

THE IROQUOIS SPRINGS TIMES



SPRING EDITION 2021

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★ A NOTE FROM MARK AND LAURA ★

Looking Back - Full Steam Ahead!

We all have our story of the last year, how much everything has changed, the wonderful small moments of joy, and the amazing “silver linings”, like so much more family time, we have experienced this year. While it is hard to imagine a year has passed since the “world changed” for us all, the most difficult moments for us surround camp. Making the decision to postpone last summer was grueling, being at camp all summer experiencing the deafening silence day after day and playing the “today we would have been doing” game presented challenges to us. It was hard being reminded of how much we missed what we live for each year on a daily basis.

Now, a year later, we are feeling such amazing hope and excitement for not just the next few months and the incredible summer we have planned, but for the entire year ahead. We cannot wait to re-connect with our “camp family” filled with new and returning staff, our camp parents and of course the best campers in the world. We cannot wait to see how everyone has grown up before our eyes and matured so much in the 2 years since we will have been together. We recently met up with a handful of campers, and we are amazed at how incredibly excited they are and have not stopped for a minute thinking about camp. Their eyes lit up and smiles widened when we spoke

about this summer. We are truly counting down the days, one by one!

Since last May, we have been laser focused on learning as much as we can from every source imaginable in order to be best prepared to open safely this summer. We are grateful to so many

that have shared so much with us, and we are so confident that this will be such a special summer for everyone. It continues to be clear that we all need camp more than ever!

Over the next few weeks and months as we ramp up towards the summer '21, we will continue to learn and prepare, but mostly it will be filled with anticipation and excitement to be able to celebrate our 20th anniversary summer together, starting on June 26th. We have been asked time and time again what this summer will be like, and while it might have some very slight variations from summers past, one thing we know it will be is the best summer ever – fitting 2 years of fun into one summer is no easy feat, and we are going to make sure it's packed with all the amazing traditions and highlights we all look so forward to.

So, as we all look back to what last year was, we are looking forward to writing an incredible story together on what this summer will be. Get ready as we all countdown to summer '21 – see you all in Rock Hill soon! **See you there!**

**CAMP
54 Days**

**From
MAY 3**

**WE'LL BE CELEBRATING OUR
20TH ANNIVERSARY SUMMER IN 2021**



With Love, Mark & Laura

GIRLS SIDE GAB *With Rosie*

Hello Girls Side...

Hello everyone – and HAPPY SPRING. We are getting so close to SUMMER 2021 and I can hardly wait. Last year when we found out that camp was not happening because of the Corona Virus, we were all devastated as I am sure many of you were. Camp NOT HAPPENING? NO WAY? I started going to camp in 1983 and never stopped. Like many of us at Iroquois Springs, last summer was the first summer since I am 8 that I did not go to camp. I could not believe I was not spending my time at my “home away from home”. I thought about all I was going to miss and all that my children were going to miss. I was so sad for all of you! And then I started counting the days to 2021.

We spent the summer recounting memorable camp stories from past summers. We laughed about so many things. We talked about lineup, evening activities and canteen. We sang past color war songs and cheers. We talked about carnival, girls on the run and college days. We laughed about things we did on rainy days. We talked about free swim, 4th of July and Girls Side sing. We cheered at meals and sang camp songs. We remembered counselors and group leaders and supervisors from years past. We made some of our favorite camp meals and desserts. We nominated each other for fuzzies and talked about things we could do to become a SPARK. We had an endless amount of smores and purposely bought things that we would have chosen from the canteen. We zoomed with camp friends and tried our best to stay connected. **Even though we were not at camp – camp was with us. Camp will always be with us.**

I have not been a camper myself for many years; however, camp has made me who I am today, and I will forever be grateful for that. I still speak to my camp friends and my happiest memories are from when I went to camp. Camp taught me to appreciate the outdoors, camp taught me how to become more independent, camp taught me how to

be part of a team, camp taught to appreciate people's differences and to embrace them, camp taught me how to parent, camp taught me so much more! I carry all the above with me every day. **Camp is always with me. Camp is always with YOU.** Even though you were not physically at camp last year. Iroquois Springs was with you. For our first-time campers, your journey is just beginning, and I cannot wait to be a part of it. I cannot wait to watch you make your camp best friends, to make memories that will last a lifetime. I cannot wait to watch you become more independent and resilient. I am so excited to see you laugh, smile and be a part of a life changing experience. We all need this now more than ever.

I cannot wait to hear reveille in the mornings and see all your smiley (maybe tired) faces at lineup. I am excited to hear all that I missed since I saw you last. I am excited for the birdie song and so much more. I am excited to get to know everyone all over again. I cannot wait for remote learning to end and for summer memories to begin.

Please know that this year you became more resilient, and you have overcome so much. So many of you did such amazing things throughout this pandemic. I am honored to get to spend the summer with you. So, continue to **BE NICE** and finish this school year **STRONG. YOU GOT THIS!**

To all of Girls Side – I cannot wait for all of us to be together again! Be kind to each other and reach out if you need anything!

Many of you have not seen your camp friends in so long. Many of you are probably so nervous (I am) – however, we are all in this together. **PLEASE KNOW YOU ARE NOT ALONE.** We are all starting this summer together. We are back and will be stronger than ever.

Love you all - keep smiling, enjoy this time with your family and stay safe and healthy!

xoxo

Rosie

TRADITIONS

Camp has always been about traditions – these are the special memories we hold so close, but most importantly these camp traditions tie generations of campers together.

Traditions like Color War, Rope Burn and Order of the Blue and Gold are just a few of the special traditions we re-live with one another each summer and have generations of campers fondly remembering their special time at camp.

Over the last 6 summers a new tradition was born at Iroquois Springs. At the Order of the Blue and Gold we present staff and campers, who have been at camp for 10 years or longer, a unique “dog tag” – one to keep and one to place on a specially designated tree on guest lawn, where it will live forever.

It has been remarkable to see how important it was for those honorees to be recognized in this way and we can't wait to induct this year's honorees. The ceremony over the last 6 summers has been filled with laughs and stories of past summers, but mostly of a unique and special bond that these folks had with one another, simply put, this is a family.

