announce that we will be renovating the Teenside Health Center this fall, as a most fitting way to honor Sheila Pollet, her love of Camp and what she meant to the SLC community.

Sheila started at Surprise Lake Camp as a camper in 1968. In addition to several roles Sheila played as a staff member at SLC over 25 years (counselor, sports specialist, unit supervisor, division head, assistant director), she is well-known for her exceptional talent, leadership, and passion as a Camp nurse, providing compassion and skilled treatment.

During our initial outreach, there was an incredible response and desire to honor our dear friend. The committee members tasked with fundraising outreach have all recounted similar experiences, receiving expressions of



gratitude for the opportunity to participate in a meaningful project to honor Sheila's memory and so many people also shared Sheila stories. These stories recognized how she made a difference in their lives as a friend, mentor, coworker and caregiver. They were all recounted with love, laughter and a few tears. This project has enabled us to appreciate Sheila's legacy of friendship, kindness, humor and community. Although Sheila is missed dearly, she will always be remembered as these stories and memories continue to be shared.

We are excited to announce that we have already raised over \$190,000 toward our goal of \$225,000, fulfilling the capital improvement portion of the project. Additional donations are still welcomed and will be used to create the Sheila Pollet Program Endowment Fund, which will fund annual programmatic needs in Camp that were significant to Sheila.



One unique addition to the Teen Health Center will be a Hamsa that was made by dear friends of Sheila, many of whom were campers with her, as they created this work of art in the SLC Arts & Crafts building, a year after Sheila's passing. This group, along with Sheila, would gather every fall at Camp for a "ladies weekend," and they kept the tradition alive and honored her with something she was so fond of, the Hamsa. Inscribed on the Hamsa is something else that Sheila was passionate about...Nestling. This Hamsa will be placed in the Teen Health Center during the spring 2020 dedication.

If you would like to support this meaningful project, at any level, please call David Rosner at 646-582-0144, email david@surpriselake.org or visit surpriselake.org/donate and scroll to special funds to make a gift online. Donors contributing \$1,800 or more will be recognized on a building plaque.



SLC Pays Tribute to Deserving Staff Honorees

At the Second Session All-Camp Show, SLC had the privilege to recognize three outstanding, long-time staff members, who make us proud each and every year. Matt Grosshandler, a former camper and staffer, and current parent and member of the SLC Board of Directors, led the ceremony and detailed the significant impact they each have on Camp.

The prestigious Outstanding Alumni Award, chosen by the Alumni Association each summer, was presented to SLC's Head Caretaker, Gene Kelly.

With Gene, it's not just about all he does for SLC, but how he does it! His passion and commitment runs deep and his responsibility to care for the longest running Jewish Camp in the country is significant. Gene (and his team) maintain buildings, cabins, wells, generators, roads, pumps, trees, roofs, the sewage system and so much more. But his love for Camp goes beyond the structures, as his true care stems from his love for the people (campers and staff) – those that benefit from his blood, sweat and tears! SLC is his home, year-round, and he makes sure that the campers and staff have a well-maintained home-away-from-home as well.



Gene embodies all of the values of SLC – of sharing, of being welcoming and inclusive, and of taking care of this place that so many people, over so many generations love so much.

We also celebrated two special people who just completed their 25th summers as SLC staff! SLC is extremely proud of our staff retention and their commitment to SLC. Avri Klemer, Camp's Director of Finance and Paul Suchow, our Neil Diamond Music Specialist, have been serving the SLC community for a quarter of a century...an incredible milestone!

Avri has played many roles at Camp including counselor, unit supervisor, bookkeeper and now our director of finance. His commitment, passion, and hard work have contributed to SLC in so many ways and he has earned this well-deserved recognition.

Paul brings Camp together through music and song. Whether it be through group music, specialty, Shabbat services, All Camp Shows, or off-season holidays and special occasions, his creativity and passion shines through. He has shared his immense talents to create fun, smiles, and excitement for generations of both campers and staff. We are deeply grateful for the original music he continues to bring to Camp, creating new traditions each summer.

Mazel Tov to Gene, Avri and Paul!



Surprise Lake Camp Memories

John Ryan – Aug 27, 2019 visit

Summer Camper 1945, 46 & 47 – Winter Camper Sept-June 1946-47 & 1947-48

Wow, 74 years after my first summer at Surprise Lake Camp in 1945, SLC is still here bigger and stronger than ever. A very big thank you to David Rosner for giving us (my brother, his wife and a friend) an approximately three-hour tour of camp. How special did we feel.

David asked me to put down some of my memories of camp life from the years 1945-1948.

So, where do I start, OK, Irish Catholic kid from the Upper East Side of Manhattan (East Harlem) is given an opportunity by a Social Worker (Jean Bernhart who became a very good friend and confidant to my mother) at Mount Sinai Hospital to attend a Jewish camp in the Hudson Valley.

The people we met on our first day

First the wonderful kind and giving people that this kid from the inner city met as soon as he arrived at camp. Director Mr. K., and our camp mother, (I feel badly that I can't remember her name). Our Camp Mother took care of our cuts and rips of clothes and was the comforter when the other kids missed their mommies. The cooks, counselors, teachers (at Winter Camp), our maintenance/handyman Phil and Peggy the dog, who was always at our side. Phil was the man that drove the three or four Christian kids to Cold Spring every Sunday for Church except for one or two Sundays during the blizzard of 1947 when the camp was snowed in.

By the way, I loved that the road to Camp is still largely unpaved.

City kids to the country

How easily did this group of different kids from New York City immediately get along and become fast friends. My good friends, brothers Max and Sam Adler and Jackie Wolinski were returning campers and we enjoyed many adventures together. I visited my buddies Max, Sam and Jackie one summer down on the Lower East Side (Stanton Street) at the Adler apartment and met the family. Turns out that the Adler Brothers and I attended the same high school on the Lower West Side.

Highlights of Camp in the summer

- My first swim in a lake --- the great ball field --- handball at the end of the field
- The times we would sneak off the courts and follow the stream up the hill as far as we could go and look for frogs
- My favorite hike to the Fire Tower, it took most of the day and we had lunch when we got there
- Hike to the abandoned farm --- the campfires with Peggy sleeping by the fire --- the row boats --- the early campers will remember the Slave barge
- The open sided cabins/platform tents with canvas roll down flaps we used only when it rained

Highlights of Winter Camp

- The great snow sledding- one, two or three on one sled down the hill, where the pool is now. You won by how far



you got across the ball field

- Ice on the Lake --- Fred cleared it off for Peggy and all of us
- When no one was looking, we went up the hills and sled down through the trees, it was great fun
- But everyone's favorite, the great dodge ball games, were played in our gym in the big open room next to the pool (now known as the Little Playhouse)

Other remembrances

Thank you, David, for showing us where the Library is, as we had our classrooms up there during Winter Camp. We had some great teachers who recognized that a couple of kids were slow readers and organized special classes after regular school to get them up to speed. Thank you, Surprise Lake, from one of those kids.

I also got to visit the Summer Dining room, which also was our Winter Camp dorm, as we had three rows of beds; my bed was the last one in the center row back by the window.

So as I approach my 85th year in November, I think about how blessed I've been, growing up in New York City with a loving family, holding onto my Catholic faith, a very loving 49-year marriage, a 38-year business career with the same company, three transfers, retirement in 1995 and living in South Central Indiana since 1981. Most importantly, I have stayed healthy and luckily, take no medications, yet.

I have often thought about my extended stay at Surprise Lake and have grown to appreciate the wonderful experiences and training I received as a young man. I'm sure that whatever success I've had in my life, was added to by my Surprise Lake years.

In a meeting with my six brothers and sisters after my recent trip to Surprise Lake, I had forgotten and was reminded that three of my brothers and one sister had also attended Surprise Lake Summer Camp in the late forties and early fifties.

So, from 5 of the 7 Ryan Siblings, "Thanks for the Memories"



Dedicated to our 2018 Supporters

The following pages are dedicated to the many alumni and friends who supported Surprise Lake Camp during the 2018 fiscal year. Camp is blessed to have so many special people who care about its mission and we are extremely grateful for your generosity.

What's the difference between an Annual Campaign and a Capital Campaign?

Annual Campaigns, such as the Annual Scholarship Drive and the Board Campaign, are designed to provide scholarships for current year campers. Capital Campaigns are conducted periodically to provide significant funds for major expenses such as the renovation and ongoing maintenance of the Main Building, Health Center or Lodges, as well as increase our scholarship endowment. The Annual Campaign helps us live, and the capital and endowment funds help us grow.

The following individuals made gifts to one of several funds in our endowment or made gifts to support a capital/building campaign.

Alumni Association Scholarship Fund

SLC Alumni Association

Bar/Bat Mitzvah Fund

Rise & Marc Fine
Elizabeth Glass
Roberta & Peter Hirsch
Elaine & Paul Suchow
Shuying Wang & Paul Mermelstein

Building Fund

Margie & Bob Atwater
Pearl & Harry Belkowitz
Alvin Dale
Suzanne Moskowitz & Jordan Dale
Robert French
Dayle Henshel
Joy Henshel
Patti Henshel
Thomas Karger
Karri & Joel Kaufman
Dena & Elly Levine
Judith & Michael Margulies
David Schiffer
Cindy Shmerler Levy
Randi Sperber
Ellen Sternberg

Carol Grief Saltz Scholarship Fund

Alan Saltz

Ethiopian Camper Scholarship Fund

Stanley Josephson

General Endowment Fund

Howie Berk
Judith Elkin
Joe Goldberg
Jay Greenbaum
Hollie Levine
Dina Mishra
Stephen Nitkin
Jennifer Pitera
Michele & David Rosner
Rob Schechter
Jeffrey Spiegel
Jerry Statman
Adam Stein
Matthew Stollerman