We are excited to welcome the newest group of honorees this summer (including those from 2020) on **July 24th, the same day as the Order of the Blue and Gold.**

- Avery Cohen
- Jillian Cohen
- Jordyn Lieberman
- Ava Lieberman
- Olivia Lieberman
- Hannah Nassau
- Talia Paisner
- Samantha Zaintz
- Andie Abrams
- Sadie Goldstein
- Jessica Abelow
- Ellye Alperstein
- Emily Edwards
- Lindsey Scheiner
- Diana Blank
- Ella Blank
- Spencer Carus
- Noa Katz
- Erin Johnson

Welcome to the newest camp tradition!



A Message From the Camp Office

This being the last official newsletter before camp is a monumental occasion. The release of this newsletter means that we have made it through a vigorous and rough year, and there are better days ahead. With the year hiatus behind us, we are full steam ahead with camp preparations here at the Iroquois Springs office. Undoubtedly, we must recognize how we got here and the healthcare heroes and scientists who are making this summer possible.

Finally, here in New York, the birds are chirping, and the flowers are blooming. It is my hope that everyone can use this time to reflect and recognize a new skill, idea, hobby, or mindset that they retained while living through a pandemic. Recognizing a silver lining is a great way to move forward and appreciate what the world has to offer. For me, I grew individually and professionally. I also built stronger relationships with my three siblings and parents, which I would not give up for the world!

As summer is approaching, it is also great to set new goals. Is there a new activity you would like to try? Is there a skill you would like to refine? My goal this summer is to conquer the new Ninja Warrior Course at camp, is that the same for anyone else? I am also working to be more organized with my office notes, forms, and emails.

For me to reach that organization goal, our camp families must help us with the preparation process. In the coming weeks, we will be sorting through all the parent forms, policy letters, medical forms and more. **We need your help to ensure a great summer ahead, so please make sure to get any last forms you have not completed back to the camp office (upload to Parent Dashboard) ASAP.**

I would love to hear about what you learned over the past year and what goals you have set for yourself this summer. Do I have any challengers at the Ninja Warrior course? Also, if there are any camp-related questions you would like answered, please email us at office@iroquoissprings.com, and we will be sure to get back to you!

See you in June! – Jared



Attention New Camp Families!!!!

If this is your first time coming to Iroquois Springs and you have some of those first-time camp parent questions - packing list, forms and "what to expect" question..... have no fear - we have you covered with our very own

"Camp Counselor".

We are excited to introduce you to Robin, our camp counselor who is here to help you best prepare for this summer. She is a veteran member of our full-time camp team, and mom of 3 Iroquois Springs campers.

If you have not made an appointment to connect with Robin to have all your camp questions answered, be sure to do that right away -

<https://calendly.com/robin-iroquoissprings>

She cannot wait to speak with you!



THE WINTER ARROW CLUE

In each issue of the Iroquois Springs Times we will present a new clue to the "Winter Arrow's" location. Unlike in Color Week, the "Winter Arrow" can be ANYWHERE in Camp – indoors or outdoors, areas both in bounds and off limits. Use your creativity and imagination...you can even search without a counselor!!!

The first camper to correctly name the exact location of the "Winter Arrow" will win a prize for their bunk this summer. Remember to give a detailed description of why you think the "Winter Arrow" is there when you respond.

FAVORITE RECIPE FROM

Kitchen Stadium

Giant Smore's Stuffed Chocolate Chip Skillet Cookie

INGREDIENTS

- 2 sticks (1 cup) salted butter, at room temperature
- 1/2 cup dark brown sugar (use 3/4 cup for a sweeter cookie)
- 1/4 cup granulated sugar
- 2 large eggs, at room temperature
- 2 teaspoons vanilla extract
- 2 1/4 cups all-purpose flour
- 1 teaspoon baking soda
- 1/2 teaspoon kosher salt
- 1 cup semi-sweet chocolate chips
- 4 squares graham crackers broken into bite-size pieces
- 8-10 marshmallows
- 2 Hershey Chocolate Bars broken into pieces
- 1-2 ounces semi-sweet or dark chocolate chunks (optional)
- 1 pinch flaky sea salt (optional)

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Preheat the oven to 350 degrees. Lightly butter a 10-12-inch oven safe skillet.
2. In a large mixing bowl, beat together the butter, brown sugar, and granulated sugar until combined. Beat in the eggs, one at a time, until combined. Add the vanilla, beating until creamy. Add the flour, baking soda, and salt. Stir in the chocolate chips.
3. Spread 1/3 of the dough into the bottom of the prepared skillet. Arrange the graham crackers over the dough, then add the marshmallows, and

Send your answers to: summers@iroquoissprings.com and make sure to include your first and last name in the email.

Here is Clue #1:

In our 20th summer the theater will arise brand new
But what arose anew in summer #1 is only remembered
by a few.

Genesis and Valhalla for two. Do you?

All yesterday's parties, at the cacophony we laugh
Innovative games to amuse the campers and the staff
The lore of our deep past has left its marks
At the heart of all things, near where legends sleep....

Here is Clue #2:

Indoor games to entertain us all
Chance, happenstance and mad skills begin their dance
Run the table, run the table, run the table!
What to wear is such an art when gathering a
stack of musical chairs
When it rains, when it rains, when it rains!
Ten frames done and dusted counting 300 of you:
a perfect score!
Right by the heart of things, by haunts where an
ancient sleeps....

Here is Clue #3:

Here. Grass and more grass and sandcastles too,
counting up to 21.
Fun to dig through because who knows, a surprise
can be served up at a moment's notice times 3!
Feel the energy of friends rotating and working
toward a common goal.
And just beyond Here. Teammates playing games
with exotic names.
Jeux Sans Frontières. But you can't
win by just one....



Hershey's pieces. Add the remaining cookie dough, gently spreading the dough over the marshmallows and chocolate. It's OK if not all the dough covers the mallows.

4. Transfer the skillet to the oven and bake for 20-22 minutes for an extra doughy center or 22-25 minutes for a more set cookie. Remove from the oven, let cool 3-5 minutes. Sprinkle with sea salt (if desired). DIG in, preferably with a scoop of ice cream.

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THINGS - DON'T FORGET TO PACK!!!

There is lots to do at camp everyday and certainly some things you might not think about as you prepare for the summer ahead, so while packing for camp, here are a few things not to forget:

1 White & Black T-Shirts / Pillow Cases or Similar to Tie-Dye/ Silk Screen / Air-Brush

2 Anywhere Chair (Available from Everything Camper Website)

4 Football Jersey for Monday Night Football on Boys Side

3 Crazy / Fun Hat for "Crazy Hat Day"

Musical Instrument (Camp Rock Band)

6 Halloween Costume

7 Outfit for Banquet Night

9 Nalgene Type Water Bottle

(new for 2021)

8 Tennis Racquet & Baseball Glove (if you have them)

10 Masks (cloth or disposable, no "gaiters" please)

Of course, a full packing list can be found on the Iroquois Springs & Everything Camper websites.

BOYS SIDE STUFF WITH JOSH



Homework, the concept of going home and doing schoolwork when all you want to do is go outside and play. I recently had some homework assigned and all I did was go outside and play. Hence, the email that I awoke to this morning from Bubba, reminding me for the umpteenth time about writing my newsletter. I just wasn't ready to write it until now. I have my superstitions and routines and I never write this letter until 3 things happen after I park my car at work. I have to feel warm air when I get out of my car and when I close my eyes, I need to hear birds chirping while the smell of fresh cut grass is wafting in the air. This has worked for me for the past 21 years and I wasn't looking to mess it up now.

Gentlemen, today was that day. It was warm, the birds were chirping, the air smelled like cut grass and when I closed my eyes it felt like I could be in camp. So today officially became newsletter day. We are at the point of spring, prior to the summer where you can feel it building in the close distance, but it just hasn't arrived yet. Camp is so close it is in all of our grasps.

This summer is going to be different for many reasons, but one of them is we haven't seen you in almost 2 years. I can never get over how much you grow, have new hair styles, arrive with deeper voices and shaving cream from one season to another. This year, that difference is going to be exponentially grander and having the opportunity to sit under a tree to connect about everything that has happened since the summer of 2109, is something that cannot come soon enough for me. This past school year and even the one before, it threw everyone for an academic turn they never expected. Some student figured out how to make it work and some students had a harder time. I cannot wait to provide an environment where campers can feel safe, welcomed and cared for while they have no other homework other than trying new things, making friends and being nice. Everything falls into place after that at Iroquois Springs.

I want to welcome our new campers to Iroquois Springs and Boys Side. You are about to begin a wonderful journey to learn about your own independence while also becoming friends with some really great kids. I also want to welcome our new staff members to the team. You have landed at a wonderful camp who provides amazing opportunities for your own personal growth while aiding in the development of the children you are working with. Don't worry, I didn't forget about all of our returning campers and staff (or as I like to call them, "role models"). I cannot wait to see your ear-to-ear smiles as you arrive in camp and I do expect that some of you will be taller than I am. I know that camp has been a long time coming and you have all earned the ability to be able to come to camp and unwind with your best friends. You have all sacrificed enough the past year and I cannot wait to be a witness to all of you filling the missing void of camp right in front of my eyes.

We are going to have a few new faces in the GL position on Boys Side. I have met with them and feel they have the same outlook on working with children as we follow in camp. They have so many new activities and ideas to bring to life in the summer of 2021 and along with my support and the other GL team members, I know we hired the perfect candidates for the role.

Boys Side campus was lonely last summer, the fields, basketball courts, cabins and flagpole are waiting to be filled with loud, smiling happy campers. That being said, Boys Side is waiting for you!

Stay safe, stay smart and be the difference maker. **See you soon! Josh**



NOTES FROM BUBBA'S CLIPBOARD



April 1st has always been the official start of "shorts season" and that means camp is getting closer and closer, it's go time! While I am more excited now than I have been in recent years (and that is not easy), I feel it's important to think about what has transpired in the last 18+ months. Almost exactly one year ago to the date, Iroquois Springs made one of the most difficult decisions we have had to make in our 20-year history. Along with the rest of the country and for that matter the world, everything stopped in its tracks, and we made the painful decision to postpone the summer of 2020. The leadership team of camp knew it was best to close our gates for the season, and essentially "lock-out" our campers, staff and parents. This was, by far, one of the worst days I have ever had as a camp professional. At the time, we were almost at a loss for words, the unimaginable was happening and we simply could not fathom a way to provide a safe summer for our campers. I will tell you, as camp directors, we often wear many hats and find ways to solve problems. The fact that we could not simply just find a way last summer was gut wrenching for all who call Iroquois Springs home during the summer.

As the pandemic started to really hit home, and families were getting a better understanding of what the "lock-down" really meant, we were stripped of our ability to move freely, connect with those we wanted physical interaction with and in essence, lost our freedom to do the things we always did before without fear or hesitation of the unknown. So much was taken from us, so many people were getting sick and as hard as it is to accept, way too many people were taken from the world far too early. As a camp community, we did what we could to stay together, stay connected through virtual interactions and rely on past memories and hopes for a brighter future.

Clearly today, although we are not completely free of this historic pandemic, our future once again looks bright. It took the work of so many brilliant minds to leverage every scientific breakthrough they could find to create a vaccine that is slowly helping us all get back to what we once called "normal." While this does not happen overnight, we will all be able to look back on these dark and trying days in history and say, remember when...

I want to thank our entire camp community more now than maybe any other time in our history. Parents, campers and staff, thank you for sticking with us, believing in us and ultimately trusting us this summer. The outpouring of support, positive vibes, willingness to help, calls of encouragement have been endless and so appreciated. As we navigate these next few months there is one thing that we can count on, we will continue to do what we can to provide a community of caring, kind and thoughtful campers, with outstanding staff who will encourage and support our campers to thrive in a safe, fun filled camp environment, even if it looks or feels slightly different than it has in the past.

This time last summer, I said the following, **now more than ever, we need camp!** While we ultimately could not deliver last summer, this has taken on an even greater meaning and importance. **Now more than ever, we all need camp,** and we need Iroquois Springs.