Harry Vogel Aquatic Fund

Ron Kalb
Marc & Lisa Krigsmann
Alan Laster
Shuying Wang & Paul Mermelstein
Jackie and Artie Zilz

Herson Family Fund

Karen Herson

Hoffman-Lantner-Mitchell-Tarrash Fund

Nancy & Alan Hoffman
Murray Lantner
Maureen & Howard Lantner
Minna & Melvin Lantner
Bradley Tarrash

Irwin Flick Fleischer/Mooween Camp Scholarship Fund

Roger Sachs

Jeff Herman Fund

Helena Prigal

Jewish Programming

Elaine & Paul Suchow

Jordan Dale Scholarship Fund

Howie Berk
Sylvie Erlich
Ralph Forgacs
Joe Goldberg
Arnie and Amy Graber
Jay Greenbaum
Amy & Bruce Jaffe
Karri & Joel Kaufman
Ele Klein
Avri Klemer
Caryl & Mike Melasky
Emilie & Andrew Meyer
Shelli & Larry Olinsky
Rebecca Safeer
Elaine & Paul Suchow
Scott Wynn
Anne & Joel Zbar
Barbara & Mike Zbar

Ken Seligson Memorial Fund/Gazebo

Mary Boylan
Marylou Burke
Colin Bush
Marcella Chateau
Suzanne Moskowitz & Jordan Dale

Andrew Dunn
Jessica Frothingham
Carmela & Tommy Grace
Sheryl Kirschenbaum
Bernadette Maturo
Stephen Mendez
Casey Penney
Kaitlin Penney
Krista Penney
Jacob Sarkozi
Lillian Satterlee
Maria Seligson
Jenna Sidor
Nancy & Lee Sidor
Brandon Sidor

Ken Seligson Scholarship Fund

Mindy & Marty Zalin
Anne & Joel Zbar

Maintenance Endowment Fund

William Briggs
Ali & Meri Feir
Andrew Grodin
Barbara Hirsch
Roberta & Peter Hirsch
Susie Jainchill & Tsahi Gelardin
Aliza Kline & Bradley Solmsen
Roz & Jerry Meyer
Jerry Person
Jerry Statman
Matthew Stollerman

Rhoda Kaplan Fund

Lee Kaplan
Iris Kelmenson
Sarita Keyser
Regan & Teresa Murphy

Marketing & Communications

Roz & Jerry Meyer

Tribute Fund

Bob Altabet

Celia Baczkowski

Sylvaine Baczkowski

Bobbie & Simon Baker

Tracie & Mark Basch

Pearl & Harry Belkowitz

Mylene Benardo

Howie Berk

Blanche Berk

Steve & Judy Bleyer

Melissa Bloom

Robbie & Steven Bloom

Tracy Boxer

Steven Boyarsky

Carolyn & John Canova

Anne Darer

Naomi and David Eckstein

Nicole & Douglas Falk

Lynn Feist

Foundation for Jewish Camp

Lynn & Matthew Gold

Amy Goldberg

Diana Goldstein

Beth Hancock

Sara Hazel

Dayle Henshel

Joy Henshel

Patti Henshel

Marc Herbert

Roberta & Peter Hirsch

Tara & Jonathan Isler

Keith Jacobs

Devan Kaplan

Lee Kaplan

Karri & Joel Kaufman

Sheryl Kirschenbaum

Sara Kotlarz

David Leibowitz

Ross Levy

Linda Markowitz

Gayle Mestel

Andrew Miller

Isabel Mirsky

Ellen Rieser

Eve Rubinstein

Gail Schob

Joan Schwartz

Mark Segal

Aliza Kline & Bradley Solmsen

Elaine & Paul Suchow

Ilana & Michael Sussman

Melanie Tucker

Linda Versil

Darrell Rubin Weinberg

Allen Weiner

Jodi Wiseman

David Wolff

Barbara & Mike Zbar

Richard Zbar

Marjie and Scott Zucker

Winter Camper Fund

Bonnie & Michael King

Our 2018 Annual Scholarship Drive Supporters

The donors listed below made gifts between January 1 and December 31, 2018. This listing includes alumni and friends who made contributions to our Annual Scholarship Drive as well as Board members who made gifts to the Annual Board Campaign, combined totaling over \$320,000! We are grateful to the SLC community for your love and generosity.