If the last 18 months has taught us nothing at all, remember this... camp is a gift, no one can predict the future or tell you what tomorrow will bring, so enjoy all the moments, and cherish what the summer has in store for you. Last summer is in the past, only positive thoughts, good vibes and happy thoughts for the summer of 2021.

Looking forward to welcoming you all home soon. Focus on what is important, don't stress about the things you can't control and know that we are all in this together. Can't wait to see you all in 12775 as we prepare for our 20th Anniversary summer together. **Now more than ever, we need camp, these words hold so true!**

Warm thoughts for the summer ahead...be smart, make good decisions and get ready for the best summer ever!

BUBBA

Don't forget to check us out on...





COUNSELOR'S CORNER



Camp sounds so simple at times, yet so complicated at other times. It simply should be a place we can all come to, feel great about ourselves, build confidence, step outside our comfort zone, make friends and never look over our shoulder. In order to accomplish this monumental task, it takes an incredible team of dedicated staff, willing to be selfless at all times in order to provide our campers with a summer that is second to none. As you will see from the testimonials we continue to receive, camp not only changes the lives of our campers, but so to for the staff who spend their summer with us. For many, they get to return for a few summers in a row, for others, maybe just once. While 2020 may have thrown some of us for a loop and changed plans for some staff, the moments they shared in Rock Hill with all of you will be life-changing memories that will be held near and dear to their heart.

Staff members at Iroquois Springs have everything to gain and nothing to lose. While campers come to camp for so many reasons, especially to put aside all the "noise" in the outside world and simply enjoy the natural beauty, genuine friendships and pause from outside social pressures, the same can be said for our dedicated staff who give tirelessly of themselves to provide an environment for campers they can be proud of, and in return, help to mold the future leaders that will one day help to change the world!

Check out these testimonials from staff who have lived the camp experience, it tells the real story:

"I wanted to thank you all for the years of amazing memories and experience I have gained being a difference maker. I will hold the blue and gold dear to my heart for the rest of my life and can never thank you and the team enough for all that was given to me my time in Rock Hill. I am changed in many ways and I owe it all to you and the rest of the staff." - **Nathan Yzaguirre**

"I guess, getting back to camp this year was so important to me for so many reasons. I felt like over my two years so far, I had really grown and developed into a significantly better counsellor then when I started, and I was so ready to get back to camp and become a real leader on Boys Side and really give back to the place that changed me in so many great ways. I also felt desperate to reconnect with all the staff and kids and strengthen those bonds again. But also, I felt like especially for all the campers this last year has been really tough and I wanted nothing more than to be part of the light at the end of the tunnel. To give them the best summer of their lives so for 6 weeks they could forget all the tough times over the last year and just have fun together." - **Will Ford**



"I wanted to take the time to thank you! I have a lot of wonderful memories that were created at camp. I have learned so much that has helped me become a better teacher and person. I've worked at a few different places in my life and the culture and climate you have helped to create at camp is one of the best ones I've been a part of. I wish you all the best this summer! I know at times it'll probably feel exhausting, but seeing the kids and staff have so much fun makes it all worth it." - **Jessica Oliveira**

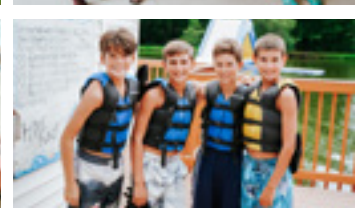
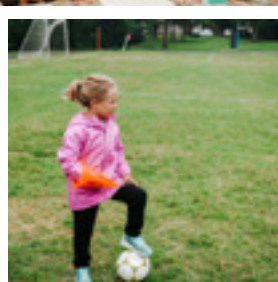
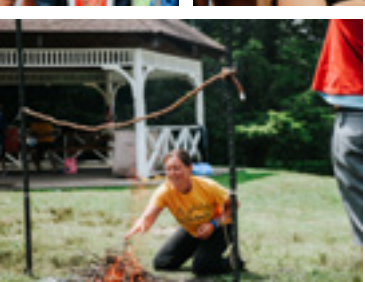
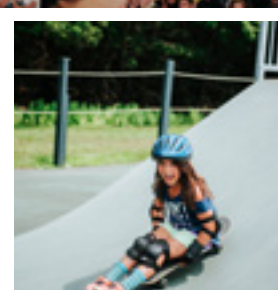
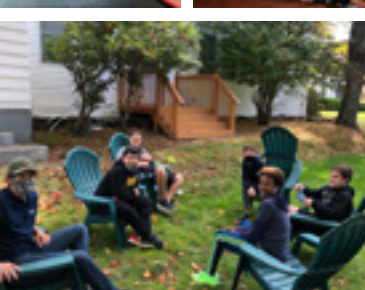
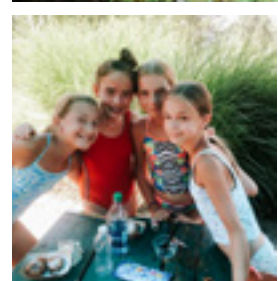
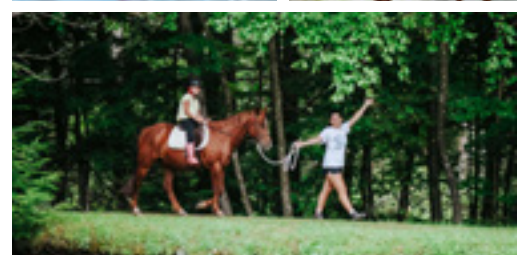
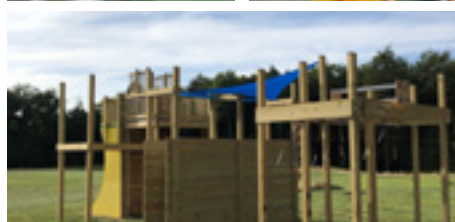
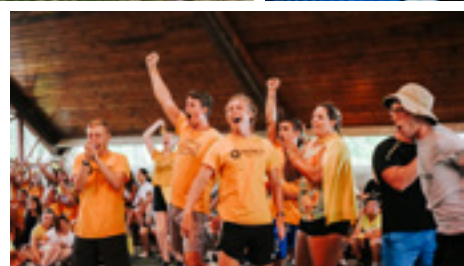
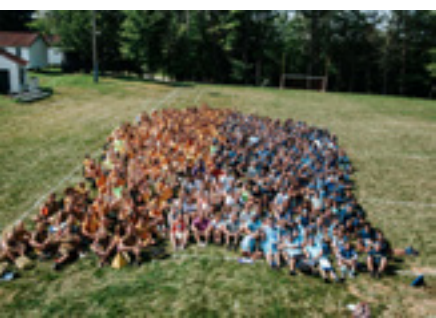
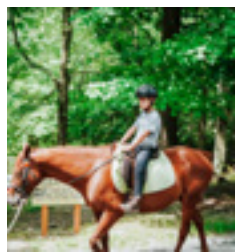
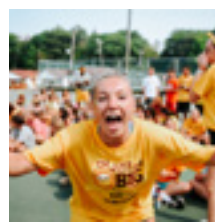