Full Summer at Camp:**\$9,000 and up**

SLC Alumni Association

Kathy Fine

Lee Kaplan

Judith & Michael Margulies

Roz & Jerry Meyer

NM Morris Foundation

Lisa & Adam Stulberger

Ruth Messinger

Morris A. Hazan Family
Foundation

Suzanne & Steven Moses

Robin & Danny Muskin

Jessica Pollner

Jenna & Bret Tenenhaus

Shuying Wang &

Paul Mermelstein

Stephanie & Anthony Montano

Melissa Moskowitz

Roni & Jason Nadell

Stephen Nitkin

Ira Pianko

Anna & Carl Reisner

Eliot Senor

Galen Warden

Beverly Zagofsky

Barbara & Mike Zbar

Robin & Laurence Rubinstein

Mark Segal

Carol & Larry Seigel

Sobel Affiliates

Alana & Joshua Suchow

Josh & Sheri Sussman

Patricia Gloria Ross Weis

One Session at Camp:**\$5,000-8,999**

Marlene & Stanley Besen

Neil Diamond

Roberta & Peter Hirsch

Stanley Josephson

Cindy Shmerler

One Week at Camp:**\$1,260-2,499**

Bob Altabet

David Berkowitz

Carolyn & John Canova

Suzanne Moskowitz &

Jordan Dale

Joe Goldberg

Amy Goldberg

Ira Goldfarb

Brenda & Matthew

Grosshandler

Michael Gurman

Dayle Henshel

Patti Henshel

Joy Henshel

Chuck Jainchill

Faith Kirkpatrick

Andrew Kominik

Linda Markowitz

5 Days at Camp:**\$900-\$1,259**

Margery Arsham

Tracie & Mark Basch

Emily & Jeff Berk

Bernard & Leslie Friedman

Harold Grinspoon Foundation

Harry Donenfeld Foundation

Deborah Hoffer-Samori

Mel Kalichman

Ele Klein

Simone & Joseph Kleinert

Michele Mark Levine

Nance & Martin Liebgott

Rabbi Gloria & Martin Rubin

4 Days at Camp:**\$720-\$899**

Evelyn & Nick Beilenson

Howie Berk

Laura Friedman

Fredda & Michael Klopfer

Bruce Rubinger

Anne & Joel Zbar

3 Days at Camp:**\$540-\$719**

Susan & Stanley Alintoff

Steven Bleiberg

Ari David

Lori & Seth Fishman

Jill Gold

Intel Corporation

Marilyn Bailis & Jerry Mark

Roberta & Jim Meyer

Audrey & Mark Tenenhaus

Dedicated to our 2018 Supporters

(continued)

Jennifer & Benjamin Wind
Jordana Zbar

2 Days at Camp: **\$360-\$539**

Celia Baczkowski
Peter Baum
Thomas Berner
Samantha Blendis
Jay & Ellen Eneman
Karen & Donald Fagelman
Roger Galburt
Ron Kalb
Tom Karger
Irwin Karp
Fortune & David Kaufman
Karri & Joel Kaufman
Avri Klemer
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Robyn & Jonathan Lefcourt
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Jean & Phil Schneider
Brandon Sherman
Ellen Sternberg
Elaine & Paul Suchow
Allison & Michael Tenenhaus
Marlene & Barry Vegter
Howard Weissberger
David Wolff

1 Day at Camp: **\$180-\$359**

Steven Allen
Sylvie & Howard Bartel
Andrew Bata
Janeen Bellafiore Levine
Michael Berk
Jennifer & Matt Berk
Beta Clinton Corp.

Dawne Birdsall
Carol & Ed Boxer
Ellen & Andrew Celli
Nancy Chanin Collins
Joel Cohen
Michael Cohen
Steven Condiotti
Deborah Duxbury
Vivian & Brian Elba
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Elaine & Melvin Finkelstein
Eddy Friedfeld
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Esther & Bert Glassberg
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Myrna & Ira Jaffe
Thomas Johnson
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Lisa Keaveny
Arnold Kinsler
Jan Klein
Donna & Garry Klein
Phyllis & Warren Kossin
Andrew Kovar
Jack Krause
Victor & Helene Krauthamer
Sid Landman
David Leibowitz
Barry Leitman
Rochelle & Steven Levenson
Erica Levin
Becky Melzer
Emilie & Andrew Meyer
Charles Michaelson
Alice & Alan Model
Allison Olinsky
Francine & David Penner
Lee Posniack
Doug Present
Debra Pruslin
Charlotte Prywes

David Rimmer
Robert Rosenbaum
Rob Schecter
Abbe Wittenberg &
Rob Schneider
Susanne Shavelson
RitaSue Siegel
Francine & Robert Stein
Randi Steuerman
Marcy Stuzin
Larry Tanenbaum
Rita & John Tarrash
Steven Zbar
Elise & Corey Zbar
Diane Zilz