"Iroquois Springs is everything you could wish for and more in a camp. IS has taught me how to be a better person and not to sweat the small stuff. After one summer I had a whole new family and a second home. There is nowhere else I'd rather be." - **Emily Beacroft**

"Camp and the family you create here has been the best experience of my life thus far! I think it helps you grow as a person, even during challenging times. I would come back every year if I could, truthfully such a breath of fresh air." - **Feedback from Anonymous Staff Survey**

"I couldn't imagine not having Iroquois Springs in my life. Even though I've only spent one summer in Rock Hill, it truly has changed so many aspects of my life. From amazing new friendships, unforgettable connections with the campers and learning so many new things about yourself and others, I would not change a thing about my first summer. I am beyond excited to go back next year and commit myself even more the campers and to making horseback even better! Camp is something amazing everyone needs to experience!" - **Damaris Scott**





WHAT'S HAPPENING IN ROCK HILL

20TH ANNIVERSARY SUMMER IN 2021

It's been way too quiet in Rock Hill over the last 18 months, but all that is about to change! It's time to wake up camp from its long overdue nap and get our summer home in tip-top shape for our **20TH ANNIVERSARY SUMMER!** The first signs of spring are starting to show, the leaves are slowly making an appearance on the trees, the grass is growing, the birds are chirping and it's beginning to feel a bit like summer. Putting all the pieces back together is no easy task, it takes time, hard work, lots of organization and a dedicated team of folks to get it done. Starting May 1, our summer team will start to take shape. Staff will begin to arrive, our maintenance team and pre-camp crew will start to tackle each task one by one, ensuring that we don't miss any details in what is going to be the best summer ever!

While we have talked about it many times, we simply can't wait to unveil the **NEW THEATER** and finally have a chance to show you the new centerpiece of camp. The building is simply stunning, inside and out! From the brand-new construction, bright shiny floors, awesome **new sound and projection equipment** and of course the very comforting **heating and air-conditioning**, this building is going to be jaw dropping when you see it. The best part is, it almost seems as though it was just dropped into place, and nothing has changed, but believe us, you will be impressed with all the details. Surrounding the theater is our newly expanded outdoor patio (which will come in very handy for meals this summer) and home to our new "legacy garden" of brick pavers. Simply put, we know you will all truly enjoy these upgrades we have made.

As we mentioned in previous issues of the Iroquois Springs Times, we can't wait to watch campers conquer the newly built **Ninja Warrior Course**. Whether it's the **Warped Walls, Jumping Spider, Peg Board, Floating Steps, Salmon Ladder, Cliff Hanger** or any of the other obstacles, we know this is going to be a challenge that so many of you will look forward to conquering, we can't wait to see you attempt it. The course is built and ready to go, all it needs is you!

During this pre-camp time period, we are not just knocking off our "to-do list", but we are always looking for ways to beautify camp. Whether it's planting flowers, adding benches and new seating areas or simply making sure we check every bed and cubbie in camp, we try to not leave any

stone unturned. We take this time to turn-on the water, open the kitchen, get the pools ready, put the aqua-playground in the water, set up all the sports facilities and so much more. In addition, this year, we will be working to add tents around camp to help run more programs outdoors, expand our outdoor seating options for meals, working to make sure we have adequate spacing to keep everyone safe and, well, we think you get it by now, the list goes on and on and on.... In the end though, it's all worth the hard work, because you will arrive at a place you can be proud of, enjoy for the summer and of course, be physically and emotionally safe throughout your stay.

With our 20th anniversary summer getting closer and closer with each passing day, we could not be prouder of all that we have accomplished as a camp community. Our facility is second to none, complete with so many new buildings, program areas and options for everyone to enjoy and of course for what we have worked so hard to build since 2001. A "camp family" comprised of kind and compassionate campers, loyal and proud parents, dedicated and selfless staff and a full-time team whose sole purpose is to provide all who are lucky enough to call Iroquois Springs home, a place we can all be proud of, a place we can all find comfort in, a place we can all call home! **THANK YOU TO ALL THAT HAVE MADE THIS POSSIBLE, HARD TO PUT INTO WORDS WHAT WE HAVE DONE IN 20 YEARS TOGETHER!**

Make sure to continue to follow our social media feeds and stay on-top of what's doing in 12775 throughout the rest of the off-season and our lead up to camp, we can't wait to see you on opening day!



POLICY REMINDER

WE WANT TO TAKE TIME TO REMIND YOU OF SOME IMPORTANT POLICIES THAT HELP CREATE OUR CAMP COMMUNITY.

We know one critical component of the camp experience is the opportunity for kids to "unplug." We strongly believe it is central to being at camp and we count on campers and parents to support our stance on this without exception.

In the instance of a camper being found in possession of a cell phone or a disallowed electronic device (any that can access the internet), that camper will have to go home for three nights. Parents will have to make arrangements to pick-up and return the camper to camp.

WE HOPE THAT THE IDEA OF MISSING THREE ENTIRE DAYS OF CAMP WILL DISCOURAGE CAMPERS AND PARENTS FROM DISREGARDING THIS IMPORTANT POLICY.