Gifts Under \$180

Suzu Abbott
Shira Allison
Harold Asiel
Samantha Barrett
Whitney & Jonathan Belkowitz
Blanche Berk
Jenny Bernstein Aaronson
Janene Birman
Jill Black
Jake Bleiberg
Benjamin Bloch
Seymour Bloom
Robbie & Steven Bloom
Sherri Bordoff
Nedra & Michael Bush
Norman Cohen
Luisa Cohen
Donna Cohen Ross
Lauri Corbin-Shannon
Beverly & Paul Crespi
Donald Davis
Sylvie Erlich
Carrie Fabrikant
Ali & Meri Feir
Howard Feldman
Rick Fisher
Meryl Fried
Robert Friedland
Sandy Friedman
Karina Gaige
Susie Jainchill & Tsahi Gelardin

Jason Gelb
Lisa Gelman
Cheryl Glover
Steven Goldenberg
Andrea Goldman
Diana Goldstein
Beverly Green
Abraham Greenberg
Francine Greenblatt
Lloyd Greene
Abe Greenstein
Gail Gremse
Jerry Gross
Malkie Grozalsky
Marlene & Carl Gussin
Beth Hancock
Holly Hartley
Albert & Jennifer Heffez
Arnold Hinden
Howard Horder
Joan Hulkower
Jennifer Ioughran
Elizabeth Izower
Harriet & Jack Izower
Keith Jacobs
Anita Diamant & Jim Ball
Danielle Johnson
Erica Karron
Marni Katz
Melissa Katz
Arnold Kauffman
Jack Kaye
Harvey Kazdon
Space & Gene Kelly
Mariya Khodorkovskaya &
Dmitriy Khodorkovskiy
Sheryl Kirschenbaum
Dori Klar
Rabbi David &
Mrs. Barbara Kline
Elihu Kover
Doron Krakow
Robin & Gordon Krompier
Ellen & Jeff Lambert
Danny Langer
Richard Lee
Roni Lerner
Jordan Lerner

David Levine
Carole Princer Levy
Denise Liebowitz
Stephanie Lipsky
Elyse Lyons
Arnold Mazur
Miriam Meisler
Heather Michelle
Susan Netburn
Billy Newman
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Steven Pasichow
George Penchina
Heather Peretz
Harold Rabinowitz
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Iris and Frank Romano
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Rachel Shatz
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United Health Group
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You shop. Amazon gives.

AmazonSmile is a website operated by Amazon with the same products, prices, and shopping features as Amazon.com. The difference is that when you shop on AmazonSmile, the AmazonSmile Foundation will donate 0.5% of the purchase price of eligible products to the charitable organization of your choice. SO, next time, and every time you shop Amazon, please sign in

to smile.amazon.com, go to your account from the navigation at the top of any page, and then select the option to Change your Charity or Select SLC as a new charitable organization to support.

SLC Online Store

With the holidays approaching, what better gift to get loved ones or friends than SLC Swag! Please visit our store online at surpriselake.org/shop/, where you can find great gifts featuring both our new and old logo, including sweatshirts, tees, tanks, pants, hats, jewelry, towels and more. If you have any questions, please email goldnglich@aol.com.



Donation Form

Use this form or give online at surpriselake.org/donate

Your Name _____ Name(s) as you'd like to appear in donor list _____

Address _____

Preferred phone _____ Date of Birth _____ Email _____

Our Gift

\$_____ Annual Scholarship Drive *for this year's campers*

\$_____ Site Maintenance Fund
to sustain and improve camp facilities

\$_____ Wherever my gift is needed most.

Have a different gift in mind? Please contact David Rosner at (845) 265-3616.

Every gift makes a difference.
Send a child to camp for:

1 Day	\$200
2 Days	\$400
4 Days	\$800
One Week	\$1,400
Two Weeks	\$2,800
One Session	\$5,600
Full Summer	\$10,000

Please also:

☐ Add my SLC Alumni Association Membership Dues: ☐ Annual: \$36 ☐ Lifetime: \$250

If paying by check, please remember to add in this amount!

☐ Contact me about joining the 1902 Society for Legacy Giving. I'd like to consider joining the hundreds of families who have chosen to include Surprise Lake Camp in their estate plans.

So that SLC can apply my entire gift toward Camp, I'd like to:

☐ Cover the credit card company's transaction fee: Please add 2% to my gift.

☐ Save paper & postage: Please email my acknowledgement letter.

I'd like to make:

☐ Full gift now

☐ Monthly gifts of \$_____ each month for #_____ of months for a total gift of \$_____

Credit card required. SLC will charge only the first monthly gift upon receipt of this form.

I'll pay by:

☐ Credit Card: ☐ Visa ☐ MC ☐ Disc. Card #: _____ Exp. Date: ____ / ____

☐ Enclosed check: Payable to Surprise Lake Camp. Mail to 520 8th Ave., 4th Floor, New York, NY 10018

Thank you for your Generosity!

50 Years Together (1969-2019)

by Judy Freiser Sails and Steven Sails

In 1969, The Mets won the World Series defeating Baltimore.

In 1969, The Jets won the Super Bowl defeating Baltimore (not a good year for Baltimore).

In 1969, We landed on the moon.

In 1969 The Woodstock Festival took place (PEACE, LOVE and HAPPINESS)!

In 1969, We met at Surprise Lake Camp.

50 years later, we are celebrating 46 years of marriage!

Judy Freiser was a counselor in Unit H. Steven Sails was a counselor in Unit K. Our groups took a hike together and ever since that day, we have been walking the same path together.

SLC was Heaven on Earth in 1969 and it still is in 2019, 50 years later. Hiking, swimming, nature, arts and crafts, dancing and Jewish life and culture. All these and more were important to both staff and campers. It was summer! A time for fun! When looking back, it was also heartwarming. We made friendships that we still cherish 50 years later. The Onegs, and All Camp Shows brought us together in a way only SLC staff and campers can relate to. So many staff and campers returned year after year. After all, it IS Surprise Lake Camp. AIN'T NO OTHER PLACE LIKE IT!

For us, joining the 1902 Society was an opportunity to give back to Camp. We feel that our legacy to Camp will go on and on and allow kids a chance to experience the joys of SLC the way we did. If you are not a member, and have a deep love and appreciation for Camp, we would strongly encourage you to learn more and have a discussion with Camp to see if becoming a 1902 Society member would be the right next step for you.



Hear/See video testimonials from 1902 members at <https://surpriselake.org/ways-to-give/1902-legacy-society>

Members of the 1902 Society

We are extremely grateful to the following individuals who have included Surprise Lake Camp in their estate plans.
Your commitment may inspire others, making your impact even greater!

Anonymous (6)	Kate & David Danino	Barbara & Stanley* Hirsch	Dylan Marcus
Estelle & Herbert Adler	Mia Desmedt	Roberta & Peter Hirsch	Jamie Marcus
Paola & Ronnie Adragna/Gilbert	Wendy & James Dinn	Thelma & Sanford Hochberg	Judy & Michael Margulies
Michele Albo	Michele Mars DiRuggiero	Jennifer Hochstadt	Lisa Mark
Jacob Albrecht	Laurie Dobkin-Helm	Margot Hodes & David Rosenstrauch	Linda Markowitz
Marcia & Bob Altabet	Jenna Dorfman-Tandlich	Gayle Hoffman	Marissa Marx
Jennifer & Marc Ambrose	Matt Dorter	Jason A. Hoffman	Caryl & Mike Melasky
Walter Arnstein	Jill Dosik	Nancy & Alan Hoffman	Paul Mermelstein
Margery Arsham	Mandy Efrati	Carol Robin Horowitz	Miriam Messinger & Felicia Hayes
Margie & Bob Atwater	Amie Ettinger	Rachel Israel	Ruth Messinger
Celia Baczkowski	Michael Fandal	Seymour Israel	Emilie & Andrew Meyer
Sylvaine Baczkowski	Lori Heitzner Fishman	Sharon & Jeff Jacobs	Estelle Meyer*
Jason Bailis & Jeff Henderson	Seth Fishman	Suzanne Jacobs & Jeff Borkan	Jerry Meyer
Marilyn Bailis & Jerry Mark	David Fleischer	Zach Jacobs	Roberta & Jim Meyer
Tracie & Mark Basch	Paulette Ann Forgacs	Amy & Bruce Jaffe	Jodie Meyer & Steven Tuber
Peter D. Baum	Ralph Forgacs	Chuck Jainchill	Lee Meyer
Pearl & Harry Belkowitz	Beulah Fox*	Susie Jainchill & Tsahi Gelardin	Jonathan Miller
Janeen Bellafiore Levine & Brian Levine	Gregory Fox	Danielle Johnson	Susan Feldman-Miller
Jennifer Herman Benalt & Adam Benalt	Robert French	Erez Jontef	Barb & Steve Mink
Karen* & Adam Bendeson	Glen Frick	Stan Josephson	Jill (Simon) & John Miskanic
Lauren & Mark Benmoise	Marissa Garfinkel	Michael Kall	Karen & Jim Morrison
Molly Benton	Rose & Harris Ghersin	Linda Kane	Suzanne & Steven Moses
Jake Berg	Scott Gilden	Erica Karron	Elizabeth Moskow & Ari Kaufman
Evie & Jon Berger	Allie (Ball) and Jordan Golan	Heidi & Bruce Katz	Suzanne Moskowitz
Blanche Berk	Amy Goldberg	Karri & Joel "Whammy" Kaufman	Alyse Kunkin Murabito
Howie Berk	Dr. Joseph Goldberg	Faith Altschuler Kirkpatrick	Roni & Jason Nadell
Jeff Berk	Rabbi Claire Ginsburg Goldstein	Sheryl Kirschenbaum	Stephen Nitkin
Jennifer & Matthew Berk	Michelle Goldstein	Alan Kleiman	Joey Novick
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Jake Biederman	Melissa Gordon	Wendy Kleinman	Emily Palmiotto
Brian Blaubeux	Stephen Gordon	Andrew Kominik	Stacey & Rob Panepinto
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Nelson Braff	Pam & Jay Greenbaum	Robin & Gordon Krompfer	Nicole Pilevsky & Joseph Osheroff
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Jane Hershey Cuozzo	Irving Harris*	Fred Levy	Shari Riechelson
Dave Dale*	Dayle Henshel	Randi & Scott Lieberman	Michael Rieger
Jordan Dale	Joy Henshel	Ted Liebowitz	Max Damon Robkoff
	Patti Henshel	Laura & Carter Mansbach	
	Andrew Hess		