REMINDER TO PARENTS.....Apple is no longer making an iPod Nano or Shuffle, however, Iroquois Springs will continue to keep to our policy which does not allow the use of electronics that have a screen or can access the internet. That said, please plan accordingly, as music is a big part of bunk life and we want campers to enjoy listening to their favorite tunes, so please refer to our previous email with suggestions on MP3 devices appropriate for camp. (Mighty Vibe)

Many parents and campers have already reviewed and signed the "Policy Agreement" document that outlines our expectation for our camp community each summer. We want to remind parents that any camper in possession of electronic cigarettes, vaporizers (Juul, Vape Pens, etc.) or other similar devices will immediately be dismissed from camp for the summer without tuition reimbursement, as items such as these have no place in our camp environment.

Thanks for your continued support and cooperation in making Iroquois Springs a camp community we all feel good about calling our summer home. Should you have **ANY QUESTIONS AT ALL, JUST CALL AND ASK, WE ARE ALWAYS AVAILABLE TO HELP!**

THE CAPTAINS

POST LEGENDS OF IROQUOIS SPRINGS - PART I

If it is one of those beautiful breezy mountain days at camp, take a walk past Boys Campus, on through the woods, and past the Field House and the Fitness Center (left hand side). Carefully make your way down to the shore of The Lake to a small group of trees just to the left of the rocky cliffs that look down upon The Lake's narrowest and central area.....

..... Place your hand on one of the trees, extend your arm, and look across the lake at the beautiful green woods on the other side. Allow your eyes to stare steadily into the greenery. If it is a breezy day, after staring for a couple of minutes, you will feel the sensation of moving. It will be as if the lake was a rolling river, and you were on a boat on that river. This trick of the eyes, body and mind, this wonderful illusion, is the magic of this special spot in camp called "The Captain's Post."

According to legend, the discovery and naming of this spot took place over sixty-five years ago, shortly after the lake was extended to its current size. Some old timers credit Clifford "Bull Moose" Goodstein. Others state that it was the ancient SPARK Rhonda Tudor. The tale has been passed down, through many camp generations. Remembered sometimes by as few as one or two persons.... other times it was a destination for bunk adventures.

The Captains Post has sometimes been associated with secret camp societies and ceremonies touched by more than a bit of Blue and Gold magic. These anecdotes may well be apocryphal in nature (now there's a word to look up!). Or maybe not....

Some important advice to adventurers: If you go to the site on a calm day, you will probably be disappointed. It requires a steady breeze to come to life. The Captain's Post is just one of the many surprises and secrets of this magical place called Iroquois Springs!

By Larry Wilensky



NCAA POOL

March Madness is always an exciting time of year, and the 2021 tournament did not disappoint! We truly hope many of you enjoyed our 7th annual Iroquois Springs camper and staff bracket competition. We are thrilled to let you know that **Jake Nalitt** won the camper bracket and will be recipient of an IS style "party" at camp to enjoy with his entire bunk this summer. In the staff bracket, our very own "home grown" counselor, **Seth Marcus** came out on top and will be sporting his new gear as well this summer. Thanks to everyone who participated in this year's bracket challenge, we are thrilled so many of you joined the action!

Welcome

We are thrilled to welcome the following new campers to the **Iroquois Springs Family** (since our last newsletter)

Adler Schoenberg	New York, NY
Laila Virji	New York, NY
Mathilde "Tilda" Sexeny-Hauser	Spartanburg, SC
Owen Sterling	Jackson, MS
Lucas Male	Boca Raton, FL
Pheobe Male	Boca Raton, FL
Jenna Reed	Livingston, NJ
Charlotte Cohn	Pelham Manor, NY
Nathan Isaacson	Commack, NY
Mason Rosenblatt	Hastings on Hudson, NY
Daniela Kliksberg	New York, NY
Chloe Schimel	Melville, NY
Leo Vasapolli	New York, NY
Eden Rosenfarb	Parkland, FL
Asher Malik	Summit, NJ
Zachary Char	Goshen, NY
Alek Salzman	Short Hills, NJ
David Salzman	Short Hills, NJ
Owen Geyman	Armonk, NY
Kylen Mister	Brooklyn, NY
Dahlia Feinberg	Alpine, NJ
Logan Feinberg	Alpine, NJ
Alexandra Liebman	Scarsdale, NY
Grace Liebman	Scarsdale, NY
Olivia Wolf	Davie, FL
Benjamin Zawadzki	Port Washington, NY
Blake Miller	New York, NY
Sydney Miller	New York, NY
Dotty Slawe	Bryn Mawr, PA
Samantha Benkel	White Plains, NY
William Berg	New York, NY
George Steckart	New York, NY
Callie Tollin	Bellmore, NY
Sayeres Brodlieb	New York, NY
Juan De los Santos	Santo Domingo, Distrito Nacional
Rodrigo De Los Santos	Woodcliff Lake, NJ
Brandon Tibaldi	Melville, NY
Lily Myers	Chappaqua, NY
Alexendra Arkhipenko	Brooklyn, NY
Alexey Arkhipenko	Brooklyn, NY
Abi Cooper	New York, NY
Felicia Cooper	New York, NY
Tessa Dolinger	Oakdale, NY
Dalia Ghadiry	Bethesda, MD
Jacob Goldstein	Great Neck, NY
Alexis Noya	Armonk, NY
Laika Bloom	Hoboken, NJ
Logan Scott	Nashville, TN
Simona Storm	Bay Harbor Islands, FL
Alon Alter	Fort Lee, NJ
Sabrina Cohen	Frisco, TX
Logan Welsh	Pelham, NY
Bella Berrol	Oyster Bay, NY
Sarina Hausman	Los Angeles, CA
Austin Klein	Melville, NY
Avery Klein	Melville, NY
Lucas Palomino	New York, NY
Emma Kulish	Larchmont, NY

April

2 Elle Menker
2 Alek Salzman
2 David Salzman
4 Nathan Radosti
4 Emily Setton
5 Logan Feinberg
5 Elan Messeri
5 Kylen Mister
5 Michael Scott
6 Holden Rothschild
6 Samantha Wancier
7 Olivia Morton
7 Jacob Taylor
8 Jonah Berkowitz
8 Eli Silberman
10 Alexa Dobstaff
10 Gracie Eisenberg
10 Halle Kraus
10 Callie Tollin
11 Deana Finkelstein
11 Alexandra Winitch
12 Alice Frank
13 Hannah Krauss
14 Owen Geyman
14 Lily Gould
14 Lexi Horvath
14 Emerson Wein
15 Emma Glaser
17 Jack Herzog
17 Jaiden Hirsch
18 Keira Eckhardt
19 Katie Lerner
19 Madison Slosberg
20 Tyler Bogard
20 Samantha Buckley
20 Gracyn DiGiacomo
20 Ellie Mitola
21 Parker DiGiacomo
21 Bella Plaut
21 Mathilde, ÁúTilda,
Áú Sexeny-Hauser
22 Chloe Collazo
23 Ayden Slosberg
23 Rachel Steinert
24 Lila Friedland
25 Olivia Lippmann
26 Eli Bitman
26 Grant Bitman
27 Madeline Brabants
27 Lindsay Malley
28 Sophie Apple
28 Luca Zuniga
29 Kylee Bijari
29 Katie Wenczl
29 Ryan Wenczl
30 Fallon Elgart
30 Jacob Hook
30 Jacob Mamlet
30 Sydney Mednik
30 Sarah Rich

HAPPY Birthday

May

1 Charlotte Cohn
1 Ethan Weinberg
3 Charlie Friedland
3 Julia Rebollar
3 Benjamin Zawadzki
6 Mackenzie Maher
6 Mason Rosenblatt
7 Bella Berrol
7 Ava Mandel
7 Layla Taheri
10 Riley Schwartz
11 Isabel Levine
12 Evelyn Kelly
12 Morgan Penner
13 Jonah Uris
14 Loghan Baeker
14 Anthony Moustakas
14 Rebecca Belle Tavelin
15 Harris Wechsler
16 Zachary Char
16 Vivian Kashdin
16 Emily Levy
16 Luke Schimel
18 Mariela Ginzburg
18 Lola Shapiro
19 Lily Cutri
20 Emma Lerner
20 Hannah McMullan
23 Lexi Lozier
23 Lila Male
24 Jayden Leung
24 Lucas Palomino
24 Giancarlo Rinaldi
24 Sophia Staller
26 Nicky Shaknes
27 Sadie Goldstein
27 Alexandra Liebman
27 Max Lippmann
27 Julia Schulof
27 Danielle Stassa
28 Josh Engel
29 Jillian Cohen
31 Jordyn Kelman

June

1 Remi Karp
1 Sydney Karp
2 Chase Collazo
2 Taylor Goldstein
3 Juan De los Santos
4 Jake Goldenberg
4 Nicol^v's Rebollar
6 Jonah Bassuk
6 Payton Gold
7 Luca Curcio
7 Sophie Demarco
9 Sydney Attman
9 Dylan Hecht
9 Chloe Lashins
9 Shelby Weisel
11 Abi Cooper
11 Felicia Cooper
11 Sam Lottner
11 Eli Rosenbluth
12 Maxwell Dugger-Ades
12 Harper Taheri
13 Skylar Bijari
13 Samantha Nalitt
13 Leo Wein
14 Riley Cohen
15 Spencer Plaut
16 Casey Lozier
17 Lily Myers
18 Scarlett Caiati
21 Ava Hart
23 Devon Nassau
23 Aiden Schames
23 Sutton Schames
24 Lucia Shulman
24 Madison Torrente
25 Jace Krupitsky
27 Tyler Wancier
28 Mia Vergura
29 Dahlia Feinberg
29 Micah Grobler
30 Levi Eickmeyer
30 Gabby Pollack

Camp History and Culture Corner

HOW THE LANDSCAPE AT IROQUOIS SPRINGS HAS CHANGED THROUGH THE YEARS

We thought it would be fun to take a look at how camp has changed through the years in terms of its buildings and program landmarks. Please join us in our time machine. Let's start at the beginning....

2001: For the first year of Iroquois Springs, the dining room was renovated. This historic building, dating back to around 1900, originally served as a bowling alley for the legendary Glenwood Hotel. Great care was taken to preserve the floor surrounding the bowling pin settings. Their presence in our Dining Hall continues to fire the imaginations of our campers to this day.

2002: The debut of the Iroquois Springs Baseball Field, nicknamed "Shea Stadium"!

2003: The addition of the Movie Theater, complete with vintage theater seats and popcorn machine!

2004: The area of Boy's Campus known as the "Back Circle" had several new bunks built and took its current form.

2005: In a major renovation, the historic building known as the Iroquois Springs Office was renovated and began use in its current function. Much of its 19th century origins can still be appreciated, especially on the (allegedly) haunted third floor! Also dating from the 19th century, the building known as the Iroquois Springs Health Center was retrofitted and began its current use. If you know where to look, you can still see evidence of its origins as a barn over 100 years ago!

2007: A very welcome second pool was added.

2008: The Arena made its debut. 10,000 square feet of awesomeness, that has already become associated with one of Rock Hill 12775's oldest traditions (The Order of the Blue and Gold) as well as one of our newest (The SPARK Ceremony).

2009: "The Grove" Picnic Area was added to the space outside the Dining Room Entrance. Al Fresco Dining at Iroquois Springs!

2010: The debut of "Kitchen Stadium" on the site of the original Weight Room. A bright new addition!

2011: The arrival of.... "Skate Park", adding a new dimension to camp fun!!!

2012: The completion of the first two buildings comprising Hobbyville are completed, housing traditional arts & crafts, ceramics, jewelry, rocketry, woodworking and.... ta-da... the historic addition of Digital Media!!! Also, the old outdoor education shack was overhauled and replaced with the headquarters of the very popular "Garage Rock Band" activity.

2013: The completion of the third and final building at Hobbyville. The building is particularly notable because its arrival was accompanied by the debut of three new program areas at Hobbyville: the very popular "Wearable Arts", the absolutely legendary "You Build It", and a permanent, enhanced home for Digital Media.

2014: We welcomed a completely new, indoor Gymnastics Center on the site of the original structure.