F. Peter Rose
Robert Rosenbaum
Gail & Dan Rosner
Michele & David Rosner
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Robin & Larry Rubinstein
Rebecca Safeer
Judy Freiser Sails & Steven Sails
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Robert Schechter
Talia Schneider
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Dan Schulman
Andrew Schuster
Gayle Schwartz
Maria & Ken* Seligson

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Isaac Shapiro
Laurie Feldman-Shepherd
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Roy Shirwindt
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Jenna Sidor
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Seth Stein
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Elaine & Paul Suchow
Joshua Suchow
Jennifer Sussell
Ilana (Lambert) &
Michael Sussman
Audrey & Mark Tenenhaus
Bret Tenenhaus
Lisa Tenenhaus
Mike Tenenhaus
Alice & Steve Terner
Jennifer Anne Toback
Allison Tratner
Susan & Matthew Tratner
Jared Tyler
Marlene &
"Ranger" Barry Vegter
Jordan Waldman

Charles D. Wasserman
Wendy & Stu Waxman
Lisa & Steve Weinberg
Diane* & Allen Weiner
David Weintraub
Julie & Neil Weintraub
Tommy Wills
Jennifer & Benjamin Wind
Abbe Wittenberg &
Rob Schneider
Cheryl & David Wolff
Anne & Joel Zbar
Barbara & Michael Zbar
Elise & Corey Zbar
Jordana Zbar
Richie Zbar
Steven Zbar
Arthur Zilz
Jaime Zuckerberg

*This person reached beyond his/her own life to enrich the future.
They left the world a little better than they found it. May their memory be a blessing.

Lower Your Taxes!

by Jim Meyer, *SLC Alumnus and Board Member*

This story is for our "older" alumni who should choose to use their IRA assets for charitable purposes. We urge you to send gifts to SLC from your IRA rather than sending checks or using a credit card. Remember, that in December 2015, the Qualified Charitable IRA Distribution (QCD) provision was made permanent. What does this mean? For a donor who is over the age of 70½ and has the means to gift some or all of his or her IRA assets up to \$100,000, the IRA distribution can be a tax efficient way to benefit an eligible charity such as Surprise Lake Camp (SLC). This distribution to an eligible charity incurs no income tax as long as it is distributed directly from the IRA to the charitable organization. Of course, because there is no income tax incurred on the transfer, there is also no charitable deduction allowed for it. However, while there is no charitable deduction, the QCD does lower your income tax because the amount of tax is based on the total distribution you take, but any gift(s) to SLC are not included. This benefit may also be used to satisfy the required minimum distribution from an IRA for individuals over age 70½, again as long as it is distributed directly to the eligible charitable organization. Just reminding you that SLC is such an eligible charitable organization and we are always grateful for the philanthropic support of our alumni and friends. That is why we are strongly recommending to anyone over 70½ to do their gifting to SLC, or another eligible charitable organization, by using QCD's.

If you have any questions regarding QCD's, or how you might allocate your gift in alignment with Camp's needs, please call David Rosner at 646-582-0144.



Farmer Alan Forray In Memoriam

by Gene Kelly, SLC's Head Caretaker

On a cold blistery night at Camp, early January 2015, Alan phoned me and, in essence, we met for the first time. Alan had recently accepted the job of Camp's first farmer. Naturally, living in Florida and having taken the job "site" unseen, Alan had a few "concerns" he wanted to iron out with the Camp's caretaker. Certain logistics like housing, heating and internet are always the standard questions and therefore I was quite deft in my ambiguous responses.

What I learned when Alan's concerns turned to the farm was that this was a sagacious and dynamic man who would not accept my dubious retorts when it came to his task at hand. What state is the Farm presently? When do you think you will be starting the Farm? When do you suppose topsoil will be available to complete the Farm? All these were valid questions to which I had no honest answers. It speaks volumes about Alan's spirit to have embarked on the farming project given how uncertain the details were at the time.