2015: In one of the most ambitious projects to date, the Kitchen was completely remodeled along with an adjacent section of the Dining Room. Also, at a specially designated tree on guest lawn, outside the office a new tradition was born at Iroquois Springs. At the Order of the Blue and Gold we began presenting staff and campers, who have been at camp for 10 years or longer, a unique "dog tag" – one to keep and one to place on the tree, where it would live forever.

2016: A 2nd basketball court was added on Boy's Side. Also, a brand-new football field was completed between the Boy's Side cabins and the Fieldhouse, complete with lighting. Finally, the beach volleyball court was moved to a spot adjacent to the two grass courts, creating a single volleyball area by the Arena.

2017: The debut of the peerless Iroquois Springs Fitness Center. Already legendary!

2018: The multi-level Aerial Tree-Top Park and Tree House was added to provide a wonderful new dimension to camp. Also, the Dance Studio was completely remodeled.

2019: A third pool was added, further enhancing the swim experience.

2020: In another major new addition, a new Theater has risen on the site of the old one and is surely among the best in camping! Also, our Patio and Picnic Area is now home to our 20th Anniversary "Personalized Pavers in the "Legacy Garden."

2021: As Iroquois Springs begins its journey through its third decade, these IS Family, Staff and Alumni inscribed pavers add another special place at camp with the weight of history and tradition. Finally, a new Ninja Warrior Course has been created adjacent to the Aerial-Tree Top Park. With this, our newest program area, we pause our story and can't wait to see what exciting new additions the future brings!

THE ULTIMATE INTERNSHIP – CAMP COUNSELOR –

(written by a camp colleague)

Why Camp? A year into this Pandemic, everyone needs camp! This past year "out of an abundance of caution," we have stayed home to stay safe, worn face masks, practiced safety at home and social distancing. What we have not practiced are social and real communication skills. Have you noticed, zoom allows only one person to speak at a time? This is not real life. This year, everyone needs camp!

I have always told our prospective camp families that camp is the greatest gift you can give your child. It is so educational, and kids don't even know they are learning. Campers gain independence, learn how to solve problems on their own, communicate without using their thumbs, how to work together and learn the skills of making and keeping friends. Camps have the most amazing classrooms. Campers learn these skills on the ball fields and courts, in the pools and on the lakes, at arts and crafts, and at meals and in bunks.

And you know what? Camp is all of these things to staff as well, enhancing the soft skills for which your future employer is looking. What you gain, working as a counselor is invaluable.

What did you think when you read the title of this article? Did you think, being a camp counselor sounds like big fun, but can it really lead me to landing my dream job? The answer is a resounding yes! The secret is how you communicate the skills you develop as a counselor, on your resume. Think about what your future employer is looking for: work ethic and job commitment, leadership, creative thinking, teamwork, flexibility and sound judgment. Now think about the role of a counselor on a typical day. You are leading 8-10 campers. You are making a commitment to "your" kids and trust me they will become your kids by the end of the summer. Nothing screams adaptable and creative more than how you handle an unexpected rainstorm with your kids in the bunk, until it passes over. Parents and Camp Directors are trusting you and your judgment to allow your campers to take safe risks and come home happy and more independent.

People who have worked at Camp, never stop talking about Camp. You would be amazed at how often it comes up in job interviews, no matter what role you are applying for. Your camp experience is a great way to showcase the soft skills you have learned. Camp creates some great stories, which allows you to weave your skill set into the conversation in an entertaining way.

Your resume is what gets your foot in the door and earns you the invitation to interview. Remember, to use action verbs and emphasize responsibility, creativity and innovation, be descriptive and show evidence of leadership, management and work ethic. Misspelling and poor punctuation can disqualify you for most positions. Who wants to hire someone who can't even bother to use spell check?! Be sure to have someone you trust proof your resume and give you feedback.

Now that you know why a camp counselor role is the ultimate internship, it is time to secure your position. Whether as a general or specialty counselor, at day or sleep-away camp, there is a camp out there for everyone; find the one that best suits you.

REMEMBER -



Wear
your
mask



Announcing Rookie Days

Come explore the world of overnight camp at Iroquois Springs for an incredible, fun filled day!

Who: Future campers entering the 1st through 4th grades in September. The Rookie Day program is strictly limited in enrollment, so please sign-up ASAP!



**ROOKIE
DAY**

Date: Sunday, July 11th or Sunday, July 25th

Time: 9:30 – 3:30

(1-Day Experience) (No Siblings Please)

Cost: No Charge



**Call the camp
office for
registration
details or enroll
on-line!**

Program: Get a chance to explore what an Iroquois Springs camper enjoys each day throughout the summer. This is a terrific way to discover what Iroquois Springs will be all about before the 2022 summer arrives. You will be instantly transformed into an Iroquois Springs camper for life! This unique, well-rounded program provide campers a chance to experience a variety of activities in a fun, nurturing and safe environment and also a great way for parents to tour camp and meet the leadership team at Iroquois Springs.



Nalgene Water Bottles

NEW FOR SUMMER 2021,
WE ARE ASKING THAT ALL
CAMPER AND STAFF BRING
A "NALGENE TYPE WATER
BOTTLE" TO CAMP.

**Stay
hydrated**

Not only is this a great way to stay hydrated throughout the day, but it will also cut down on our use of disposable cups and help to minimize the spread of germs at water coolers around camp.

In addition, we have made a significant investment in the addition of "bottle filling stations" around camp that will provide filtered and chilled water for everyone to enjoy. These water bottles will be cleaned and washed in our kitchen on a regular basis to ensure that remain clean and sanitary throughout the summer. In advance, we appreciate your support and know this will be a change that will stay with us through the future.

Dates to Remember

Camper Forms Due

Past Due – Please Complete ASAP

New Family Orientation

Sunday, May 23rd

Area Pick-Up for IS Baggage Service

Sunday, June 20th

Opening Day

Saturday, June 26th

Rookie Day # 1

Sunday, July 11th

Session #1 Ends

Friday, July 16th

Rookie Day # 2

Sunday, July 25th

Campers Return Home

Friday, August 6th