Logistics were not much clearer by early April when Alan and I first met in person. Camp was adorned with six inches of snow due to a recent storm and since March had not "gone out like a lamb;" the snow would stay fully entrenched for the time being. Had I been in Alan's shoes that day, I would probably have run away screaming! Alan once confessed



to me that when we first met, he felt compelled to call the Camp's director (at the time Jordan Dale) to ask, "you're going to help me with that guy, right?" Regrettably, I never bothered to find out whether it was my insolent phone manners or the "hippie persona" I tend to exude in person that caused Alan's justifiable consternation. Nevertheless, Alan did not run away screaming as others might have. But in this instance Alan's wife, Ivy, deserves more credit than my words could ever achieve. Moreover, through the tenacious teamwork of Ivy and Alan, seedlings were flourishing in Camp's gymnasium by May. When June arrived, I was quite content in knowing that Alan now had all the components for a successful Farm. Proper elevation, topsoil, fence and tool shed were all in place.

Farmer Alan, as he was now affectionately known, was not as pleased as I. Unbeknownst to me, and quite frankly everyone but

Farmer Alan, a proper farm also requires grapevines and fruit trees to be truly prosperous. To call the ensuing debates cantankerous would be a blatant understatement. It was during these discussions that Ivy took to calling both of us curmudgeons. To prove her right, the day Alan's trees arrived (via UPS no less) looking like good candidates for kindling wood, I was more than delighted to cynically bet Alan twenty dollars that his trees would, in fact, be kindling before he and Ivy left for Florida in the fall.

July and August came and went that summer much like they always do. Joyously slow when entrenched in them but enigmatically quick when they are over and reflected upon. I remember my times driving past the farm that summer. Foolishly, what my eyes were mostly trained on were twigs disguising themselves as trees. In July, my bet with Alan looked to be a sure thing. By the end of August, my monies were as good as lost. Proceeding summers have afforded me contrasting perspectives about the farm: what was once desolate is now a thriving area full of rapt campers. What I once considered a lost bet now reminds me not only of Farmer Alan and Ivy but what a proper farm should be. The Farm is a constant reminder to me that I am not always right and whenever possible, to temper my ego with a bit of humility.

In the fall of that year, Alan, Ivy, my wife Space and I all went to dinner before the farmer and his wife returned to Florida to winter. I remember often Ivy saying at dinner that night how truly amazing it was that two curmudgeons such as ourselves could become such good friends. To Alan and me it was more innate than amazing. We were curmudgeons, yes, but

we were victorious curmudgeons who had gained their triumph from the toil and effort of each other. True, Alan was a twenty-dollar richer curmudgeon but what is twenty dollars among friends. To Alan it was twenty dollars to be savored much like any won speculation should be. To me, it was twenty dollars I had gladly lost.

When Alan and Ivy left for Florida the following day, I did not say goodbye but instead I told them what I tell all of my friends, which is “I’ll see you down the road.” On a cold wintry night this past year, Alan called me from Florida once again. This time it was to say goodbye. He was dealing with a health issue. His time was short; his prospects of traveling north were fanciful at best. In his typical curmudgeon style, he tried to get me to utter goodbye to him on several occasions, but I would not. I ended every phone call with Alan with the same customary, “I’ll see you down the road.” Some may call my behavior a form of psychosis. Others perhaps view my reluctance as a defense mechanism. I know in my heart that neither observation is true. Every time I drive by the flourishing grapevines and trees, I think of Alan. Even in the stillness of winter as the Farm awaits its next steward, I see and remember Alan.



Peer-to-Peer Fundraising!

Be the change! SLC is providing you with a special opportunity. It’s the chance for you to be part of something amazing, and share that opportunity with your friends, family, colleagues and so many more.

Like so many others reading this story, you have a love for Camp. It’s something that binds us all together. Have you ever thought about helping to raise vital funds for Camp? If so, we invite you to partner with Camp, tell your story, and inspire others to make a difference and transform lives.

Peer-to-Peer fundraising is a method of philanthropy to help make this happen. We’re sure you have all seen, and probably even supported, a friend’s campaign on Facebook. Camp now has its own Peer-to-Peer fundraising platform! You can host a fundraiser in celebration of your birthday, in loving memory of a friend or family member, for a special event and more! Camp will thank your donors personally and promptly for their contribution.

If you feel passionately about this, we strongly encourage you to be in touch with us. While Facebook provides a similar method to fundraise, using our platform has significant benefits for Camp, that Facebook doesn’t provide. AND, you can still of course share your personalized campaign on Facebook, Instagram and other social media and via email.

To find out more about setting up your own personalized page, please contact David at david@surpriselake.org or 646-582-0144.

To see a sample fundraising page, please visit <https://tinyurl.com/y5szkpfm> for Jay Greenbaum’s fundraising page from the 2019 Alumni Day Swim-a-thon.

It’s easy, fun and will help provide magical summers at SLC for future generations! It’s the gift that keeps on giving! Thank you!



Surprise Lake Camp
520 8th Ave, 4th Fl.
NY, NY 10018

Mailing
info

